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Mchinji District Council

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE



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Mchinji District Council Office

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD	XV
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	XVI
ACRONYMS	XVII
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	XXI
CHAPTER 1: GENERAL FEATURES	1
1.1 PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION	1
1.1.1 Location and Size	1
1.1.2 Topography, Geology and Hydrology	2
1.1.3 Soil	2
1.1.4 Climate and Climate Change	4
1.2 ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES AND LOCAL POLITICS	6
1.2.1 Formal Administrative Structures	6
1.2.2 Informal Administrative Structures	11
1.2.3 Planning and Decision Making process	11
1.2.4 Local Politics	11
1.2.5 The People	12
1.3 DEMOGRAPHY AND SETTLEMENT	14
1.3.1 Population and Characteristics	14
1.3.2 Birth Rate and Death Rate	14
1.3.3 Migratory Patterns	15
1.3.4 National Registration System	16
CHAPTER 2: LAND USE	20
2.1 LAND TENURE SYSTEM	20
2.1.1 Customary Land	20
2.1.2 Public Land	20
2.1.3 Private Land	20
2.2 LAND USE SYSTEM	21
2.2.1 Urban Structure Plan	21
2.2.2 Conflicts on land use	21
2.3 LAND USE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN MCHINJI	22
2.3.1 Major Land Use Challenges	22
2.3.2 Land use opportunities	22
CHAPTER 3: ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES	23
3.1 IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE ECONOMY	23
3.2 FOREST RESERVES	23
3.2.1 Forest Reserves in Mchinji	23
3.2.2 Wildlife and Game Reserves	25
3.3 AQUATIC AND MARINE RESOURCES IN MCHINJI	27

3.4	ENVIRONMENTALLY – CRITICAL AREAS	27
3.4.1	Major environmental issues and proposed solutions for the district	28
3.4.2	Major Projects with Environmental and Social Management Plans in the District	28
3.5	HOT SPOTS IN MCHINJI AND THYOLAMSANU FOREST RESERVE.	29
3.5.1	Afforestation/Conservation Practices	29
3.5.2	Tree Planting and Sustainable Forest Management	30
3.6	WASTE MANAGEMENT IN MCHINJI	30
3.6.1	Waste Management	30
3.6.2	Pollution	31
3.6.3	Waste Management and Pollution Control Challenges	31
3.7	BIODIVERSITY IN MCHINJI DISTRICT	31
3.7.1	Plants, fruits and animals of economical and medicinal Value in Mchinji	31
3.7.2	Value of Biodiversity in Mchinji	32
3.7.3	Threats to Biodiversity and proposed solutions	32
CHAPTER 4: THE ECONOMY		34
4.1	POVERTY INCIDENCE	34
4.1.1	Main Sources of Income	35
4.1.2	Food Sufficiency	35
4.1.3	Household income Versus Standard of Living	36
4.2	AGRICULTURE	36
4.2.1	Linkage with MGDS III, SDGS and Sectoral Policy Frameworks	36
4.2.2	Overview of Agriculture Sector Conditions in the district	37
4.2.3	Farming Households	37
4.2.4	Jurisdiction of Agriculture Sector and Extension Planning Areas	38
4.2.5	Crop Development Activities	38
4.2.6	Agricultural Markets	44
4.2.7	Sources of farm inputs in EPAs, TAs/STAs and District	46
4.2.8	Access to Agriculture Services	47
4.3	IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT	52
4.3.1	Water Sources	53
4.3.2	Irrigation Technologies and Adoption	54
4.3.3	Investments in Irrigation Sector	56
4.3.4	Irrigation Priority Areas in Mchinji District	58
4.3.5	Contribution of Irrigation Farming to the Local Economy	58
4.3.6	Developmental Issues in the Irrigation Sector in Mchinji	59
4.3.7	Recommendations for Irrigation Development in Mchinji District	59
4.4	LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION	59
4.4.1	Livestock production Distribution by Class	59
4.4.2	Livestock Parasites and Diseases	65
4.4.3	Livestock Production and Marketing Support Services	68
4.5	FISHERIES RESOURCES	72

4.5.1	Fishing grounds	72
4.5.2	Status of Fish Farming in Mchinji District	73
4.5.3	Fish Ponds by Extension Planning Area (EPA)	74
4.5.4	Capture Fisheries.	74
4.5.5	Fish Production	76
4.5.6	Sources of Fish Seed (Fingerlings)	77
4.5.7	Collaborating Partners working with Fisheries Sector	77
4.5.8	Fisheries Staffing Level	77
4.5.9	Opportunities and Challenges in the Development of Fish Farming	78
4.5.10	Plans outlined to enhance Aquaculture in Mchinji	79
4.5.11	Possible solutions to the challenges affecting Aquaculture in Mchinji	79
4.6	FOREST SERVICES	79
4.6.1	Forestry Extension Services	79
4.6.2	Afforestation/Conservation Practices	80
4.6.3	Opportunity in Forestry	81
4.6.4	Key Forestry Issues	82
4.7	MINING	82
4.7.1	Mining Deposits in Mchinji	82
4.7.2	Impacts and challenges with mining in Mchinji district	83
4.7.3	Challenges facing mining industry in Mchinji	84
4.7.4	Opportunities in the mining Industry	84
4.8	TRADE AND INDUSTRY	84
4.8.1	Trading activities in the district	85
4.8.2	Manufacturing Activities	85
4.8.3	Agro-based Activities	85
4.8.4	Business Activities	85
4.8.5	Names of large-scale companies operating in the district	88
4.8.6	Cooperatives	90
4.8.7	Trading centres in Mchinji	93
4.8.8	Growth Trends in small scale investment in Mchinji	94
4.8.9	District Council Revenue Sources	95
4.8.10	Opportunities in Commerce and Trade Sector	95
4.8.11	Challenges in Commerce and Trade Sectors	95
4.9	LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT	95
4.9.1	District Labour Force	96
4.9.2	Sector distribution of labour	96
4.9.3	Conditions of employment and workers' organizations	97
4.9.4	Child Labour in the District	99
4.9.5	Labour Inspection Visits	100
4.9.6	HIV/AIDS Workplace Policy	100
4.9.7	Challenges of the labour sector in the district	101
4.9.8	Summary of Key Issues	101

4.1.0	TOURISM SECTOR	101
4.10.1	Tourism Potential Areas in Mchinji	102
4.10.2	Tourism Facilities Available	104
4.10.3	Other Facilities	105
4.10.4	Contribution of Tourism to the Local Economy	106
4.10.5	Key Issues for Tourism Sector	107
CHAPTER 5: SOCIAL SERVICES		108
5.1	HEALTH AND POPULATION	108
5.1.1	Indicators of Health Status in the District	108
5.1.2	Health Services	110
5.1.3	Health Service Delivery.	115
5.1.4	Health Facilities in the District	117
5.1.5	Health Service Accessibility	118
5.1.6	Client Satisfaction	118
5.1.7	Health Human Resources	119
5.1.8	Family Planning	119
5.1.9	Issues for Mchinji District Health Sector	119
5.2	WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION	119
5.2.1	Access to Safe Water	120
5.2.2	Status of Sanitation (Access To Improved Facilities) and Hygiene Promotion	125
5.3	EDUCATION SERVICES	126
5.3.1	Primary Education	127
5.3.2	Secondary Schools	135
5.3.3	Summary of Issues from the sector.	141
5.4	SOCIAL WELFARE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	141
5.4.1	Community Development Sector	141
5.4.2	Social Welfare Services	147
5.4.3	Gender Issues	157
5.5	YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	160
5.5.1	Youth Services	160
5.5.2	Sports Development	170
5.6	HIV AND AIDS	177
5.6.1	HIV and AIDS Coordination Structures	178
5.6.2	Nutrition Situation in Mchinji District	184
CHAPTER 6: INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES		192
6.1	ROAD NETWORK	192
6.1.1	Main Roads	193
6.1.2	Secondary Roads	193
6.1.3	District Roads	194
6.1.4	Feeder roads	195
6.1.5	Situation Analysis	195

6.1.6	Causes of the poor status of the district road network	196
6.1.7	Impacts of the poor status of road network	196
6.1.8	Maintenance Interventions of road network	196
6.2	BRIDGES	197
6.2.1	Transport services	199
6.2.2	Opportunities on the Road Network	200
6.2.3	Transport terminals	201
6.3	INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY	201
6.3.1	Postal Services	201
6.3.2	Telephone Network	202
6.3.3	Cellular Networks	202
6.3.4	Internet Networks	203
6.3.5	Radio and Television Networks	203
6.3.6	Newspapers	203
6.4	ENERGY	204
6.4.1	Power Generating Plants/Minigrids and Sub-Station	205
6.4.2	Supply and Demand of Electrical Power	205
6.4.3	Malawi Rural Electrification Programme	206
6.4.4	Other Sources of Energy	207
6.5	ENERGY EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGIES	209
6.5.1	Energy Saver Bulbs/LED Bulbs and Other Energy Efficient Electric Appliances	209
6.5.2	Efficient/Improved Cook Stoves	209
6.5.3	Energy Efficient Practices	210
CHAPTER 7: SECURITY AND GOVERNANCE		211
7.1	POLICE SERVICES	211
7.1.1	Police Facilities Vs T/A Establishments	211
7.1.2	Crime Management	212
7.1.3	Security services available in Mchinji	215
7.1.4	Coordination between Police and Private Security Companies	215
7.1.5	Crime Prevention	215
7.1.6	Traffic Management	216
7.1.7	Major Road accidents	216
7.1.8	Security Service Personnel	217
7.1.9	Other security service Facilities	218
7.2	PRISON SERVICES IN MCHINJI	218
7.2.1	Number and capacity of jails	218
7.2.2	Health Services of inmates	218
7.2.3	Potential Areas for commercial undertaking by the Security Services	219
7.3	JUDICIARY	219
7.3.1	Mchinji Magistrate Court	219
7.3.2	Staffing in the Courts	220

7.3.3	Case Statistics	221
7.3.4	Fire Services	224
7.3.5	Key Issues	224
CHAPTER 8: GLOBAL AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES		227
8.1	GLOBAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES	227
8.1.1	Sustainable Development Goals	227
8.1.2	Other International Treaties	227
8.2	NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES	228
8.2.1	Vision 2020	228
8.2.2	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III	229
8.3	DECENTRALISATION POLICY	231
8.3.1	The Decentralization Policy:	231
8.3.2	Objectives of the Policy	231
8.3.3	Local Government Act	231
8.3.4	The Role of Local Government in Development	232
8.4	PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES	232
8.5	DISTRICT POTENTIAL	233
CHAPTER 9: DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FRAMEWORK		234

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1	Soil Data for Mchinji	2
Table 1.2	Constituencies and Wards in Mchinji	6
Table 1.3	Composition by Gender of District Council Members as of December 2014	7
Table 1.4	District Executive Committee Members as of December 2014	8
Table 1.5	Distribution of Village Development Committees per Traditional Authority	8
Table 1.6	Organizations Operating in Mchinji District as of December 2016	10
Table 1.7	Number of CBOs and FBOs by TA	11
Table 1.8	Party results 2009 and 2014	12
Table 1.9	Distribution of Ward Councillors By Political Party 2014	12
Table 1.10	Representation for Local and Parliamentary Elections by Gender	12
Table 1.11	Major Tribes in Mchinji District	13
Table 1.12	Types of Religion by percentage	13
Table 1.13	Population by TA/STA and Sex	14
Table 1.14	Results for phase 2 of the National ID Campaign in Mchinji District	16
Table 1.15	Composition of District National ID task force for Mchinji District	16
Table 2.1	Potential land revenues in Mchinji District	22
Table 3.1	Showing Forest cover in Mchinji	23
Table 3.2	List of wildlife officers in Mchinji.	25
Table 3.3	Problems Reported and Responded	25
Table 3.4	Wildlife Clubs Reached and Membership	26
Table 3.5	Major economic activities affecting the environment in the district	27
Table 3.6	Issues and proposed solutions	28
Table 3.7	Projects with environmental and social management plans in the district	28
Table 3.8	Hotspots in Mchinji and Thyolamsanu Forest reserves	29
Table 3.9	Tree planting and survival figures for the past 3 years	30
Table 3.10	Some Major Threats and Causes of Biodiversity in Mchinji	32
Table 4.1	Economic Well Being	34
Table 4.2	Poverty Comparison with other Districts in the Central Region	35
Table 4.3	Source of Income in Mchinji	35
Table 4.4	Food Sufficiency	36
Table 4.5	Standard of Living versus Household Income	36
Table 4.6	Data for EPAs, Sections and TAs	38
Table 4.7	Data on Area and Yields for the selected crops	39
Table 4.8	EPA based data for Arable Land & Area under Cultivation	39
Table 4.9	Markets and Commodities in EPAs	45

Table 4.10	Overall Farm Inputs Uptake	47
Table 4.11	Staffing in agriculture sector in the district	48
Table 4.12	Number of Agricultural Extension Workers, by EPA and TA/STA covered	49
Table 4.13	Agricultural Extension Workers to Farmers Ratio (2013 to 2017)	50
Table 4.14	Area Stakeholder Panels and Village Agriculture Committees per T/A	51
Table 4.15	Summary of Perennial Rivers/Streams	53
Table 4.16	Type of Irrigation per EPA	55
Table 4.17	Irrigation sites and beneficiaries by technology	56
Table 4.18	Irrigation project areas of NGOs	57
Table 4.19	List of estates in Commercial Irrigation Farming	57
Table 4.20	Existing dams and their conditions	58
Table 4.21	Irrigation services provided with attached terms and conditions	58
Table 4.22	Livestock Census by Class	60
Table 4.23	Parasites and class of animal it attacks	65
Table 4.24	Livestock diseases and class of animals they attack	66
Table 4.25	Showing percentages of losses on uses due to infection, predation and theft	67
Table 4.26	Showing number of meat inspection	67
Table 4.27	Location, membership and quantities of milk produced	68
Table 4.28	Dipping statistics in the district since 2013 to 2016	68
Table 4.29	Dip Tanks, Slaughter Slabs and Cattle Markets	69
Table 4.30	Number of animals dewormed and treated by type from 2013-2017	70
Table 4.31	Number of animals vaccinated from 2012-2016	70
Table 4.32	Number of animals castrated 2013-2016	71
Table 4.33	Malnutrition levels in Mchinji District	72
Table 4.34	Small Water Bodies	73
Table 4.35	Status of Fish Farming in Mchinji District, 2017	74
Table 4.36	Number of Fishers in Mchinji	75
Table 4.37	Potential Dambo for fish farming in Mchinji	75
Table 4.38	Status of fish farming	75
Table 4.39	Accumulative production by EPA from Fish Ponds (Tons)	77
Table 4.40	Collaborating Partners working with Fisheries Sector	77
Table 4.41	Staffing Level-Fisheries	78
Table 4.42	Existing Clubs at E.P.A level	78
Table 4.43	Number of forestry extension workers (FEW) to Population Ratio	80
Table 4.44	Tree planting and survival figures.	81
Table 4.45	Revenue Generation through Forestry	82
Table 4.46	Table 4-46: Number of registered business establishments between 2012 and 2017	86

Table 4.47	Future demand for land for commercial and industrial activities	86
Table 4.48	Categories of business type according number of employees	87
Table 4.49	Different enterprise sizes, their current land holding size and future demand for land.	87
Table 4.50	Business sub-sectors/classification in terms of percentages	88
Table 4.51	Banks and lending institutions in Mchinji	88
Table 4.52	Functional cooperatives in Mchinji District	91
Table 4.53	Main Trading Centres in Mchinji District	93
Table 4.54	Growth trends in small scale investment in Mchinji	94
Table 4.55	Summary of Business Investments in Mchinji District	94
Table 4.56	District Labour Office Staff Profile 2017	96
Table 4.57	Job seekers in Mchinji	97
Table 4.58	Labour Complaints on labour related	98
Table 4.59	New labour complaints on labour related issues	98
Table 4.60	Settled and pending cases each year by age category	98
Table 4.61	Pending complaints on labour related issues	99
Table 4.62	Child labour activity in the District	100
Table 4.63	Labour inspection visits	100
Table 4.64	Tourism sites based on TAs	102
Table 4.65	Motels, Lodges, Rest houses in Mchinji District	105
Table 4.66	Licensed food units in the district	105
Table 4.67	Bar and Liquor Centres	105
Table 4.68	Live Events Venues	106
Table 5.1	HIV Counselling and Testing Sites by Ownership and Year established	114
Table 5.2	Data on HTS Counsellors by Site and Gender.	114
Table 5.3	Data on Health Posts in the District	116
Table 5.4	Number of CHAGs and VHCs established in the district	116
Table 5.5	Health Facilities, Services Offered and Ownership	117
Table 5.6	Ratios of Cadres to population, Mchinji as on 30th June 2017	119
Table 5.7	Percentage of people with access to Safe Drinking Water, by TA/STA	121
Table 5.8	Percentage of the Functional boreholes by TA/STA in the district.	122
Table 5.9	Estimated Coverage of Communal Taps by TA/STA in the district.	123
Table 5.10	Percentage of Functional Communal Taps by TA in the district.	124
Table 5.11	Performance indicators in Education from 2013 to 2017	127
Table 5.12	Data on Number of Schools by Levels and Ownership	127
Table 5.13	Primary School Enrolment by Sex in all the TAs across the District.	128
Table 5.14	Passes of Standard Eight Pupils by Gender and Traditional Authority	129
Table 5.15	Average Dropout Rate from 2016 to 2017 by T A and sex.	130

Table 5.16	Classrooms from 2013 to 2017 by Traditional Authority	131
Table 5.17	Average number of learners per classroom at TA level	132
Table 5.18	Distribution of Desks in Public Primary Schools in the District	133
Table 5.19	Housing Levels in Primary Schools by Traditional Authority	134
Table 5.20	Teachers - House Ratio by Traditional Authority	134
Table 5.21	Pupil -Teacher Ratios in the District for 2016 and 2017	135
Table 5.22	Data for Secondary School Enrolment by TAs	136
Table 5.23	Secondary School Passes in the District by Clusters	137
Table 5.24	Number, Names and Ownership of Secondary Schools by TAs	138
Table 5.25	Secondary schools and Status of classrooms from 2013 – 2017	139
Table 5.26	Science Laboratories and Libraries in Secondary Schools by TAs	139
Table 5.27	Distribution of Secondary School Teachers	140
Table 5.28	Pupil to Teacher Ratio in Secondary schools per T/A in Mchinji district.	140
Table 5.29	Showing Community Aided and Unaided projects by T/A	142
Table 5.30	Showing capacity building Trend of training per year	143
Table 5.31	showing number of groups and membership of COMSIP/VSL Groups	143
Table 5.32	Showing Functional Literacy trend	144
Table 5.33	Enrollment Trend in adult literacy by T/A	145
Table 5.34	Establishment versus available staff	146
Table 5.35	Distribution of CDAs by Traditional Authority against population	146
Table 5.36	Staff Status for Mchinji District Social Welfare Office.	147
Table 5.37	Distribution of Child Protection Workers by Traditional Authority	148
Table 5.38	Summary of Nature of Cases handled from 2014 to 2018 and their trends.	149
Table 5.39	Status of Orphans per Traditional Authority	150
Table 5.40	Distribution of Registered Organizations as per Traditional Authority	150
Table 5.41	Distribution of Community-Based Child Care Centres by Traditional Authority	151
Table 5.42	Distribution of Caregivers pe Traditional Authority, Trained and Untrained.	152
Table 5.43	Enrolment for Children in CBCCs per TA, by gender from 2014 to 2016	152
Table 5.44	Children Corner Centres per TA	153
Table 5.45	Probation Cases from 2014 to 2016.	154
Table 5.46	People with Albinism by Traditional Authorities.	155
Table 5.47	People with Albinism in Acute need of Housing, by TA and Sex	155
Table 5.48	Categories of individual beneficiaries in the Beneficiary Households	156
Table 5.49	Economic Activities by Groups, Gender and TA	158
Table 5.50	Cases of Gender Based Violence Recorded ands Handled from 2014 to 2016	159
Table 5.51	Youth Population by Traditional Authority (excluding those aged 35)	161
Table 5.52	Major initiatives in Youth Economic Empowerment, for 2014 - 2017	162

Table 5.53	Number of Youth benefited from Vocational Skills Training per TA and the Trade	163
Table 5.54	Number of Youth Trained in Leadership Skills	164
Table 5.55	Number of Out of School Youth Clubs per T/A	165
Table 5.56	Distribution of Youth Centers in the District by TA	166
Table 5.57	Distribution of YACs in the ADCs	167
Table 5.58	TA Based Youth Networks	168
Table 5.59	Out Of-School Youth Trained in Life Skills	169
Table 5.60	Youth Friendly Health Services (YFHS	170
Table 5.61	Sports Structures per T/A in the district	171
Table 5.62	Data on Sports Festivals Conducted per TA, from 2013 to 2017	172
Table 5.63	Data on Behavioural Change Sessions per TA	172
Table 5.64	Meetings Conducted to Reinforce Physical Education in Schools per TAs	173
Table 5.65	Sports Facilities per T/A in the District	174
Table 5.66	Data for Athletes across Disciplines Identified in TAs	174
Table 5.67	Sporting Clubs/ Teams by TA	175
Table 5.68	Sports Associations and Trophies/ Leagues operational in the district	176
Table 5.69	Sports Disciplines based Personnel Training between 2015 – 2017	176
Table 5.70	Equipment Distributed in the District	177
Table 5.71	HIV and AIDS Service Organisations in Mchinji District	180
Table 5.72	Status of HIV Testing Counsellors in Mchinji	182
Table 5.73	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission, Mother status in Health Facilities	183
Table 5.74	Prevention of Mother to Child transmission, Child status in Health facilities	184
Table 5.75	Mchinji Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition Admissions (Jan-Dec 2017)	188
Table 5.76	Number of under-five children screened from February to November 2017	188
Table 5.77	Total number of ANCCs, VNCCs, Promoters, Cluster Leaders and Care Groups in the district	190
Table 5.78	Mchinji District Council Nutrition Stakeholders	191
Table 6.1	Road distribution by type per Constituency	192
Table 6.2	Status of Main Roads	193
Table 6.3	Status of Secondary Roads	193
Table 6.4	Status of District Roads	194
Table 6.5	Status of Tertiary Roads	195
Table 6.6	Condition, width and deck type of bridges in Mchinji	197
Table 6.7	Routes, Frequencies and Mode of Transport to and from Mchinji	200
Table 6.8	List of Post Offices and their location	201
Table 6.9	Services offered in post offices and volume of transactions per month	202

Table 6.10	Radio stations and their frequencies	203
Table 6.11	List of publications and their frequencies	204
Table 6.12	Estimated energy demand	205
Table 6.13	Institutional Structures Connectivity to ESCOM Grid Power in 2017	206
Table 6.14	Trading Centres/Sites Electrified in Mchinji under MAREP Phases 4 to 8	207
Table 6.15	Proportion of HH by main source of fuel for cooking in Mchinji in 2016/17	207
Table 6.16	Table Proportion of Households in Mchinji By Lighting Energy Type In 2016/17	208
Table 7.1	Police facilities per Traditional Authority	211
Table 7.2	Police facilities and TAs covered	212
Table 7.3	Number of crimes committed and reported	213
Table 7.4	Changes in crime rate (2012 and 2016)	214
Table 7.5	Major road accidents in Mchinji	216
Table 7.6	Staffing in Security Sector in Mchinji	217
Table 7.7	Staff establishment	217
Table 7.8	Other security facilities	218
Table 7.9	Court centers	220
Table 7.10	Distribution of the Judicial Officers	220
Table 7.11	Type and number of transport available for the judicial staff	224
Table 7.12	Types of cases registered concluded and pending in the district	225
Table 7.13	Type of civil cases presided over by the courts according to the T/A	226
Table 8.1	Mapping of MGDS III key priority areas to the SDGS and agenda 2063	230
Table 8.2	Resources and Potentials for the District	233

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1	Map of Malawi depicting location and boundaries of Mchinji District	1
Figure 1.2	Minimum and Maximum Rainfall 2012-2017	3
Figure 1.3	Soil Loss for Mchinji (2013-2017)	4
Figure 1.4	Minimum and Maximum Rainfall 2012-2017	5
Figure 1.5	Adults registered and National IDs issued	17
Figure 1.6	Death registered and certificates issued	18
Figure 2.1	Land use percentage for Mchinji District.	21
Figure 3.1	Location of forest reserves in Mchinji	24
Figure 3.2	Buffalo killed in Kanyama and a Hyena killed at Mkanda	26
Figure 4.1	Farming Families in Mchinji District by EPA for 2012-2017	37
Figure 4.2	Analysis of Area Planted to Maize for EPAs and District from 2013 to 2017	40
Figure 4.3	Analysis of Area Planted to Maize for EPAs and District from 2013 to 2017	41
Figure 4.4	Analysis of Area Planted to Tobacco for EPAs and District from 2013	42
Figure 4.5	Analysis of Area Planted to Potato for EPAs and District from 2013	43
Figure 4.6	Analysis of Area Planted to Onions for EPAs and District from 2013	43
Figure 4.7	Analysis of Area Planted to Tomatoes for EPAs and District from 2013	44
Figure 4.8	Price analysis for major crops in the district from 2012 to 2017	46
Figure 4.9	Irrigation Technologies and Adoption	54
Figure 4.10	Crops irrigated by Treadle pump in Mchitanji Irrigation Scheme	55
Figure 4.11	Weir for Liweredzi Irrigation Scheme	56
Figure 4.12	Poultry Production	60
Figure 4.13	Proportion of chicken breeds kept in Mchinji.	61
Figure 4.14	Analysis of cattle production	62
Figure 4.15	Analysis of small ruminants in Mchinji District	63
Figure 4.16	Analysis of breeds of pigs reared in Mchinji	64
Figure 4.17	Rabbits and Guinea Pigs Production in Mchinji	65
Figure 4.18	Fish Ponds at Mikundi EPA, Nyoka Fish Farmin Village Scheme.	73
Figure 4.19	Number of Fish Farmers and Ponds in Mchinji, 2017	74
Figure 4.20	Showing part of harvested Tilapia species at Tikondane fish club	76
Figure 4.21	Kamwendo cooking oil,pre-certified by MBS,have bar code	92
Figure 4.22	Fort-Manning Hole	102
Figure 4.23	Zulu Cultural Centre	103
Figure 4.24	The great kachere tree	103
Figure 4.25	Kachebere major seminary	104
Figure 4.26	Contribution of Tourism to the Local Economy	106

Figure 4.27	Contribution of Tourism to the Local Economy	107
Figure 5.1	Five Leading Causes of Morbidity for Mchinji District	108
Figure 5.2	Incidences of Non-communicable Diseases in the District	109
Figure 5.3	Leading Causes of Mortality in Under 5 Children, mortality rates (per 100) for 2013 to 2017	110
Figure 5.4	Trends of immunization Coverages for some Antigens, from 2013 to 2017	111
Figure 5.5	Immunization Coverage for TTV2, both in pregnant and Non-Pregnant Women	112
Figure 5.6	Percentage of Pregnant HIV Positive Women and HIV pregnant Women initiated on ART	113
Figure 5.7	Households' Access to Water, distance of within or more than 500 metres	122
Figure 5.8	Percentage of Population with Access to safe Sanitation by Type of Toilet	125
Figure 5.9	Pictorial presentation of some hand washing and sanitation Facilities	126
Figure 5.10	Percentage of English classes in all T/As	145
Figure 5.11	One of the Youth Center Structures, Tembwe in TA Mlonyeni	166
Figure 5.12	One of the District Youth Network Meetings, Mchinji Boma TDC	168
Figure 5.13	HIV Prevalence from 2004 to 2015 in Mchinji	179
Figure 5.14	District HTS Results from 2015 to 2017	181
Figure 5.15	ART Status in Mchinji District	183
Figure 5.16	Prevalence of stunting, wasting and underweight and trends in Mchinji	185
Figure 5.17	Nutrition status of women 14-49	187
Figure 5.18	Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices for Mchinji	189
Figure 7.1	Crime Offenders by Sex	214
Figure 7.2	Cases registered against cases concluded from 2013 to 2016	221
Figure 7.3	Status of cases registered and concluded in mchinji	223

FOREWORD

This Socio – Economic Profile presents the current socio- economic situation and the future district development plans and priorities for Mchinji District. It is an updated edition of an earlier version that was prepared in 2012. This Socio-Economic Profile is meant to provide data and information for use in development planning and management processes of the district.

The data provided in this profile have been aligned to Global Development Policies (the Sustainable Development Goals), Continental Policy Framework, National and Sector Development Policies and Strategic Frameworks (the National Constitution, Vision 2020, Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III, the National Decentralisation Policy). The profile reports five year historical trends (2012-2017) of all sectors covering the entire district.

While the Mchinji District Council, Mchinji District Executive Committee and LGAP provided all the facilities, technical and logistical support, the preparation of this profile adopted a participatory process. Given the participatory approach that was adopted in developing this profile, it is hoped that all development actors in the district (government departments, non-governmental organisations, donors and others) will find the information in this profile useful for the development planning and management of their institutions. Particularly, it is hoped that all development actors will mutually support the implementation of the district development plans and priorities contained in this profile.

The organization of the profile has followed the framework / format provided for in the Development Planning System Handbook for District Councils with minor improvements to tailor the specific needs of Mchinji District Council.

Yona Mtanga
CHAIRPERSON OF MCHINJI DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Finalization of this document would not be possible without everyone who took part; the council values your contribution.

Bester C. Mandere
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ADMARC	Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation
AEDC	Agricultural Extension Development Coordinator
AEDO	Agricultural Extension Development Officer
ASWAP	Agriculture Sector Wide Approach.
ACPC	Area Civil Protection Committee
ADC	Area Development Committee
ANCC	Area Nutrition Coordinating Committee
ASM	Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining
ACDO	Assistant Community Development Officer
BLM	Banja La Mtsogolo
CA	Chief Accountant
CAO	Chief Administration Officer
CPW	Child Protection Worker
CARD	Churches Action in Relief and Development
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CDMA	Code Division Multiple Access
CACC	Community Aids Coordinating Committee
CBCC	Community Based Childhood Care
CBM	Community Based Management
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CCLC	Community Child Labour Committee
CDSS	Community Day Secondary School
CDA	Community Development Assistant
CHAG	Community Health Action Group
CHDG	Community Housing Development Group
CMAM	Community Management of Acute Malnutrition
COMSIP	Community Savings and Investment Promotion
CVSU	Community Victim Support Unit
COMATU	Congress of Malawi Trade Unions
CS	Conservation Services
CPR	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
DAHSP	Decent and Affordable Housing Subsidy Program
DPP	Democratic Progressive Party
DODMA	Department of Disaster Management Affairs

DNPW	Department of National Parks and Wildlife
DNHA	Department of Nutrition HIV and AIDS
DSW	Department of Social Welfare
DOA	Director of Administration
DPD	Director of Planning and Development
DPW	Director of Public Works
DADO	District Agricultural Development Officer
DAECC	District Agriculture Extension Coordinating Committee
DAESS	District Agriculture Extension Services System
DACC	District AIDS Coordinating Committee
DCLC	District Child Labour Committee
DCPC	District Civil Protection committee
DC	District Commissioner
DCDO	District Community Development Officer
DDP	District Development Plan
DDPS	District Development Planning System
DEM	District Education Manager
DEO	District Elections officer
DEHO	District Environmental Health Officer
DESC	District Environmental Sub-Committee
DEC	District Executive committee
DHO	District Health Officer
DIACC	District Interfaith AIDS Coordinating Committee
DNCC	District Nutrition Coordinating Committee
DRHO	District Rural Housing Officer
DYN	District Youth Network
DYO	District Youth Officer
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ESCOM	Electricity Supply Corporation of Malawi
EDO	Environmental District officer
EPA	Extension Planning Area
FBO	Faith-Based Organizations
FINCA	Foundation for International Community Assistance
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GFS	Gravity-Fed Schemes
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HCW	Health Care Workers

HSAs	Health Surveillance Assistants
HGSMP	Home Grown School Meals Program
HDG	Housing Deployment Group
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ID	Identity
IHF	Integrated Homestead Farming
IHS	Integrated Household Survey
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ITCZ	Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone
LSM	Large-Scale Mining
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)
LDF	Local Development Fund
MCTU	Malawi Congress of Trade Unions
MCP	Malawi Congress Party
MDRRP	Malawi Drought Recovery Resilience Project
MGDS	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy
MHC	Malawi Housing Cooperation
MPC	Malawi Postal Corporation
MPRS	Malawi Poverty Reduction Strategy
MRA	Malawi Revenue Authority
MARDEF	Malawi Rural Development Fund
MAREP	Malawi Rural Electrification Programme
MTL	Malawi Telecommunications Limited
MP	Member of Parliament
MAD	Minimum Acceptable Diet
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NAC	National Aids Commission
NRB	National Registration Bureau
NSO	National Statistics Office
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PLWHA	People Living With HIV and AIDS
PSLCE	Primary School Leaving Certificate Examination
PA	Protected Areas
PPP	Public-Private-Partner
PRO	Public Relations Officer (PRO)
PWP	Public Works Programme
REMAC	Rural Electrification Management Committee

SHN	School Health and Nutrition
SLTS	School-led Total Sanitation
SACDO	Senior Assistant Community Development Officer
SCDA	Senior Community Development Assistant
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SMED	Small and Medium Enterprise Development
SEP	Socio-Economic Profile
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
STAs	Sub Traditional Authorities
SFP	Supplementary Feeding Program
SNIC	Support to Nutrition Integration Component
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals - Agenda 2030
SE4ALL	Sustainable Energy for All
TA	Tradition Authority
UN	United Nations
VAP	Village Action Plan
VACC	; Village Aids Coordination Committee
VDC	Village Development Committee
VHWC	Village Health and Water Committee
VNRMC	Village Natural Resources Management Committee
VNCC	Village Nutrition Cordinating Committte
VSL	Village Savings and Loans
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WVI	World Vision Malawi
YAC	Youth Action Committees
YEE	Youth Economic Empowerment
YFHS	Youth Friendly Health Service
YTSC	Youth Technical Sub-Committee
YWTG	Youth Working Technical Group

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is the Socio-Economic Profile (SEP) of Mchinji District for the period 2017-2022. The SEP is the basic document for all planning in the district. It analyses the social, economic, political and physical conditions in the district. Therefore, it contains data for the formulation of the District Development Plan (DDP). The analysis is based on the priorities of the national development strategy as spelt out in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) III 2017-2022 and the Sustainable Development Goals Agenda 2030 (SDGs).

The SEP is divided into nine chapters. Chapter One outlines the physical features, administrative and political structures of the district. It also describes the demographic characteristics and settlement pattern of the district. Land tenure and land uses in the district are outlined in Chapter Two. Chapter Three highlights major environmental issues in the district. Chapter Four analyses the district's economy. Social services delivered in the district are presented and analyzed in Chapter Five. Infrastructure and utilities are presented in Chapter Six. Chapter Seven contains security services rendered in the district. Chapter Eight presents Security and Governance Issues. Chapter Nine outlines major development issues and the alignment of the SEP to the national development strategy, the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) III 2017-2022 and SDG Agenda (2030) and provides a District Development Planning Framework.

The District Social Economic Profile (SEP) is a significant document, which has been compiled to provide information for formulation of the District Development Plan (DDP). Primary and secondary data collected by various sectors in the field and offices has been utilised in preparing the SEP.

Mchinji is a border district which shares the country's international boundaries with Zambia and Mozambique and district boundaries with Kasungu to the north and Lilongwe to the east. It has a total land area of 3,131 square kilometres and it is linked with other parts of Malawi through M12 and M18. According to 2008 population and housing census, Mchinji has a population of 602,305 (313,199 males and 289,106 females) and a total of 134,799 households. Dominant tribes in the district are the Senga, Ngoni and Chewa, while Chisenga and Chichewa are the dominant languages. Christianity predominates other religions.

The economy of Mchinji is Agro-based, 90% of the population depends on agriculture and they rely on rainfed agriculture. The major crops grown are Maize, Tobacco, Soya, and Groundnuts. Since the rainfed agriculture is not adequate as the source of food and income, the district promotes irrigation by small scale farmers.

As of 2017, Mchinji had a total of 205 primary schools, with 179,717 learners and 2,330 primary school teachers. The teacher pupil ratio is high (77:1) making the number of teachers inadequate. The district also has 27 secondary schools with 9,365 pupils. There are 378 secondary school teachers of which 142 are not qualified. The health sector has 18 health facilities which provide services to the population. Only 46% of the population are able to access the health services from the facilities within the radius of 5km. Malaria is the leading cause of morbidity in both children and adults.

The security in the District is provided by the Malawi Police Services and other private institutions. The District does not have prison services or Fire department. It has a magistrate court which adjudicates legal disputes and carries out justice in accordance with the rule of law And the convicted persons are sent to Lilongwe.

In spite of the numerous problems that Mchinji faces, the district has potential for development but resources are under-utilized. Mchinji has fertile land good for crop production and flow of the Bua-river water and natural pastures. It is hoped that this District Socio-Economic Profile will serve as a bench mark and eye opener to our existing and potential development partners to support the council in any way possible so that the District should move forward.

CHAPTER 1: GENERAL FEATURES

1.1 PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

This section is divided into sections which comprise: The location and size, topography, Geology and Hydrology, Soil, Climate and Climate Change.

1.1.1 Location and Size

Mchinji district has an area of 3,356 square kilometers (335,600 hectares) and it represents 3.6% of the total land for Malawi. It is located in the Central Region of Malawi and is the fourth largest in the region and sixteenth largest in Malawi.

It borders with Kasungu District to the north, Lilongwe District to the east, Zambia to the west and Mozambique to the south. It is 109 kilometers away from Lilongwe City, which is the Capital of Malawi. It is 421 Kilometers from the Commercial City of Blantyre in the Southern Region and 342 km from Mzuzu, the only City, in the Northern Region. Mchinji Boma is about 12 km away from the Zambia/Malawi border at Mwami. The district is subdivided into 9 Traditional Authorities and 5 Sub Traditional Authorities.

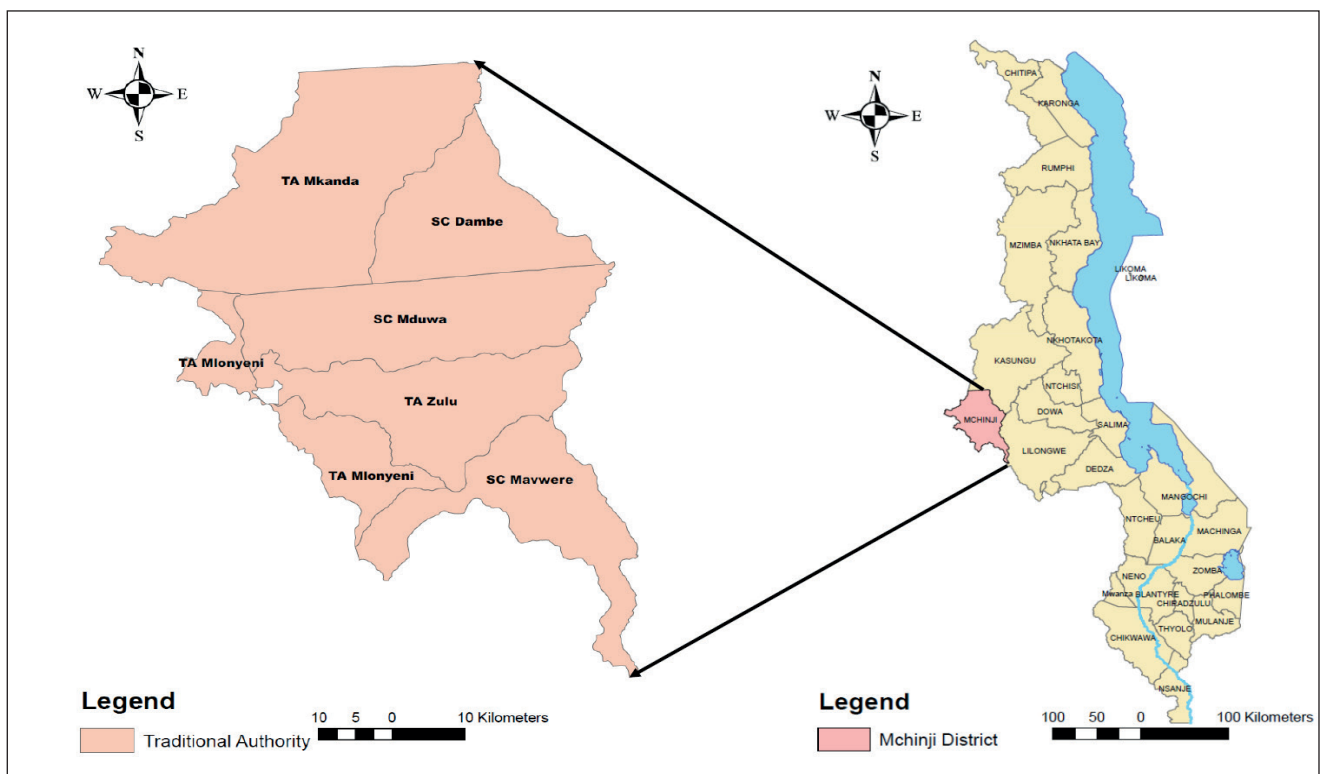


Figure 1.1 Map of Malawi depicting location and boundaries of Mchinji District

Source: Mchinji District Council SEP 2012

1.1.2 Topography, Geology and Hydrology

Mchinji lies between 1,200 and 1,829 meters above sea level on weathered basement. It has two district terrains. The hilly western part, consisting of Mchinji mountain ranges, has gentle slopes that are 1,600 –830 meters above sea level. Almost all rivers found in the district originate from these hills. The remaining part, which forms the biggest part of the district, lies within a plain of mostly arable land.

The most notable rivers in Mchinji include: Mkalazi, Liwelezi, Kawerawera, Matizi, Rusa, Namange, Champhezi, Kapezi, Mkhono, Lunthwe, Ludzi, Madzimaela, Namitete, Likasi, Kankhowa, Ndaula, Chisitu, Naliese, Bua, Kaombe, Kachebere, Chipataheme and Maudo.

1.1.3 Soil

1.1.3.1 Soil Data

The soils are classified as eutric-ferralic, eutric-fersialic, paralithic group in the soil family of Neno, Moth-eriwa, Nkwepela, Euthini and Malamulo in the agro-ecological zones of the upper Bua plain, Mchinji foot-hills, Kochilira-Kazyozyo and south/west Kasungu plain in the district. However, the following are the specific soil data for the EPAs.

Table 1.1 Soil Data for Mchinji

EPAs	Type	Soil Structure	Texture
Mkanda, Chioshya, Mlonyeni, Msitu	Upland	Very deep, well drained, medium to coarse over medium to fine and coarse to medium textured soils of low to moderate chemical fertility	Sandy loam to Sandy clay loam
	Damboland	Very deep soils with poor or imperfect drained soils with a wide range in texture and color, moderate chemical fertility	
Kalulu, Mikundi	Upland	Moderate deep, well drained dark brown, medium to fine textured soils of low to moderate chemical fertility	
	Damboland	Very deep soils with poor or imperfect drainage, grey soils with variable texture and low chemical fertility	

Source: FAO 1992

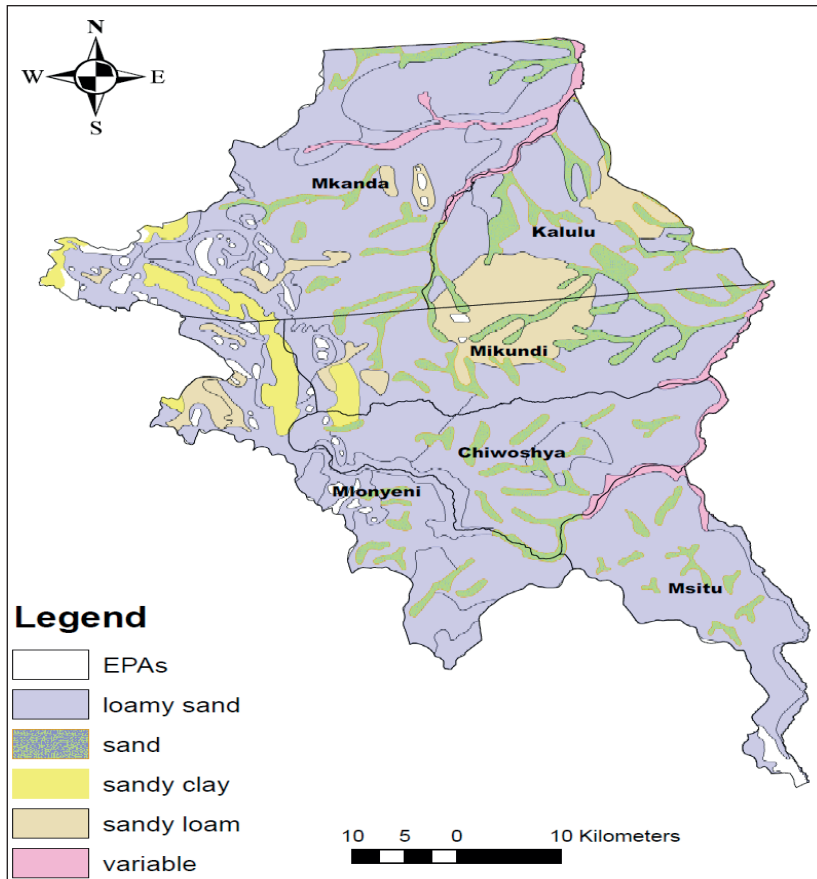


Figure 1.2 Minimum and Maximum Rainfall 2012-2017

Source: Mchinji District Council, 2017

The figure above shows that Mchinji has a very deep grey soils with low chemical fertility making it hard for the crops like maize and tobacco to grow without applying organic or inorganic fertilisers. The soil texture on the other hand is mostly sandy making it favourable for the growing of crops such as ground nuts.

1.1.3.2 Soil Loss (Degree of Erosion)

The mean district topsoil loss rate in 2014 was 107t/ha/year. Higher soil loss rates are mainly in the western parts of the district (Mlonyeni, Mkanda, Chiwoshya (Zulu) and Mikundi EPAs). The main factors for soil loss rates in these areas include poor soil management. The forest reserves don't help much in controlling vegetative cover loss and soil erosion.

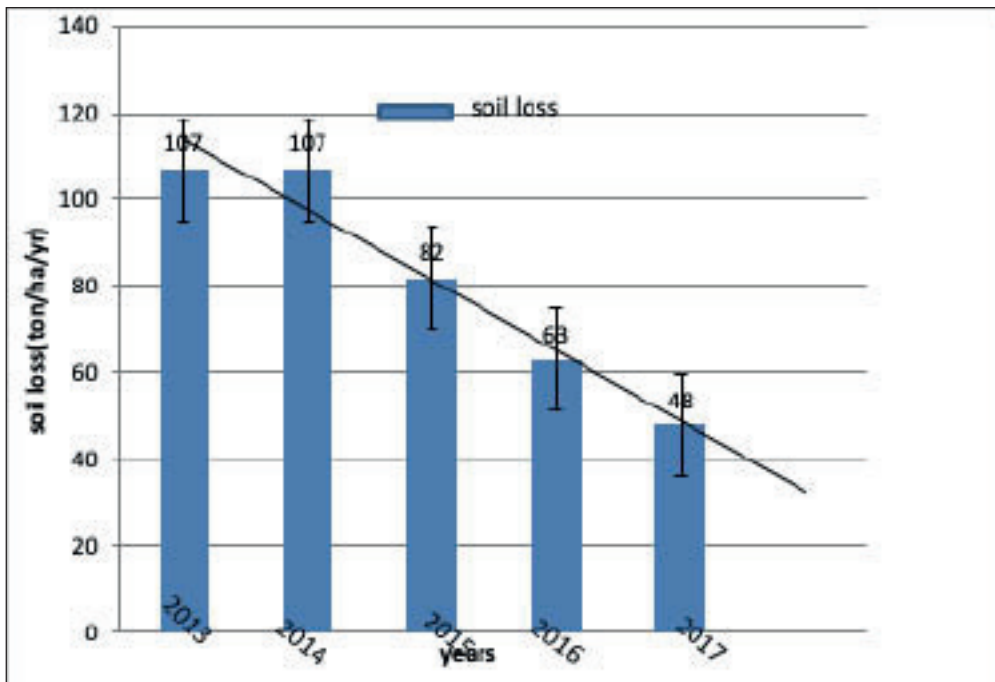


Figure 1.3 Soil Loss for Mchinji (2013-2017)

Source: Mchinji District council, 2017

As shown in the figure above, soil loss was at extremely high in 2013 and 2014. Interventions implemented under ASWAP projects, which put much emphasis on soil conservation technology may have contributed to the reduction of Soil loss from 2015. Projects like ASWAP needs to be encouraged if the district is to reduce soil loss.

1.1.4 Climate and Climate Change

The climate of Mchinji is greatly influenced by its location within the tropical zone and altitude. The district generally has a warm tropical climate. The topography determines the distribution and variation of both maximum and minimum temperatures. In winter, there is much less rainfall in Mchinji than in summer. This climate is considered to be Cwa according to the Koppen-Geiger climate classification.

1.1.4.1 Temperature

The average annual maximum temperature for Mchinji varies from 24°C to 39°C degrees Celsius with the months of November and December being the hottest. The annual minimum temperatures range from 7.5°C to 12°C degrees Celsius with June and July being the coldest.

1.1.4.2 Rainfall

In the district, rainfall varies due to topography and other factors such as El Nino, La Nina and greenhouse effects. The rainy season starts from November to April while dry season starts from May to October. The main rain bearing systems are the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) and the Congo Air Mass. The rainfall pattern shows that during the past few years there has been variability in both amount of rain in millimeters and number of rainfall days. Maximum amounts of rainfall were recorded in 2017. Compared

to national average rainfall of over 1000mm, Mchinji district could be classified as a medium rainfall area of between 750-1000 mm of rainfall per annum. Below is the average rainfall data for the past five seasons starting from 2012/2013 to 2016/2017 for the stations that recorded highest and lowest cumulative rainfall:

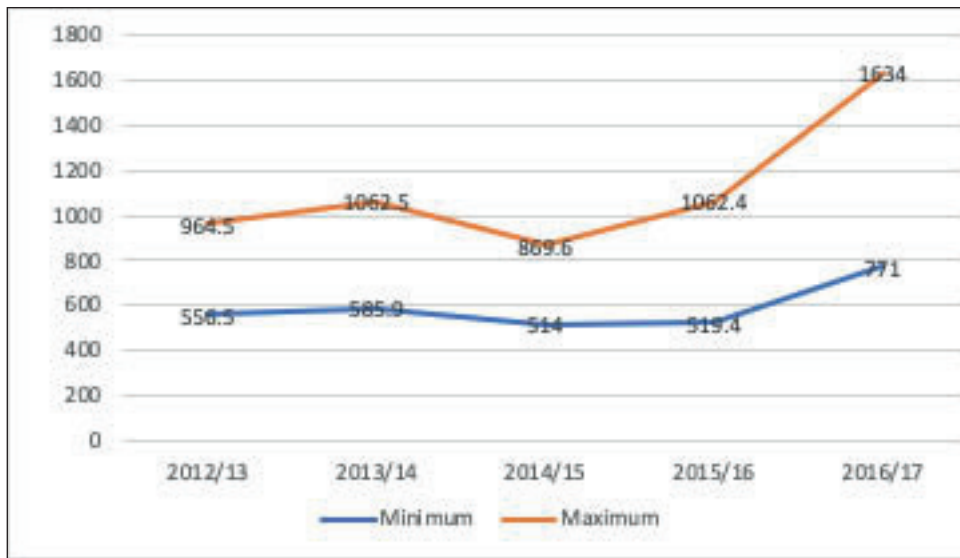


Figure 1.4 Minimum and Maximum Rainfall 2012-2017

Source: Mchinji Agriculture Office, 2017

From the figure above, the highest cumulative rainfall was recorded in the 2016/17 season, the area with minimum rain fall of 771mm was Mikundi TTC while Kazoyoyo EPA recorded the highest at 1634mm. Lipunga and Chioshya recorded the lowest maximum (869.6mm) and minimum (514mm) respectively.

1.1.4.3 Climate Change

Like most districts in Malawi, Mchinji has two seasons. The dry season runs from May to October while the wet/rainy season runs from November to April. The hilly areas receive average rainfalls of between 1000mm and 1230mm per annum. The plains receive less rainfall, generally ranging from 80mm to 1030mm per annum.

The District has experienced significant climatic changes in the last five years. Rains have been erratic, with the northern and eastern parts of the district experiencing less and late rainfalls. Consequently, most communities consistently experience shortage of water for household use.

The climate in Mchinji is warm and temperate. The average temperature is 21.4 °C. Precipitation averages 1022 mm.

1.1.4.4 Disasters

Malawi faces multiple hazards in both rural and urban areas. These include floods, heavy storms, droughts, dry spells, epidemics, fire, landslides and earthquakes. Due to Climate Change, the nature and pattern of weather-related hazards is changing; becoming more frequent, intense and unpredictable. As a result, the number of people affected by these disasters has lately increased sharply.

1.2

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES AND LOCAL POLITICS

1.2.1

Formal Administrative Structures

1.2.1.1 Local Government System, Functions and Structures

Mchinji District council is a statutory body set up under the Local Government Act of 1998.

(a) District Council

The Council is composed of Twelve elected Ward Councillors, six elected Members of Parliament (MP), eleven Traditional Leaders, and Five Representatives of interest groups and the Secretariat.

(b) Composition by sex

Out of the 6 elected Members of Parliament, 3 are female. But in the twelve (12) elected ward councillors only 2 are female and 10 are Male; and in all 11 Traditional Authorities, 10 are male with only (1) representation of female. This clearly signals the district's cultural beliefs that women are not supposed to take up leadership positions, bringing issues of gender stereotypes in a patriarchal society of the Ngonis.

The table below shows the distribution of Constituencies and their wards in their perspective Tradition Authorities.

Table 1.2 Constituencies and Wards in Mchinji

	CONSTITUENCY	WARD	TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY
1	Mchinji Central	Mkoma	Zulu
		Mtope	Simphasi
2	Mchinji North	Mchemani	Mkanda
		Luwelezi	Mkanda
3	Mchinji South	Nanjiwa	Mavwere
		Msitu	Mavwere
4	Mchinji North East	Mponda	Kapondo
		Kapiri	Dambe
5	Mchinji East	Msachembe	Nyoka
		Mikundi	Mikundi
6	Mchinji South West	Kalumbe	Mlonyeni
		Chimimbe	Mlonyeni

Source: Mchinji District Council

Currently Mchinji has a 40 members-council consisting of 18 voting members who are the councilors and members of parliament and 14 other ex-officials as non-voting members. The non-voting members include 2 senior chiefs, 7 Chiefs (Traditional authorities) 5 members representing interest groups (Women's Representative, Business Representative, Farmers' Representative, Civil Society Representative, and Youth Representative), and 8 Secretariat members (DC, DEM, DHO, DADO, DPD, DPW, DOA, CA) The chairperson, elected from the ward councillors, heads the Council on a yearly basis.

The Council conducts its business through a number of standing committees. Currently there are 7 committees functioning, namely Finance Committee, Development Committee, Health committee, Education committee, Works Committee, Agriculture and Environmental Natural Resources Committee and Human Resource Committee.

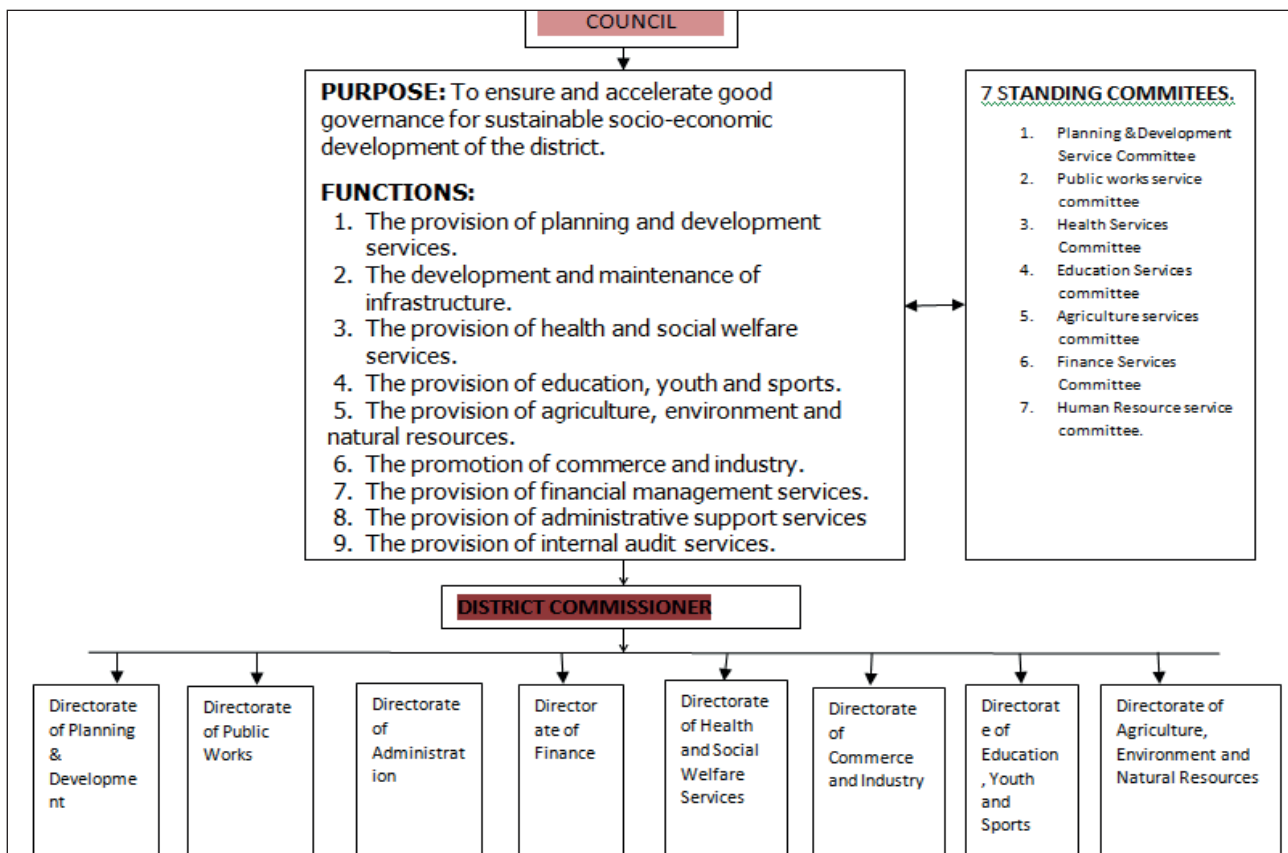
Table 1.3 Composition by Gender of District Council Members as of December 2014

Members	Male	Female	Total
Members of Parliament	3	3	6
Councilors	10	2	12
Non-Voting Members	12	2	14

Source: Mchinji District Council

(c) District Council Secretariat

The Secretariat is composed of appointed staff that serves in the Council. The District Commissioner heads the secretariat and is also a Secretary to the Council. The Directorate of Planning and Development, the Directorate of Administration, Directorate of Public Works, the Directorate of Finance, and Devolved Line Departments (Health and Social Welfare Services, Education, Youth and Sports Services, Agriculture, Irrigation, Environment and Water Development Services, Gender Community Development Services, Trade and Commerce Services) also serve in the Council as Management which is responsible for implementation of policies



Source: Mchinji District Council

(d) District Executive Committee (DEC)

The District Executive Committee (DEC) is the technical advisory body to the Council. It appraises and consolidates development projects that originate from the Village Development Committees (VDCs) through the Area Development Committee (ADCs) prior to approval and funding by the District Council. The DEC is comprised of all the heads of government departments, Parastatals, Non-Governmental organizations and the private sector. The District Commissioner (DC) heads the DEC and the Director of Planning and Development (DPD) is the secretary as provided for in the National Decentralization Policy and the 1998 Local Government Act.

Table 1.4 District Executive Committee Members as of December 2014

Indicator	Male	Female	Total
Heads of Government Department	46	3	49
Non-Governmental Organizations	10	8	18

Source: Mchinji District Council 2014

(e) Area Development Committees (ADC)

The Area Development Committees (ADCs) are responsible for development projects in the areas of jurisdictions under traditional and sub traditional authorities. Assisted by Extension Technical Workers, the ADCs review and consolidate project proposals from the village development committee (VDCs) before submission through DEC for approval and funding by District Councils. Mchinji with 3 Senior Chief, 7 Traditional Authorities (TAs) and 3 Sub Traditional Authorities (STAs) currently has 13 ADCs and 209 VDCs

(f) Area Executive Committees (AECs)

There are 13 Area Executive committees in the district. It is the committee of technocrats which comprises of Government front line workers and other extension workers from NGOs that are distributed in various traditional Authorities. These advise the ADCs and VDCs on all development work undertaken within their jurisdiction.

(g) Village Development Committees (VDCs)

Table 1.5 Distribution of Village Development Committees per Traditional Authority

Senior Traditional Authority	Traditional Authority	Sub-Traditional Authority	(Group Village Heads	No. of Villages
	Mavwere		12	119
Dambe			26	101
	Mduwa		5	94
	Simphasi		32	05
	Pitala		1	8
		Nyoka	17	75
		Gumba	5	23
		Kapunula	5	8
	Kazyozyo		8	29
	Kapondo		17	98
Mkanda			31	94
	Zulu		28	106
Mlonyeni			28	112

Source: Mchinji District Council, 2017

From the table, there are 207 VDCs in the district.

(h) National Government offices and departments present in the District

Government Departments in Mchinji include;

1. Ministry of Health and Population
2. Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development
3. Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
4. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs
5. Ministry of Youth and Sports,
6. Ministry of Labor
7. Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare (Community Development, Gender and Social Welfare)
8. Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security (Police and National Registration), OPC (Immigration)
9. Ministry of Justice (the Judiciary)
10. Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism
11. Ministry of Information and Civic Education
12. Department of Rural Housing
13. Department of Treasury Cashier
14. Ministry of Lands, Department of Surveys.

The following departments are not yet devolved and still under central government; Police, Department of Prisons; Department of Immigration; Department of Accountant General (Treasury Cashier), Information, Lands and Physical Planning, and the Judiciary.

15. Statutory co-operatives with offices in the District

The management and development of Mchinji District Council involves the participation of a multiplicity of statutory corporations. The statutory corporations for the development of the district includes: -

16. Central Region Water Board
17. Electricity Supply Corporation of Malawi (ESCOM)
18. Malawi Telecommunications Limited (MTL)
19. Malawi Postal Corporation
20. Agriculture Development and Market Corporation (ADMARC)
21. Malawi Housing Cooperation (MHC)
22. Malawi Revenue Authority

(i) Non-Governmental Organizations

The NGOs are very important stakeholders to the development of the district. These organizations undertake a wide range of activities complementing government's efforts by supporting the district in development work through providing social services such as water and sanitation, health, emergency relief operations, agriculture, employment, literacy, environment, HIV/AIDS, civic education of human rights, micro-finance and capacity building. Some of those with a significant role, both existing and potential, on the development of the district are summarized in Table 1-7 below

Table 1.6 Organizations Operating in Mchinji District as of December 2016

No	Name of Organization	Sector	TA/Area of operation	Phase out period for the project
1	Mai Mwana Project	Health Research, Maternal and Child Health	All TAs	
2	Girl Child Education HIV/AIDS	Education Service	Zulu (Nyamawende& Kamwendo	
3	Malawi CARER	Human Rights	Zulu, Mkanda, Kapondo, Nyoka, Dambe, and Mduwa	
4	NICE	Civic Education	All TAs	
5	Word Vision International	Education	Mavwere	
6	Nkhoma Synod	Health and Education	All TAs	
7	New Life Behavioral Change Ministries	Behavioral Changes	TA Mkanda	
8	Salvation Army	Child Trafficking and Labour	Mkanda, Zulu, Dambe, Nyoka, Mlonyeni & Mavwere	
9	FEDOMA	Disability-Education	All Educational Zones	
1	MACOHA	Disability-District	All TAs	
1	NAPHAM	HIV/AIDS and Food Security	All TAs	
1	PACHI	Health Service	All Health Centers	
1	CLEAR	Child Labour	TA Dambe	
	SAVE THE CHILDREN (USA)	Health, Village Savings Loans, Education Under CLEAR, Social Cash	All TAs	
	AGCARE	HIV/AIDS, Food Security and Water	TA Mduwa	
	CARD	Health, Food Security and Village Savings Loans	Mkanda, Simphasi, Mduwa and Zulu	
	Women's Hope for Change	Women's Rights and Empowerment	All TAs	
	YONECO	Child Protection and Counseling under CLEAR Project	Gumba and Kapiri Educational Zones	
	HEIFER International	Agri-business	TA Zulu	
	Action Aid International Malawi	Poverty Eradication	TA Dambe	
	CADECOM	Village Savings Loan	All TAs	
	CONCERN WORLD WIDE	Health and Nutrition	All TAs	
	RLEEP	Food Security	All TAs	
	Primary Justice	Human Rights	All TAs	
	CEYCA	Child Labour	Mkanda and Mduwa	
	EGPAF	Pediatrics	Mchinji District Hospital	
	Pump Aid	Water and Sanitation	All TAs	
	Action Against Hunger	Food Security	All TAs	
	Total Land Care	Land Resource, Food Security and Livelihoods under CLEAR Project	All TAs	
	Work for Rural Health	Health	TA Dambe	
	Action Aid	Education and Human Rights	TA Dambe	
	LINK	Education	All TAs	
	CISE	Youth Empowerment	All TAs	

Source: Civil Society Registration Forms 2014 & Mchinji District Council 2016

1.2.2 Informal Administrative Structures

There are 2036 registered Community Based Organizations/groups (CBOs) dealing in CBCCs, Adult Literacy, village savings & lending groups, and HIV/AIDS, though few groups exist that are not yet registered.

Table 1.7 Number of CBOs and FBOs by TA

NO	TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY	CBOs	FBOs	NGOs
1	Dambe	16	1	5
2	Zulu	12	6	5
3	Mduwa	15	0	7
4	Kapondo	11	2	1
5	Mkanda	23	1	0
6	Mavwere	12	0	1
7	Mlonyeni	12	0	1
8	Simphasi	22	0	1
9	Nyoka	2	0	0
	Totals	125	10	21

Source: Mchinji District Social Welfare Office, 2016

The table above shows that number of CBOs and FBOs by TA, Mduwa has a highest number.

1.2.3 Planning and Decision Making process

Planning and decision-making processes are anchored by the Local Government Act of 1998 and the District Development Planning System (DDPS). The former provides the legal basis while the latter lays the system for operationalizing the process of a district-focused, people-centered, bottom-up, and participatory approach to planning and development. This system emphasizes, under this strategy, to make the district the focal point for development planning, as opposed to central planning, and to advocate the strengthening of local institutional capacities for planning and managing development at the local level. As such, development committees have been constituted to enhance community ownership and promote popular participation from the grassroots to the district level.

1.2.4 Local Politics

1.2.4.1 Political parties operating in the district

Mchinji has several political parties but the most predominant one is the Malawi Congress Party (MCP) followed by the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP). There are 6 constituencies and 12 Wards as depicted in Table below. The 2019 Presidential, Parliamentary and Local Government Elections results for Mchinji District indicated that 4 Parliamentary seats were won by the Malawi Congress Party, 1 by Democratic Progressive Party and 1 by an independent candidate. For the Local Government Elections, Malawi Congress Party won 11 wards and 1 ward went to an independent candidate. The number of women parliamentarians equal the number of men parliamentarians (50:50) while there are 2 women councilors against 10 councilors (20:80).

Table 1.8 Party results 2009 and 2014

Key	Constituency	Mp 2009	Party	MPs 2014	Party
1	Mchinji South West	Francis Leobin Mussa Banda	MCP	Francis Leobin Mussa Banda	MCP
2	Mchinji Central	Gloria Theresa Mwale	MCP	Gloria Theresa Mwale	MCP
3	Mchinji East	Hellen Chisale	MCP	Hellen Chisale	MCP
4	Mchinji North East	Alex Chitete	MCP	Alex Chitete	MCP
5	Mchinji North	Rachel Zulu	MCP	Rachel Zulu	MCP
6	Mchinji South	Develias Zaipa	MCP	Develias Zaipa	MCP

Table 1.9 Distribution of Ward Councillors By Political Party 2014

Key	Councillor	Ward	Constituency	Party
1	Edson Josiah	Msitu	Mchinji South	MCP
2	Haille Tsilizani	Luwerezi	Mchinji North	MCP
3	Chancy Kasonjola	Kapili	Mchinji North East	MCP
4	Benes Chikutu	Mponda	Mchinji North East	MCP
5	Kennedy Chipanga	Mikundi	Mchinji East	MCP
6	Nathan Ndhlamini	Mkoma	Mchinji West	MCP
7	L. Mponda	Nanjiwa	Mchinji South	MCP
8	L. Sakala	Chimimbe	Mchinji South West	MCP
9	Staniel Banda	Kalumbe	Mchinji South West	MCP
10	Aaron Kaweche	Mchemani	Mchinji North	MCP
11	Denis Lazalo	Msachembe	Mchinji East	MCP
12	Auleliano Kalemba	Mtope	Mchinji West	MCP

Table 1.10 Representation for Local and Parliamentary Elections by Gender

Type of Election	2014		2019	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Parliamentary Election	5	1	3	3
Local Government Elections	12	0	10	8

1.2.5 The People

1.2.5.1 The Tribes

Two tribal groups are predominant in Mchinji District. The Chewa are predominantly found in Traditional Authorities of Mkanda, Kapunula, Kazyozyo, Gumba, Dambe, Simphasi, Kapondo, Mduwa, Mavwere and part of Mlonyeni. The Ngoni are found in traditional authorities Zulu, Nyoka and Mlonyeni and some parts of Mavwere. There is also a significant population of Senga and Yao people in the district.

Table 1.11 Major Tribes in Mchinji District

Key	Tribe	Population
	Chewa	536,351
	Tumbuka	3,394
	Lomwe	6,866
	Tonga	417
	Yao	12,619
	Sena	884
	Nkhonde	352
	Ngoni	37,366
	Lambya	203
	Sukwa	46
	Mang'anja	591
	Nyanja	206
	Other	1,852

Source: Mchinji Demographic Data Projection Council, 2008-19

1.2.5.2 Languages

About 89% of the people speak Chichewa, 5% speak a mixture of Chingoni and Chisenga and the rest speak other languages like Yao

1.2.5.3 Religion

Table 1.12 Types of Religion by percentage

TYPE	MCHINJI	NATIONAL
Christians	More than 90	82.7%
Muslims	Less than 10%	13.0%
Other Religions	Less than 1.9-4%	1.9%
No Religion	Less than 2.5-5%	2.5%

Source: Integrated Household Survey, 2017

1.3. Cultural Beliefs of people in Mchinji

There is mixing of cultures in Mchinji as a result of co-existence of the major tribes (Chewa, Ngoni and Sen-ga). Typical Ngonis in Malawi follow the patrilineal system of marriage in which a man pays a bride price (lobola) and the wife belongs to the man's household. On the other hand, the Chewas predominantly practice matrilineal system where the husband settles at the wife's village. The Chewa and Ngoni particularly practice polygamy and chokolo (Inheriting wife of a deceased brother).

The Chewa have their own initiation ceremonies for both boys and girls where society norms are passed on to the young ones. They have dambwe for boys and chinamwali for girls. The Ngoni on the other hand pass cultural norms along to children in their homes, as they grow older. Gulewamkulu dance is the symbol of culture among the Chewa while Ingoma, a war dance, is the cultural symbol of the Ngoni.

1.3 DEMOGRAPHY AND SETTLEMENT

1.3.1 Population and Characteristics

1.3.1.1 Size

Table 1.13 Population by TA/STA and Sex

TA/STA	Total Population	Males	Females
Zulu	69,069	33,887	35,182
Mlonyeni	75,812	37,499	38,313
Mkanda	75,328	37,130	38,198
Dambe	77,896	38,169	39,727
Mduwa	66,854	33,046	33,808
Mchinji boma (semi-urban)	28,011	13,938	14,073
Mavwere	83,986	41,091	42,896
Simphasi	50,571	24,833	25,738
Nyoka	41,416	20,454	20,962
Gumba	16,953	8,304	8,649
Pitala	4,736	2,368	2,368
Kapunula	9,724	4,816	4,908
Kazyozyo	6,971	3,542	3,429
Kapondo	10,626	5,222	5,404
Total	602,305	296,786	305,519

Source: Malawi housing and population census 2018 projection

From the table above, it shows that population of Mchinji comprises more females compared to males. Growth rate for the district is at 2.7% with the population density of 192.4/km²

1.3.2 Birth Rate and Death Rate

1.3.2.1 Crude Birth rate and Death rate

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 Mchinji, the CBR is 46.20 births per 1000 people. This rate is higher than the national and regional average of 39.5 and 40.5 births per 1000 population respectively (PHC, 2008).

Crude Death Rate (CDR) is defined as the number of deaths that occurred in a particular calendar year per 1000 population. In 2014, the CDR was placed at 6.48 deaths per 1,000 populations.

1.3.2.2 Total Fertility Rate

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 Mchinji is higher than the national rate due to early marriages as a result of: peer pressure, poverty, and tradition/ culture. According to the 2010 Demographic Health Survey, each

woman in the district would bear an average of 5.9 children for the duration of her reproductive life. The national average is lower at 4.9 children per woman. The household size for the district is the same as the national average which is at 4.6.

1.3.3 Migratory Patterns

There is an increase in the population of the district which is currently at 603,305 people (PHC 2018). High level of population at the Boma and processing of passport applicants' forms are the indicators that there has been migration of people from rural areas to the Boma and from the same areas travelling abroad.

There are mainly three patterns of migration, these are as follows: -

1. Movement of people from within and outside the district into the Boma which includes foreigners and these movements can be attributed to two factors such as employment opportunities in the public service and private sectors and commercial activities. The district's other major activity is farming which has attracted people from other places to come and work in tobacco estates as tenants and also for farming.
2. Due to unemployment levels in the rural parts of the district, people move to the Boma looking for jobs and settlements which has caused high population at the Boma.
3. People also move from the Boma and rural areas to foreign countries mainly in search of employment, business opportunities, education and improved medical services.

1.3.3.1 Opportunities in the Migration Activities.

The district's farming industry continues to provide job opportunities and business to entrepreneurs both in the rural and the Boma which attracts skilled and unskilled migrant workers.

1.3.3.2 Challenges Related to Migration.

Due to continued influx of people into the Boma, there is a growing population. There is a high competition for jobs and business, hence forcing the most productive age group to migrate elsewhere.

Migration has also brought in issues of human, drug and arms trafficking and illegal entries like in our district we have a lot of foreigners in the name of refugees who are escaping from Dzaleka in Dowa.

Cultural differences have also posed some challenges.

Persistent adverse weather conditions having negative impact on agriculture production force those who rely on farming for their livelihood to trek to South Africa or neighboring countries to seek employment.

1.3.3.3 Possible Solutions to the District Migration Issues.

Regulating migration by encouraging sustainable agricultural practices and provision of conducive market environment for agriculture products.

Provision of economic and social services to the rural areas would also reduce population at the Boma.

1.3.4 National Registration System

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 Malawians 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 goal 17 on strong institution.

In Mchinji 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.

1.3.4.1 Mass Registration

Mass registration of national ID Cards started in 2016 in the district where by Mchinji was among districts under proof of concept especially for citizens of Kamwendo village and continued with mass registration for the whole district in 2017 in order to capture every Malawian citizen aged 16 and above.

Table 1.14 Results for phase 2 of the National ID Campaign in Mchinji District

Projected Number of Registrants	Actual Number of Registrants	Coverage
350000	349000	99.01%

1.3.4.2 The National ID Task Force

The table below shows the composition of National ID task force for Mchinji district.

Table 1.15 Composition of District National ID task force for Mchinji District

No	Position	Sector/ Department
1	Principal Registration Officer (PRO)	National Registration Bureau (NRB)
2	District commissioner (DC)	Secretariat
3	Chief Administration Officer (CAO)	Secretariat
4	District Education Manager	Education
5	Public relations Officer (PRO)	Information
6	Office In Charge (OC)	Police
7	District Elections officer (DEO)	MEC
8	NICE Officer	NICE
9	NIB Officer	OPC
10	District Community Development Officer (DCDO)	Community Development

Source: Mchinji Council 2016

1.3.4.3 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 Mchinji district, birth registration was rolled out in November 2016 in all 13 health facilities with the aim of facilitating continuous capture of demographic data through compulsory birth registration.

1.3.4.4 Registration of adults

Adults are registered with the aim of being issued with National Identity cards. registration of adults and issuing of national ID Cards started in 2016 in the district where by Mchinji was among districts under pilot especially for citizens of Kamwendo village and continued with mass registration for the whole district in 2017 in order to capture every Malawian citizen aged 16 and above. Below is a figure which shows the number of applicants registered and National ID Cards issued.

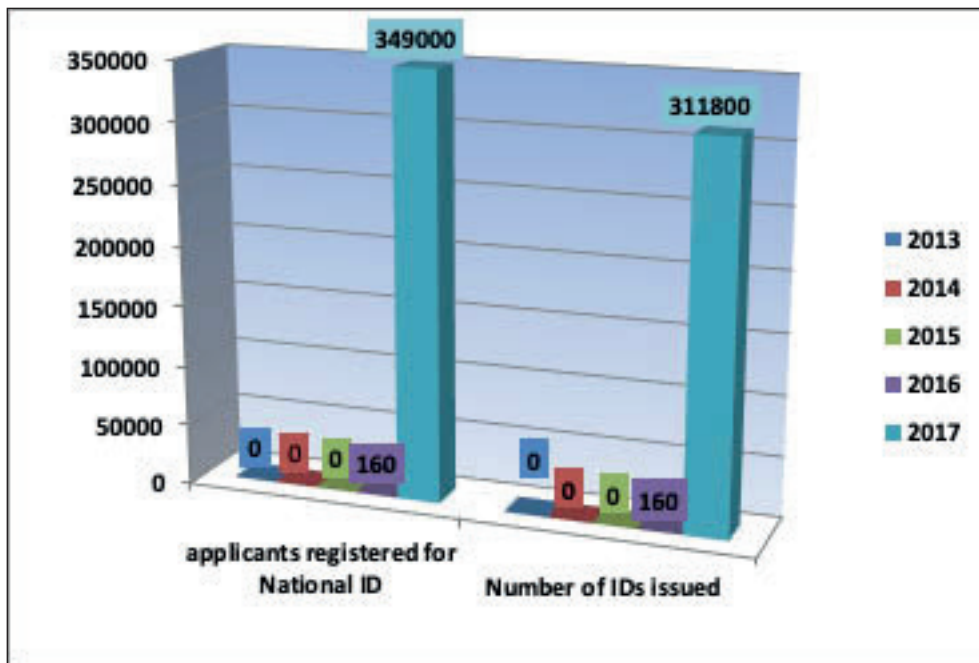


Figure 1.5 Adults registered and National IDs issued

Source: NRB data base Mchinji 2017

As depicted in the above figure, in 2016, 160 applicants were registered for National ID and 160 National IDs were collected representing 100%. While in 2017, 349,000 applicants were registered for National IDs and 311,800 National IDs were issued representing almost 96%. This shows 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 residence to NRB district office where IDs are kept.

1.3.4.5 Death registration

Death registration is the process of registering every death that occurs in the country, and the believed families are issued with death certificates.

Mchinji district started registering death and issuing death certificates in 2015. Below is the figure which displays the number of deaths registered and certificates issued in 2013 to 2017 in Mchinji district.

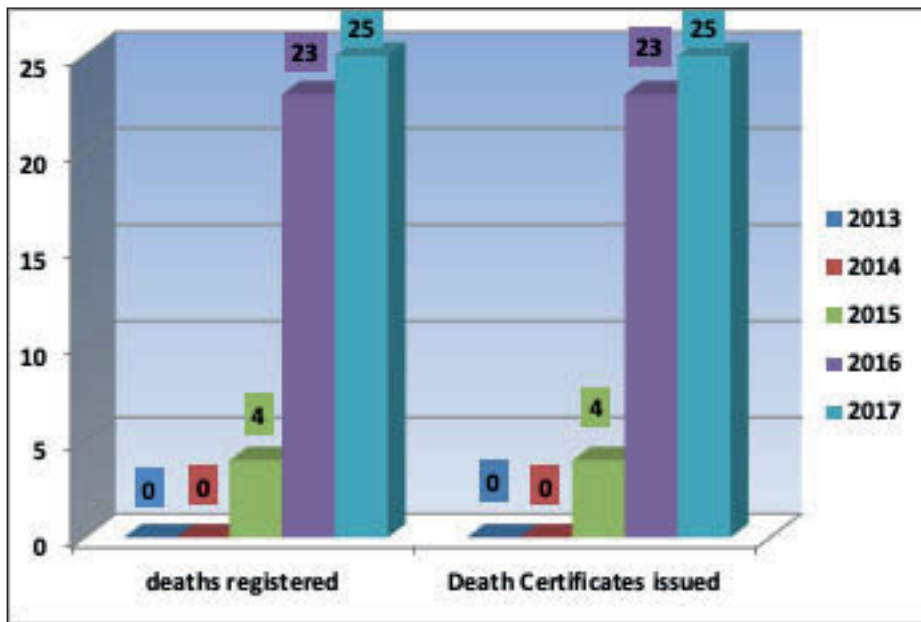


Figure 1.6 Death registered and certificates issued

Source: NRB office 2017

As indicated above, only 23 deaths were registered in 2016 and 25 deaths registered in 2017 this shows that there is high number of unregistered death in the district despite the increase of death registered in 2017 as compared to 2015 and 2016. This is so because death registration has not been rolled out in the district and deaths are registered on demand.

CHALLENGES WITH DEATH REGISTRATION

- Un stable death registration system
- Inadequate information among people on the importance of death registration

ADVANTAGES OF DEATH REGISTRATION PROCESS

- It provides family members with documentation which helps them to process the needed benefits.
- Registration of death is vital for national planning because death registration records the cause of death
- Death Certificate is the source for state and national mortality statistics.

1.3.4.6 Marriage registration

Marriage registration is the process of registering marriages in the district in order to be issued with marriage registration certificates.

1.3.4.7 Summary of sector key issues

- High number of uncollected birth certificate (BC) due to lack of information on the importance of BC and poor distribution method.
- Reduced number of national ID cards collected due to myth and lack of knowledge on the importance of National ID card.
- High number of unregistered birth due to inadequate health personnel at health facilities and unstable electronic birth registration system at the district.
- There is high number of unregistered deaths and marriages because they have not yet been rolled out in the district.
- Inadequate funds to cater for all registration activities in the district.

CHAPTER 2: LAND USE

Mchinji district covers total land of 312,777.986 hectares. The District is facing some challenges in land management such as improper utilization of land. Land management in the district is inline with the MGD III section 6:1: 8 provides the country's vision and policy guidance and directions on sustainable utilization and management of land including Malawi National Land Policies 2002.

Most of the land in Mchinji is customary land with less percentages of public and private also known as leasehold land.

The district is implementing land policy through the ministry of lands, housing and urban development.

2.1 LAND TENURE SYSTEM

Mchinji district falls into the following categories of land tenure systems: Customary, Public, and Private land tenure systems.

2.1.1 Customary Land

This type of land is defined as all land used for the benefit of the community as a whole and includes unallocated customary land within the boundaries of traditional land management area (Customary Registered Land Act). This land is distributed by village heads to their subjects, and in most cases customary land cannot be sold by the one who is using that piece of land. It is estimated that 30 percent of land is customary land in Mchinji district.

2.1.2 Public Land

Land act 2016 defines public land as all land which is occupied, used and acquired by the government, such as schools, hospitals and any land that is not customary land or private land.

It includes the following:

- Any land which is reverted to government on the termination, surrender, or falling- in any of freehold or leasehold title under which it is held.
- Any land which was immediately before the coming into operation of the Act.

While Land Act 2016 defined public land as, Land which is held in trust and managed by the government or Traditional Authorities and openly used for accessible to the public at large. Example of these are unallocated land found in communities like woodlot, graveyard and grazing land where all communities are allowed to utilize the resources found there, 25 percent of land is public land in Mchinji district (physical planning, 2016)

2.1.3 Private Land

Land act 2016 defines private land as all land that is owned, held or occupied under freehold title, leasehold title or as a customary estate. This type of tenure system can be leased to individuals, or corporations and in most cases the period ranges from 21 years to 99 years. In Mchinji district there are many farms that are privately owned by companies or individuals. For example, there is Chimwamkango estate which is owned

by a company and Kithunye estate owned by an individual. Private land is estimated amount to 45 percent (Ministry of Lands 2016 Survey department)

2.2 LAND USE SYSTEM

Mchinji has a total physical area of 335, 600 ha with 112, 145 ha limitations. Forest reserves cover about 21, 385 ha and hilly land is 35, 284 ha while dambo land covers 55,478 ha. Estates cover 91, 329 ha while land under customary category covers 244, 271hactre.

Land in Mchinji district is categorized into the following use; Agriculture, Residential/Settlements, Industrial and Commercial use. Agricultural use remains the largest use in the district followed by the residential or settlements and forestry use. 40 percent of Agricultural land is used for agricultural purposes, and residential land is 30 percent, 12.87 percent of land is used for commercial while 17.13 percent of land is used for forestry.

The figure below shows how much land is utilized according to its use.

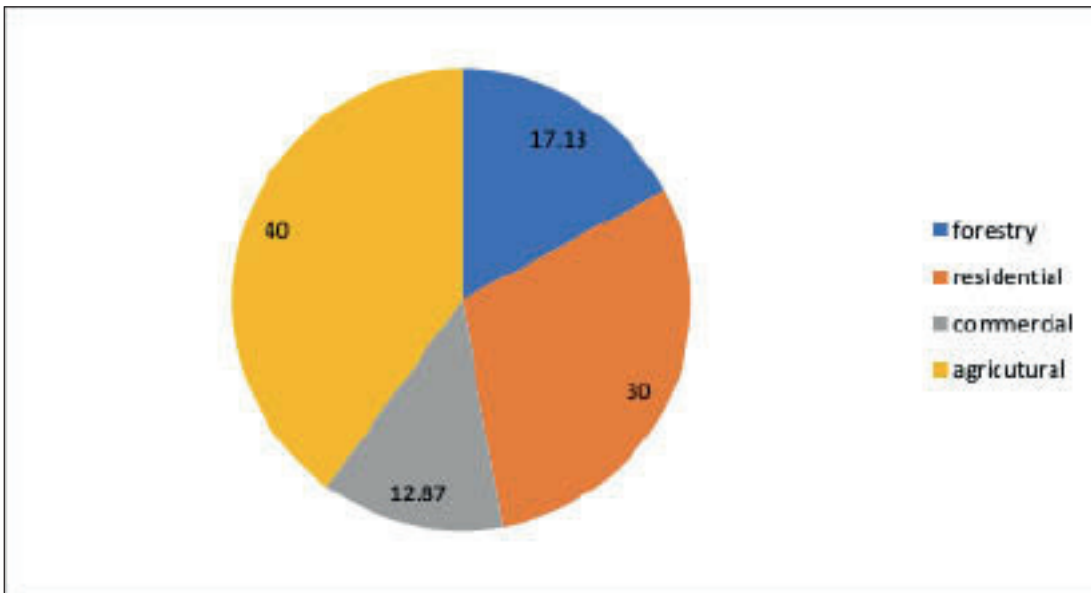


Figure 2.1 Land use percentage for Mchinji District.

Source: (NSO, 2017)

2.2.1 Urban Structure Plan

Currently Mchinji district council has no urban plan. Physical Planning is processing the map and it is expected to be released later. The urban structure plan which will be produced will be for the following trading Centre's; Kamwendo, Mkanda, Kapiri, Mikundi, Matutu, Mwami border and Waliranji.

2.2.2 Conflicts on land use

Mchinji district faces a number of challenges such as encroachments, some residents are not willing to offer land to government for urban developments, limited knowledge on National Land Policy and International

land disputes involving Malawi and Zambia. Common encroachment areas are the estates owned by private farmers including Alliance One and Central Poultry.

2.3 LAND USE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN MCHINJI

2.3.1 Major Land Use Challenges

The district faces widespread land challenges. Some of these challenges include :shortage of land, uncontrolled development, land encroachment and land disputes.

2.3.2 Land use opportunities

Despite the challenges the district face in land issues, there are some opportunities which include:available land.

In summary, the table below shows the potential areas that help council to generate income.

Table 2.1 Potential land revenues in Mchinji District

POTENTIAL REVENUE SOURCE	AMOUNT (MK)
Plots developed at Chibwana	45,000,000.00
Plots developed at Mwami boarder	120,000,000.00
Plots developed at Kamwendo	150,000,000.00

Source: Mchinji District Council Finance

CHAPTER 3: ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Environment consists of all living and non-living things that include vegetation, land, air, and water systems that are valued by people and serve to enhance the community. These contribute to the physical, mental, spiritual, economic, health and well-being of people and are essential to the survival of other species found in Mchinji District. This chapter provides an overview of natural resources and status of the environment for Mchinji district.

3.1 IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE ECONOMY

The environment plays a very significant role in influencing social and economic development outcomes at household and national levels. The success of many important sectors of the economy relies on the state of environment and natural resources to enhance their productivity. Hence, degradation of the environment and natural resources is a major threat to the social and economic development of Malawi in general and Mchinji. Degradation of environment and natural resources comprises deforestation; decreasing soil fertility, increasing erosion; water depletion, loss of biodiversity, increasing pollution and increased vulnerability to climate change. It is therefore, imperative that the environment and natural resources are sustainably managed (MGDS III, 2017)

3.2 FOREST RESERVES

The National Forestry policy (2016), broadly provides guidance to the management of forests and offers an enabling framework for all stakeholders to participate in the management of forests. It also sustains the contribution of the national forest resources for the upliftment of the quality of life. The policy is directly linked to MDGS III on other development area 7.5; Ensuring Environmental Sustainability. The policy also links the SDG 13; Climate Change Action and Goal 15 which is Life on Land.

3.2.1 Forest Reserves in Mchinji

Mchinji district is endowed with high forest cover in Malawi. Over 17.13 percentage of the total land area is under forest cover. Mchinji and Thyolasanu Forest Reserves are the two major protected upland vegetative areas. They constitute about 56.1 percent of the total land area under forest cover in the district as presented in Table 3.1 below.

Table 3.1 Showing Forest cover in Mchinji

No	Name	Area (Ha)	% of Total	Year Gazetted	Location (TA)
1	Mchinji Forest Reserve	19,166	50.3	1924	STA Nyoka, Senior Chief Mlonyeni, TA Kazyozyo and STA Kapunula,
2	Thyolasanu Forest Reserve	2,219	6.2	1922	TA Mawwere
3	Customary land Forestry	16,730	43.9	NA	Across the district
	Total	38115	100		

Source: Mchinji District Forestry Office 2017

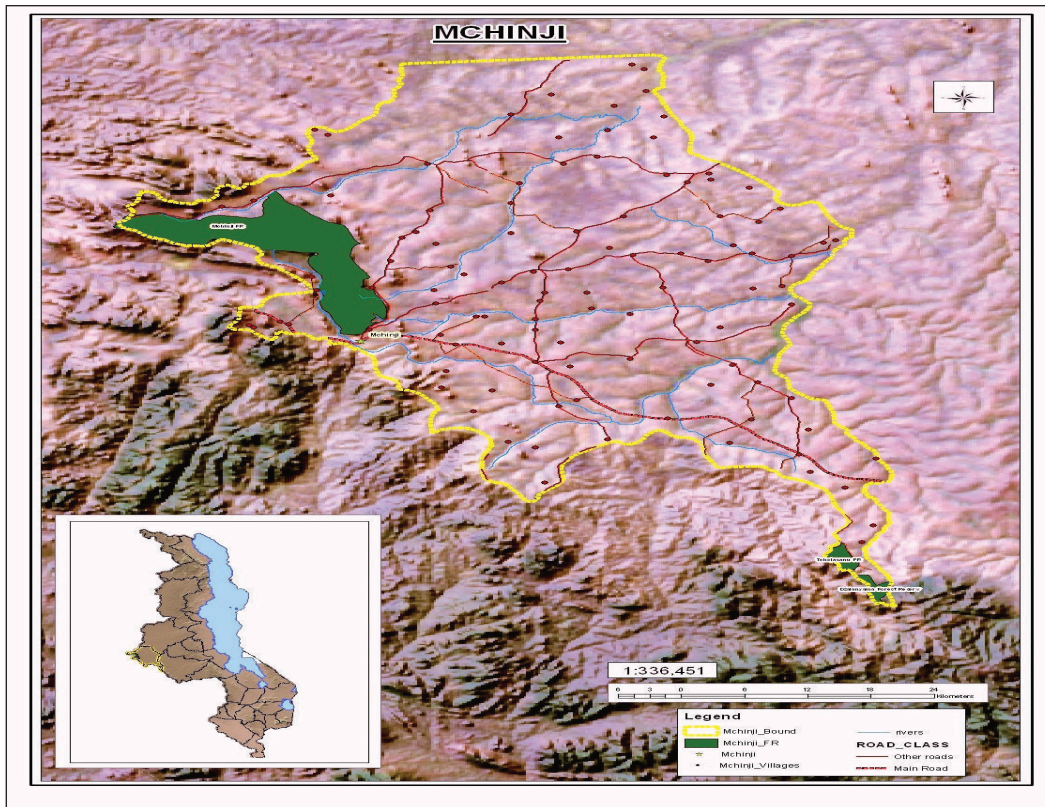


Figure 3.1 Location of forest reserves in Mchinji

Source: Mchinji Environmental Department

The Mchinji Forest Reserve covers the largest part (with 19,166 ha), seconded by Thyolasanu Forest Reserve (with 2,219 ha). The reserve stretches through out to a number of Traditional Authorities in the district as illustrated in Figure 3.1.

3.2.1.1 Type of Woodland (and Tree Species) in Protected Forest and Game Reserves

The most common species found in these forests include *Burkea africana* (Mkalati), *Pterocarpus angolensis* (Mlombwa), *Bauhimia thonningii* (Chitimbe, Mshawa), *Terminalia sericea* (Naphini), *Brachystegia floribunda* (Tsamba), *Pericopsis angolensis* (Muwanga) and *Syzygium cordatum* (Katope, Mchisu, normally found at river sources and on river banks) and *Uaparka kirkiana* (Masuku). These contribute to the social-economy of the locals as they make essential raw materials for construction and livelihoods.

3.2.1.2 Condition of Forest Reserves in Mchinji

The protected areas are being depleted due to encroachment for illegal settlements and farming (both rain fed and irrigation farming), timber sawing, charcoal production, firewood and poles extraction, wild fires and poaching.

The District Forestry Office conducts routine patrols against illegal activities in the reserve and customary land. In most cases, these have been ineffective due to threats to lives of staff as the encroachers are

equipped with muzzle loader guns. In addition, the office has inadequate resources to conduct joint patrols with the Malawi Police and Parks and Wildlife staff for effective management of the reserves.

3.2.2 Wildlife and Game Reserves

Forest reserves in Mchinji have a high biodiversity of flora and fauna. Common wild animals in the forest include common Dyker (Gwape), Hyenas (Fisi), Leopard (Kambuku), Hare (Kalulu), Reed Buck (Mphoyo) Grysbok (Tungwa), Baboons (Nyani) Jackal (Nkhandwe) and Monkeys (Pusi), and a variety of snakes and birds.

The Wildlife Department is responsible for the conservation and management of wildlife in the reserves through Conservation Services (CS), wildlife Extension and Education (EE), Wildlife administration and Wildlife Research and Development. The wildlife department has 5 officers.

Table 3.2 List of wildlife officers in Mchinji.

No.	Designation	Sex	Responsibility
1	SPWA	Male	Head of department
2	PWA	Male	Border management
3	PWA	Female	Border management
4	PWA	Male	Border management
5	PWS	Male	Problem Animal Control

Source: Mchinji Wildlife Office 2017

From the table, the office has one female and four male officers. There is need to recruit additional female staff.

3.2.2.1 Wildlife Management and Utilization

The community is allowed to harvest some forest products such as mushrooms, honey, and fruits. This ought to be done in a sustainable manner.

3.2.2.2 Human Wildlife Conflict

The wild animals in game reserves sometimes are problematic to the communities. There has been reports of wild animals causing havoc in the villages and the office of wildlife responded accordingly. Table 3.3 shows some of the cases that were responded to.

Table 3.3 Problems Reported and Responded

Animal species	Area	Year/Month	Intervention
Buffalo	Kapili	May 2016	Hippo killed
Crocodile	Bua	June 2017	Crocodile killed
Hippopotamus	Ntukwa Dam Area	2017 September	Hippo killed
Hippopotamus	Waliranji area along Bua River	2017 November	Hippo chased
Crocodile	Bua River, Walilanji Area	2017 August	Rotten carcass buried
Buffalo	Kanyama	2017 March	Buffalo killed

Animal species	Area	Year/Month	Intervention
Hyena	Mkanda	2017 June	Killed by communities

Source: Mchinji District Council Wildlife Office 2017

From the table above, buffalo, hippo and hyena cases were reported in 2017 and there were no fatalities. Due to awareness meetings conducted, reports of stinging honey bee were also reported. The pictures below show the wild animals that were reported.



Figure 3.2 Buffalo killed in Kanyama and a Hyena killed at Mkanda

Source: Mchinji Wildlife Office, 2019

3.2.2.3 Education and Outreach

The department conducts education outreach programs in schools (both primary and secondary) and local communities. It has conducted outreach programs in six schools and one awareness meeting with local leader. All Tradition Authorities and group village headmen were also sensitized on the issues of wildlife in 2017.

The meetings that were conducted inspired the schools to form wildlife clubs. Table 3.4 shows the school clubs and membership by gender.

Table 3.4 Wildlife Clubs Reached and Membership

Name of TA	Wildlife Club Name	Membership		
		Male	Female	Total
Zulu	Kamuzu primary school	43	37	80
Zulu	Bua primary school	31	29	60
Mlonyeni	Bua CDSS	20	28	48
Nyoka	Mchinji mission secondary school	27	31	58
Mlonyeni	St. Dominic primary school	26	19	45
Mlonyeni	Kholoni CDSS	33	22	55
Mlonyeni	Tijanane youth club	13	9	22

Source: Mchinji Wildlife Office, 2017

Table 3.4 reflects 7 meetings with wildlife clubs conducted in 3 tradition authorities of Mlonyeni, Nyoka and Zulu

3.2.2.4 Gazetted Area

There is no forest gazetted area in the district.

3.3 AQUATIC AND MARINE RESOURCES IN MCHINJI

The aquatic ecosystem components of Mchinji vary from small rivers, to streams as well as wetlands. Bua, Liwelezi, Lusa, Lunthwe rivers are some of the major aquatic ecosystems that are rich in aquatic biodiversity and also support irrigation and domestic uses. These ecosystems are a home to variety of species ranging from small reptiles to big mammals.

The most dominant aquatic species in the district include fish, toads and frogs, snakes, snails, molluscs, aquatic bacteria, worms, water insects e.g. [bororo], sambisambi as well as a lot of plant species like mosses, algae, various species of reeds, and water hyacinth (namasipuni). These reeds are mostly between the confluence of Ludzi and Bua river and towards Bua Bridge on the Mchinji Chipata road.

3.4 ENVIRONMENTALLY – CRITICAL AREAS

The economic activities that are taking place in Mchinji are having a big impact on the environment due to lack of inclusion of environmental management measures in the execution of these economic activities. Table 3.5 highlights some of the major economic activities in the district and their impact on the environment.

Table 3.5 Major economic activities affecting the environment in the district

Economic	Environmental component affected	Impacts
Sand mining	Rivers (Bua, Luwelezi, Ludzi, Kachebere) along kاپiri road	Siltation of rivers, rivers changing courses Destruction /degradation of roads
Construction (brick making and timber)	Mchinji and Thyolansanu forest reserves and village forests areas	Deforestation and forest degradation, biodiversity loss, disturbance of catchment areas
Agriculture	Soil, land, water Surroundings	Pollution of water, most parts of Bua river are hit with eutrophication by excessive nitrogen and phosphorus Health hazard
Irrigation farming	Soil, land, water	Loss of soil fertility and pollution of Land, water and soil.
Estates	Land	Inadequate land accessibility by local people leading to intensification of farming on the available land.
Selling of consumer goods	land, soil, water	Illicit waste dumping in market centers like Boma, Kamwendo and Mkanda

Source: Mchinji District Environment Office-2017

The economic activities taking place in the district are having a big impact on the environment due to limited mainstreaming of environmental issues.

3.4.1 Major environmental issues and proposed solutions for the district

Table 3.6 shows the major implementation issues for environmental activities in the district and outlined proposed solutions that may be considered to bridge the gap in the district.

Table 3.6 Issues and proposed solutions

Environmental Issue	Proposed Solution
Inadequate co-ordination between government sectors and other organizations that have a potential to integrate environmental issues in their activities	Collaboration between Government sectors and NGOs in planning and implementation of environmental activities
Weak enforcement & implementation of existing legal mechanisms at district level;	Co-management of natural resources with communities in the enforcement of laws and by- laws
Low level of public awareness on the link between their daily activities and environment	Civic education for the ADCs and communities through radios and meetings
Inadequate consideration of environmental issues when conducting economic activities	Intergration of environmental issues in VLAP and ADC meetings
Inadequate surveys to collect information on the status of environment in the district and lack of environmental action plans for the district.	Invitation of Organizations such as Malawi Botanical Gardens to conduct research on potential benefits and sustainability of natural resources
Inadequate commitment by the council to implement waste management activities	Increase revenue sources in the district for waste management
Inadequate community participation in environmental-related decision-making process	Involvement of local leaders and communities in planning and implementation
Inadequate funding related to environmental management activities.	Improved funding to environmental management
Environment not seen as a priority area for the district	Sensitization of communities through radios on negative impacts borne by Climate change

Source: Mchinji: District Environment Office-2017

3.4.2 Major Projects with Environmental and Social Management Plans in the District

Main environmental sectors implementing environmental activities at the district level are Forestry, Fisheries, Land Resources, Health, Water , District Environmental Health Office, Agriculture, Environmental office, NGO's e.g.(Total Land Care, World Vision and CARD), Lands office, District Community Development office and Public Works office

Table 3-7 lists some of the major projects and programmes which developed their Environmental and Social Management Plans in the

Table 3.7 Projects with environmental and social management plans in the district

Project name	ESMP Developed	Implementation Status	Comments
LDF ESWAP projects	Yes	Successful	Continuing
CBCCs	Yes	Successful	
COMSIP Project	Yes	Not wholly successful	To be funded very soon: a request has been sent to COMSIP headquarters
MDRRP	yes	Successful	ESS done on all projects

Project name	ESMP Developed	Implementation Status	Comments
CENTRAL GOVT PROJECTS	Yes		Environmental is done centrally. The council only has a certification document
Community managed Projects (CDF)	Yes	Successful	ESS done

Source: Mchinji District Environment Office 2017

3.5

HOT SPOTS IN MCHINJI AND THYOLAMSANU FOREST RESERVE.

Table 3.8 shows hotspots for Mchinji and Thyolamsanu forest reserves and the illegal activities mostly carried in these areas. These illegal activities are classified in low, medium and high intensity levels and the possible reversal solutions.

Table 3.8 Hotspots in Mchinji and Thyolamsanu Forest reserves

Hot spot	Illegal Activity	Intensity			Reversal Solutions
		Low	Medium	High	
Bua river source (Ndawambe)	Encroachment and charcoal production		✓		Eviction, forest patrols and enrichment tree planting
Liwelezi river source (Kapezi and Mzenga)	Encroachment and charcoal production			✓	Eviction, forest patrols and enrichment tree planting
Chikuta	Encroachment and charcoal production			✓	Community sensitisation, Eviction, forest patrols and enrichment tree planting
Mafuta	Charcoal production and wood theft			✓	Forest patrols and enrichment tree planting
Nkhomphola	Charcoal production and wood theft			✓	Forest patrols and enrichment tree planting
Namitete river source	Encroachment and wood theft	✓			Eviction, forest patrols and enrichment tree planting

Source: District Forestry Office, 2017

As presented in the table, the hotspots have several impacts on both the environment and on surrounding communities.

3.5.1 Afforestation/Conservation Practices

In an effort to reverse the negative trend, forestry sector collaborates with various governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in order to conserve forestry resources and restore degraded areas for the purpose of improving landscape value and environmental health. Some of the stakeholders are Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Parks and Wildlife, District Council through the Local Development Fund (LDF) NASFAM. Such stakeholders support forestry initiative in promoting sustainable forest management through tree planting, development of management plans, provision of afforestation inputs, staff and community trainings among others.

3.5.2 Tree Planting and Sustainable Forest Management

In the past seven years, the district managed to plant over 11,317,718 trees, facilitated the formation of more than 301 Village Natural Resources Management Committees (VNRMCs) and developed over 35 VFA management plans of which 10 are registered with the District Council. Tobacco Control Commission through department of forestry, GIZ, World Vision International and combating desertification programme facilitated the training of 23 VNRMCs.

Table 3.9 Tree planting and survival figures for the past 3 years

Year	Trees planted	Area (Hectare)	Trees survived	Survival rate	Management plan developed	Management plan registered
2014/2015	2,628,541	971.4	2,078,541	79.0	0	0
2015/2016	2,499,839	919.9	1,799,839	72	0	0
2016/2017	2,831,954	1,052.9	2,031,954	71.8	2	0
Total	8,020,334	1,964.2		222.8		

Source: Mchinji Forestry Office -2017

As described in Table 3.9, the total trees planted in the 3-year period is 8,020,334 while in terms of area planted; are 1,964.2 hectares while the annual average survival rate is 73 percent. In some years the survival rate was lower due to some climatic conditions such as water logging conditions and prolonged dry spells or short rainfall period. In some cases, the reasons are manmade such as uncontrolled wild fires, unattended domestic browsing and trampling animals. The high survival rate in some years can be attributed to conducive climatic conditions for tree survival and good tending operations conducted.

3.6 WASTE MANAGEMENT IN MCHINJI

3.6.1 Waste Management

The district has no solid or liquid waste disposal facilities. Wastes are usually treated on site or found lying around on open ground. However the Council collects wastes from all 8 major Market places and dispose it at Kholoni waste disposal site but the site needs upgrading. Another dump site must be identified for the Boma market and surrounding areas, Kamwendo market, Nthema market and Mkanda market.

The markets are also supposed to be provided with waste bins which are to be fixed at strategic points; however, this rarely happens at the present (digging of dump pits is actually done).

Liquid waste is dumped at Mchinji District Hospital sewerage ponds through hired vehicles from Kasungu municipality or Malawi Housing Corporation.

There are also a lot of open spaces that are being used as waste dumping sites in the district and attract a lot of unsanitary activities. There is need to ensure that these places are allocated other uses or stopped from being dumping site.

The district has a Waste Management and Sanitation Committee which has developed a waste management plan for the district. However the plan is not being implemented due to limited resources.

3.6.2 Pollution

The major pollutants in Mchinji are:

- Agricultural chemicals resulting from intensive agriculture activities.
- Contamination of ground water which is close to toilets and graveyards.
- Other economic activities like sand mining also affect surface water and make it prone to further siltation.
- Wastes, especially in urban areas like Kamwendo and the Boma, are also increasingly becoming a threat to land, water and soil as they are disposed anyhow.
- Some common wastes that may lead to harmful pollution include disposals of batteries, used oil, paints and other pesticide residues. There is need to practice land and water conservation and prevent pollution at source
- Smoke pollution by burning of tyres and bush fires
- Dust pollution by whirlwinds

3.6.3 Waste Management and Pollution Control Challenges

The major waste management challenges in the district are as follow:

- Limited Commitment by the council to manage waste in market centres
- Inadequate waste disposal facilities and technologies
- Culture of careless dumping
- Inadequate financial and human resources to handle waste
- Lack of haulage trucks for solid and liquid waste
- Lack of waste management system

3.7 BIODIVERSITY IN MCHINJI DISTRICT

The two forest reserves, woodlots, and trees in communities, open spaces and schools, agriculture land, microorganisms and insects, wetlands, streams and wildlife are the major ecosystems in the district..

The rivers are habitats to a lot of fish species and other aquatic species like, toads and frogs, snakes, snails, mollusks, aquatic bacteria, worms, water insects e.g. [bororo]'sambisambi. Other higher levels animals like duikers, hares, hyenas, hippos and crocodiles are also found in the forest areas and rivers of the district. Little Egrets, Cranes, Francolins, Eagles and other species of birds are also a common site in the district which has a lot of excellent bird viewing potential sites. Apart from the wildlife, Mchinji has a diverse of plant species.

3.7.1 Plants, fruits and animals of economical and medicinal Value in Mchinji

Sclerocaryabinea, Adasoniadigitata, Muwawani, Gondolosi, AloeVera, mushrooms Gumbwa. It is clear that Mchinji has unique biodiversity of high economic, social and cultural value which needs to be conserved as an important part of the nation's economic development.

3.7.2 Value of Biodiversity in Mchinji

Mchinji Forest reserve has the potential for abstraction of water for the people of the district. Central Region Water Board extracts water for the supply of Mchinji boma and other areas through gravity fed systems. Kamwankhuku is also another source where Mchinji Rural piped water has been tapped

It is also of food and income from sale of honey, fruits and other forest products.

The biodiversity promotes culture in the district. It provides a meeting place and clothes for Gule Wankulu.

3.7.3 Threats to Biodiversity and proposed solutions

There has been a significant loss in biodiversity in the district in terms of species diversity and richness. Table 3-10 highlights some of the major causes and drivers of biodiversity loss and how they can be managed.

Table 3.10 Some Major Threats and Causes of Biodiversity in Mchinji

Threat	Causes	Proposed Solution
Deforestation	Demand for wood, charcoal and timber, Construction, brick burning and commercial uses	Intensify patrolling and encourage community Participation in forest management and Policing Identify indigenous species for the district and ensure that afforestation promotes these species and is not selective of a few species to Ensure that there is diversity of species Afforestation programmes Need to put measures to ensure that the survival rate of planted trees is high. Manage land uses in the district to prevent uncontrolled conversion of forest land, wetlands and grasslands to other uses Come up with adaptation measures for threatened biodiversity species
Climate Change	External activities in cities and across borders, ie land use taking place in the district's urban areas	Manage land uses in the district to prevent uncontrolled conversion of forest land, wetlands and grasslands to other uses
Invasive Alien	Introduction of new Species through Agriculture programmes and communities	Community sensitization on Invasive Alien species, Removal of species, sensitization
Increase In Number of threatened and rare species	Unsustainable use of species by communities	Come up with programmes specific for restoration of endangered and threatened species By laws against use of threatened species.
Pollution of Biodiversity Components	Intensified use fertilizers because of incentives e.g. fertilizer subsidy programme	Ensure fertilizers are used together with soil conservation methods
Loss of Agro-biodiversity	Perverse fertilizer Encourages cultivation of crops which can benefit from fertilizer subsidy leaving out those that can not	The district should have a seed bank for storage of genetically important crop varieties that are indigenous to the district Agriculture office to encourage diversification

Threat	Causes	Proposed Solution
Loss of traditional Knowledge associated with the use of certain Species of plants and animals	New education and new technologies that do incorporate traditional Knowledge being associated with negative beliefs e.g. Traditional medicine associated with witchcraft	Have a district inventory of traditional knowledge associated with use of biological resources to ensure that there is no illegal access and that the knowledge is not lost.

CHAPTER 4: THE ECONOMY

4.1 POVERTY INCIDENCE

Monetary poverty is measured in Malawi by comparing a household's annual consumption per capita with the national poverty lines. The IHS4 poverty lines shows the economic well-being of the people in Mchinji to be largely populated with ultra-poor people at 57.6%. In addition to that, the poor represent 29.4% of the total population. Only 2.1% are rich and 10.9 are at the minimum level of economic well-being. Table 4:1 below shows the economic well-being of Mchinji compared to the central region and Malawi.

Table 4.1 Economic Well Being

Indicator	Malawi	Central	Mchinji
Very Poor	35.8	39.9	57.6
Poor	38.5	38.3	29.4
Average	18.7	16.5	10.9
Rich	7	5.3	2.1

Source: NSO IHS 2017

The poor in Mchinji are not a homogeneous group but consist of a cross-section of people. The most vulnerable segments of the population include:

- Smallholders with less than one hectare of land
- Estate workers
- Estate tenants
- Casual labourers
- Female-headed households
- Child-headed households
- Chronically ill households
- Elderly households

Groups indicated above are socially and economically marginalized, lacking capital and physical assets to actively participate in the economy of the district. These people have low income levels and have limited skills, education and employment potentials. Food insecurity and chronic malnutrition is ever present. Average death rates, infant and child mortality rates, illiteracy rates are higher among the group.

Poverty varies widely across districts in Malawi, but the levels observed are consistent with the regional trends. Mchinji district ranks the first district with the highest poverty in the Central region with 57.6% as shown in the table below:

Table 4.2 Poverty Comparison with other Districts in the Central Region

	Poverty in Percentage (2012)	Poverty in Percentage(2017)	Ultra Poverty in Percentage (2012)	Ultra Poverty in Percentage
Dedza		42.4		41.4
Lilongwe		38.8		46.1
Mchinji		29.4		57.6
Dowa		35.5		44.8
Ntchisi		34.2		40.4
Kasungu		36.4		45.8
Nkhotakota		38.0		35.8

Source: NSO HIS: 2012; 2017

The main economic activities in Mchinji district include: cross-border trade, enterprises and commercial farming in crops such as Maize, soya bean, Irish potato and Tobacco. Other agriculture avenues are Cassava, Sweet potatoes, Fruits and Vegetables, and livestock (Cattle, Goats, Chicken Sheep, Pigs and Fishing). There is also trading in Forestry and Timber products, Manufacturing, Retail and wholesale trading and Services.

4.1.1 Main Sources of Income

Household income is the aggregation of income both in cash and/or in kind that accrues from economic activities performed by household members on a regular basis.

Table 4:3 below indicates source of Income, compared between Mchinji, Central region and Malawi. The data shows an aggregation of income from wages and salaries, agricultural activities, non-agricultural enterprises, property income and current transfers and other benefits such as remittances.

Table 4.3 Source of Income in Mchinji

Area	Major Source of Income			
	Salaries/Wages	Agriculture	Enterprises	Other
Malawi	9.9	13.6	26.3	37.6
Central	8.1	13.7	26.8	37.4
Mchinji	4.1	13.8	20.0	24.0

Source: NSO IHS 2017

The table above shows that the majority of the population in Mchinji relies mostly on other avenues which represents 24% and followed by enterprises which is 20%. But also 13.3% on agriculture

4.1.2 Food Sufficiency

Mchinji produces more food crops but the district suffers from food insecurity due to rampant selling of food crops. Table 4:4 below shows that those people who have more than adequate food represents only 5.7% and those with adequate food are at 19% while those with inadequate food are more with 74.6% as shown in the table below.

Table 4.4 Food Sufficiency

Indicator	Malawi	Central	Mchinji
In adequate Food	63.8	65	74.6
Adequate Food	32.2	31.7	19.7
More than adequate	4	34	5.7

Source: NSO IHS 2017

4.1.3 Household income Versus Standard of Living

The table below indicates income situations. Mchinji District has 30% of its people failing to live within their earning and need to borrow.

Table 4.5 Standard of Living versus Household Income

Indicators	Malawi(%)	Central Region(%)	Mchinji(%)
Income allow to build savings	6.3	5.4	4.9
Income only meet expenses	37.3	33.9	25.3
Income not sufficient so need to borrow	24.3	23	30

Source: NSO IHS 2017

The table depicts that most people are very poor in the district hence the need to expand the livelihoods opportunities.

4.2 AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is the main economic activity in Mchinji district. Over 90% of economically active persons get their income from farming. A significant number get their income from non-farm enterprises and businesses while others are employed by private and public institutions.

4.2.1 Linkage with MGDS III, SDGS and Sectoral Policy Frameworks

Agriculture continues to be one of the major focus areas in fostering sustainable economic growth and development. It strives at ensuring sustainable agriculture productivity which has a bearing on food, nutrition and income security. The current agriculture policy dimensions are holistic and emphasizes on agriculture commercialization. The National Agricultural Policy (NAP) is among the recent developed policies which defines the vision for development of the agricultural sector in Malawi over the next five years.

The policy stipulates that “By 2020, agriculture in Malawi will increasingly be oriented towards profitable commercial farming through specialization of smallholder farm production, output diversification at the national level, and value addition in downstream value chains”. This policy is directly aligned to the third Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III) overarching goal which is to move Malawi to a productive, competitive and resilient nation through sustainable agriculture, economic growth, energy, industrial and infrastructure development. The NAP also covers two of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which are “no hunger” and “no Poverty”.

4.2.2 Overview of Agriculture Sector Conditions in the district

Mchinji Agriculture sector responds to development policies through various structures at local level. It enhances public private partnership among its sector stakeholders to ensure increased agriculture productivity for sustainable food, nutrition and income security. Promotion of irrigation farming, agricultural diversification, agro-processing and market development are among focal interventions to spur the district development agenda.

The agriculture sector endeavors to achieve optimal productivity and development pathways through sustainable agriculture, water and climate change management. However, the various synergies employed face challenges like effects and risks from climate change, post-harvest losses due to pests, unexploited irrigation development, small landholding sizes, land degradation and underdeveloped market structures and systems. Nevertheless, the cited challenges are prioritized in planning alongside respective remedial interventions for implementation.

4.2.3 Farming Households

The district has more farming households in Mkanda, Msitu, Mikundi and Chioshya EPAs while the least are in Kalulu EPA. There have been fluctuations in number of farming households across EPAs and over years under analysis. This was attributed to inter EPA and cross boarder migration. The figure below indicates the farming family in Mchinji by EPA.

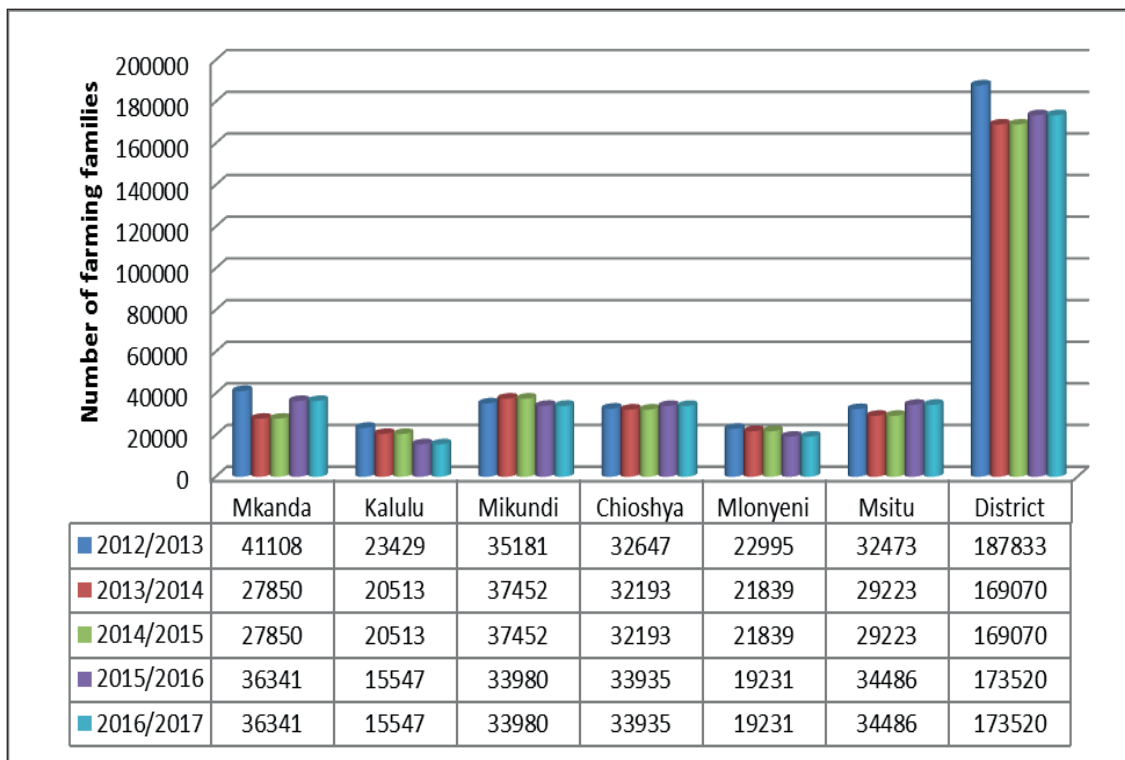


Figure 4.1 Farming Families in Mchinji District by EPA for 2012-2017

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office, Annual Reports 2017

4.2.4 Jurisdiction of Agriculture Sector and Extension Planning Areas

Mchinji district agriculture sector is working within the 3 senior chiefs, 7 traditional authorities and 5 sub traditional authorities. Within these traditional authorities, there are 6 extension planning areas and 1 sub extension planning area (Zulu). The EPAs are further sub-divided into 90 sections with 173,520 farming households. Table 4:6 below shows data for EPA, Sections and T/As for Mchinji district.

Table 4.6 Data for EPAs, Sections and TAs

S/N	Name of EPA	S/N	Traditional Authorities Covered(TA)	No. of sections
1	Mkanda	1	Senior Chief Mkanda	4
		2	STA Gumba	3
		3	STA Matuwamba	3
		4	TA Pitala	1
		5	STA Kapunula	2
		6	TA Kazyozyo	1
		7	STA Kawele	4
	Sub-Total	7		18
2	Kalulu	1	Senior Chief Dambe	8
		2	T.A. Kapondo	3
	Sub-Total	2		11
3	Mikundi	1	T.A. Mduwa	11
		2	STA Nyoka	5
	Sub-Total	2		16
4	Chioshya	1	T.A. Zulu	10
		2	TA Simphasi	8
	Sub-Total	2		18
5	Msitu	1	Senior Chief Mlonyeni	12
	Sub-Total	1		12
6	Mlonyeni	1	T.A. Mavwere	15
	Sub-Total	1		15
	TOTAL		15	90

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office, Annual Reports 2016

4.2.5 Crop Development Activities

One of the key mandates for crops department is to promote agriculture production and productivity as to achieve food security and human social wellbeing. High production is achieved through increase in yields and area grown to various crops. Crop production is done both under rain fed cropping, irrigation and residual moisture. These crops are grown for either food or cash and by both estates and smallholder farmers. Other activities are done off-farm, either in readiness for on-farm activities (acquisition of inputs, tools and implements) and after/post-harvest of produce (value addition, storage management for quantity and quality, marketing and utilization).

4.2.5.1 Major and Minor Crops Grown

Major crops grown in the district are Maize, Groundnuts, Soya beans, and Tobacco while minor crops are Potatoes, Tomatoes and Onions. Of all the crops, Tobacco and Soya beans are solely grown as cash crops while the rest are grown for both food and cash. Table 4:7 below gives details of crops grown in a specific area and yields for the selected crops.

Table 4.7 Data on Area and Yields for the selected crops

CROP	2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017		Average Area (Ha)	% Age of Total Area
	Area (Ha)	Yield (Kg/Ha)	Area (Ha)	Yield (Kg/Ha)	Area (Ha)	Yield (Kg/Ha)	Area (Ha)	Yield (Kg/Ha)	Area (Ha)	Yield (Kg/Ha)		
Maize	134,280	2,622	127,605	2,545	131,319	2,611	128,678	1,716	120,778	1,867	128,532	60
Tobacco	3,435	1,060	10,616	1,264	13,293	1,267	11,031	1,055	10,221	1,161	9,719	5
G/nuts	50,173	1,326	49,727	1,258	49,220	1,111	48,293	717	44,542	828	48,391	23
Soya	12,774	1,245	14,526	1,285	15,238	1,333	19,067	991	23,588	1,147	17,039	8
Potatoes	5,333	20,461	5,797	21,201	6,203	20,689	6,580	19,746	7,018	24,335	6,186	3
Onions	2,159	28,550	2,279	28,468	2,122	26,231	2,032	25,937	2,134	27,418	2,145	1
Tomatoes	2,120	24,220	2,090	25,303	1,908	23,828	1,955	23,504	2,098	25,841	2,034	1

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports for 2012/2013 to 2016/2017

From table above, of the selected crops maize has the highest area plated (ha) which is 60% while the least are onions and tomatoes with only 1% each. Soya beans was the upcoming cash crop taken as one of the substitutes for tobacco. There were fluctuations in yields for all the crops over the years under analysis. This was attributed to unfavourable weather, among others.

4.2.5.2 Area Cultivated (Ha) under Arable Land

Most of the crops are produced from arable land where, annually and on average, Estates have 89, 329Ha while Smallholder farmers have 114,675Ha under cultivation. Table 4:8 below provides EPA based data for arable land, area cultivated and average cultivated area per farming household (smallholder farmer).

Table 4.8 EPA based data for Arable Land & Area under Cultivation

EPA	Farm Households (Fhh)	Arable Area Under Cultivation (Ha)	Average Cultivated Area (Ha)
Mkanda	36,341	30,339	0.83
Kalulu	15,547	13,904	0.89
Mikundi	33,980	18,516	0.54
Chioshya	33,935	21,660	0.64
Mlonyeni	19,231	19,354	1.01
Msitu	34,486	10,902	0.32
TOTAL	173,520	114,675	0.66

Source: Land Resources Section, Mchinji DADO 2017

From the table above, the highest average arable land (Ha) cultivated per household is in Mlonyeni EPA (1Ha) while the lowest is in Msitu EPA.

4.2.5.3 Analysis of Area and Yields for Major and Minor Crops

Crop production (tonnes) is a product of area (Ha) and yield (Kg/Ha). Under this sub-chapter, analysis dwelt on production factors (area and yield) for the district flag crops. Improvements realized in implementing crop development activities target these trigger factors (area and yield) that affect production. DADO's office was the source of data for analyses.

MAJOR CROPS

Maize remains the major crop grown in the district. Figure below shows variations in area (ha) planted to the crop from 2013 to 2017.

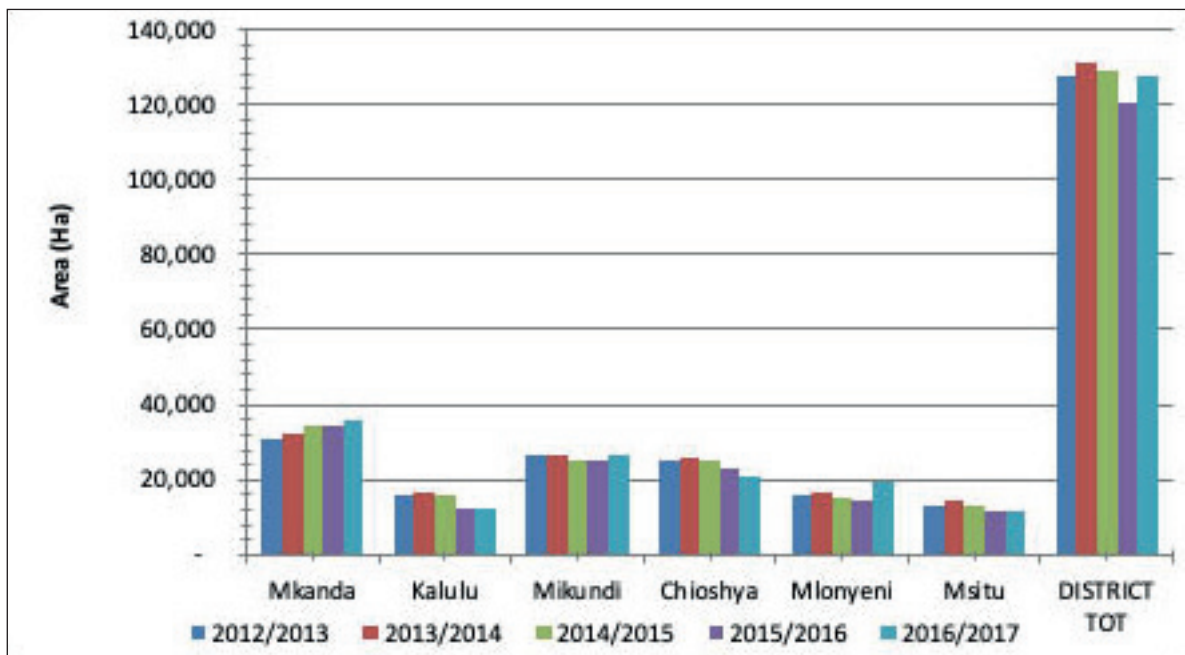


Figure 4.2 Analysis of Area Planted to Maize for EPAs and District from 2013 to 2017

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office 2017

From the figure above, the lowest area planted to maize was in Msitu EPA (11,561Ha) in 2015/16 growing season due to shifts to leguminous crops (soya inclusive) and the highest was in Mkanda EPA (36,068Ha) in 2016/17 influenced by good market prices in the preceding year. Overall (as a district), the highest area grown to maize was in 2013/14 growing season (131,319Ha) due to market forces and the lowest area was in 2015/16 (120,778Ha) due to shifts to leguminous crops/value chains. Generally, there was a decreasing trend for area planted to maize from 2013 to 2017.

As for productivity, the district experienced fluctuations across the EPAs. The highest yield was in 2013/14 (2,821Kg/Ha) due to favorable weather and improved husbandry practices. The lowest yield was in 2014/15 (1,716Kg/Ha) due to unfavorable weather. Relatively Kalulu EPA is the least in maize productivity whereas Mlonyeni is the highest. Generally, maize yield over the years under analysis decreased in 2014/15 and 2015/16 season and started increasing at an increasing rate in 2015/16 and 2016/2017. This was attributed to favourable weather conditions as the district experienced sufficient rains in stated period.

Groundnuts is another major crop grown in the district which comes second to maize. It is grown across the district. The figure below provides an analysis of area grown to the crop in Mchinji between 2013 and 2017.

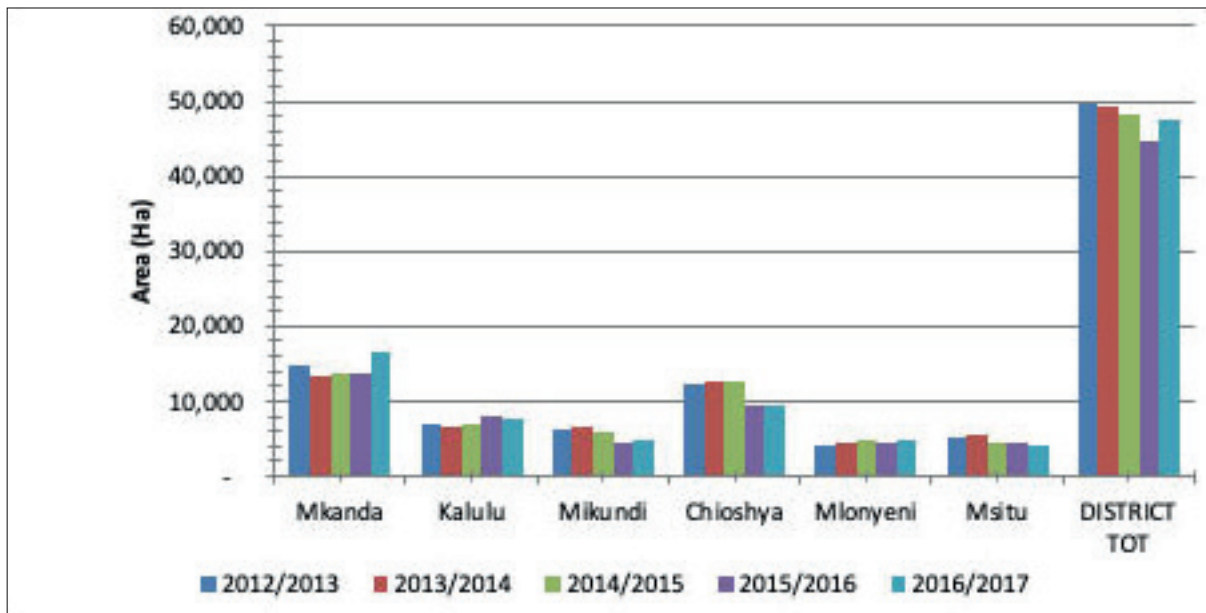


Figure 4.3 Analysis of Area Planted to Maize for EPAs and District from 2013 to 2017

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office 2017

From the figure above, the lowest area planted to g/nuts was in Mlonyeni EPA (3,939Ha) in 2012/13 and the highest was in Mkanda EPA (16,573Ha) in 2016/17 due to commercial g/nuts cultivation in the EPA. As a district, the highest area grown to g/nuts was in 2012/13 growing season (49,727Ha) due to market forces and availability of g/nuts value chain initiatives. The lowest area was in 2015/16 (44,542Ha) due to shifts to other leguminous crops/value chains like soya and inadequate own seeds since 2014/15 experienced unfavorable weather. Generally, there was a decreasing trend for area planted to g/nuts due to shifts to other leguminous crops.

Based on productivity, the lowest yield for g/nuts was in Mikundi EPA (567Kg/Ha) in 2014/15 due to unfavorable weather (droughts). The highest yield was in Kalulu EPA (1,367Kg/Ha) in 2013/14 growing season due to favorable weather (in shallow soils) and good husbandry practices. As a district, the highest yield was in 2012/13 (1,258Kg/Ha) attributed to favorable weather and improved husbandry practices induced by market forces. The lowest yield was in 2014/15 (717Kg/Ha) due to unfavorable weather. Generally, there were fluctuations in yield over years under analysis but portrayed decreasing trend attributed to unfavorable weather, and use of unimproved varieties.

Tobacco is one of the major cash crop grown in the district. It is grown in all EPAs in the district. The figure below gives a cross sectional picture regarding trends in area grown to tobacco over the years under analysis.

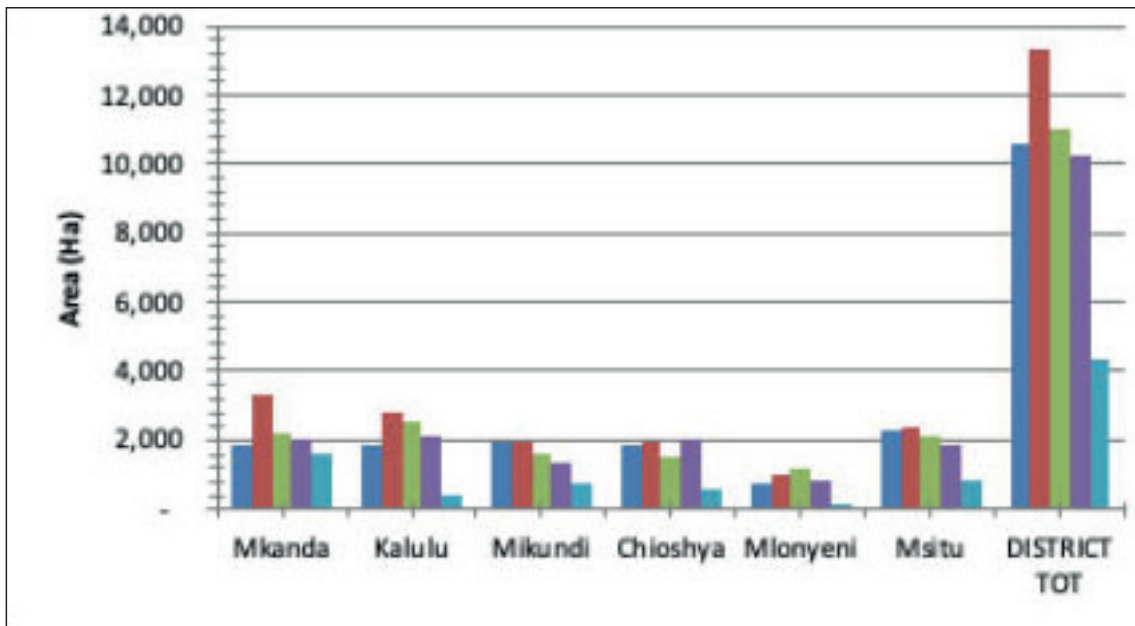


Figure 4.4 Analysis of Area Planted to Tobacco for EPAs and District from 2013

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office 2017

From the figure above, the lowest area planted to Tobacco was in Mlonyeni EPA (153Ha) in 2016/17 growing season due to poor market prices and priority shift to other crops while the highest was in Mkanda EPA (3,281Ha) in 2013/14 due to contract cultivation introduced by tobacco companies. As a district, the highest area grown to tobacco was in 2013/14 growing season (13,293Ha) due to good market prices and availability of inputs on loan. The lowest area was in 2016/17 (4,328Ha) due to poor market prices and unavailability of inputs on loan. Generally, there were fluctuations in area grown to the crop over years under analysis from 2013 to 2017 which was attributed to unsteadiness in market prices and access to inputs on loan.

From productivity point of view, the lowest yield for Tobacco was in Kalulu EPA (884Kg/Ha) in 2015/16 season due to unfavorable weather (late and poor onset of rains) and poor access to inputs. The highest yield was in Mkanda EPA (1,775Kg/Ha) in 2016/17 season due to favorable weather, access to inputs (loan) and good husbandry practices. As a district, the highest yield was in 2016/17 (1,551Kg/Ha) attributed to favorable weather, improved access to inputs and improved husbandry practices. The lowest yield was in 2014/15 (1,055Kg/Ha) due to unfavorable weather. Generally, there were fluctuations in yield over years under analysis. This was attributed to weather, access to inputs and husbandry practices.

MINOR CROPS

Potato is one of the minor crops grown in the district. It is grown both for food and cash. The figure below provides trends in area grown to the crop over the duration under analysis.

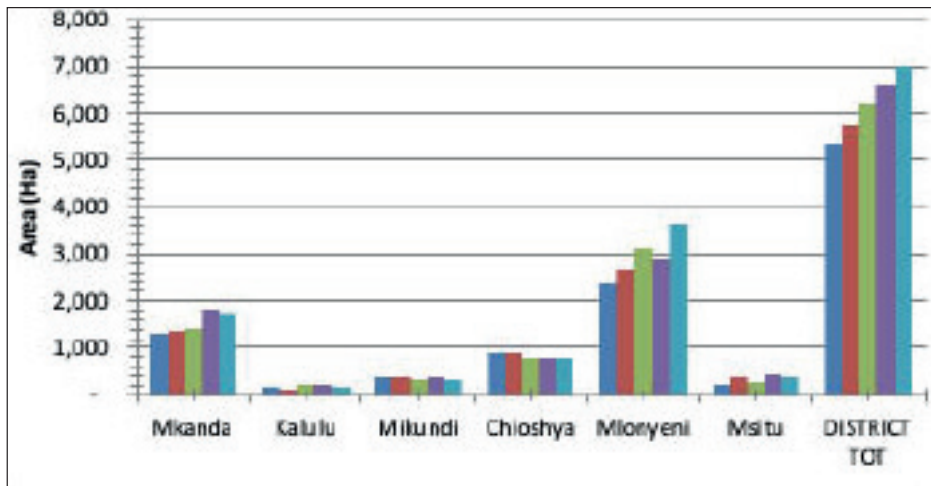


Figure 4.5 Analysis of Area Planted to Potato for EPAs and District from 2013

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office 2017

From the figure above, major potato cultivating EPAs are Mlonyeni and Mkanda due to favorable weather conditions (generally cool). As a district, there was an increasing trend for area grown to potato over years under analysis which was attributed to availability of planting materials (induced by seed multiplication initiatives) to sustain tuber production and stable market. However, there was need to strengthen the seed system to replenish degenerating seed by basic seed from research stations and designated tertiary seed multipliers. There was an increasing trend for potato yields over years under analysis which was attributed to access to improved seed and improved husbandry practices

Onion is another minor crop that is mostly grown as a cash crop to feed both domestic and international markets. The figure below provides cross sectional view of area grown to the crop over the period under analysis.

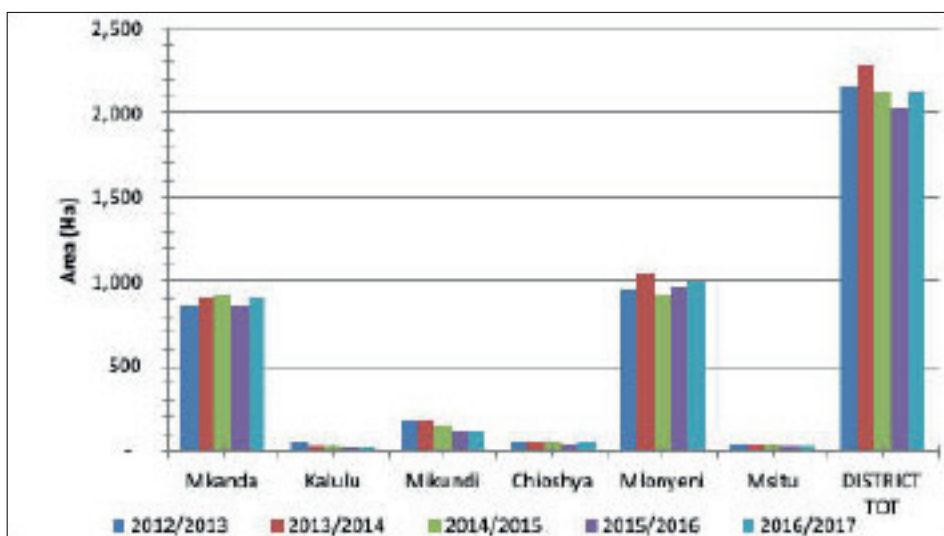


Figure 4.6 Analysis of Area Planted to Onions for EPAs and District from 2013

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office 2017

From the figure above, major onion cultivating EPAs are Mlonyeni and Mkanda due to favorable weather conditions (generally cool). As a district, area grown to onions was almost the same over years under analysis due to factors of market demand, storage facilities and constraints associated with husbandry practices. Yields for the crop was almost the same over years under analysis. However, there was room to exploit the yield potentials by improving husbandry practices and use of improved inputs.

Tomato is another minor crop that is also grown as a cash crop to feed into the existing markets. The figure below provides cross sectional picture of area grown to the crop in EPAs over the period under analysis.

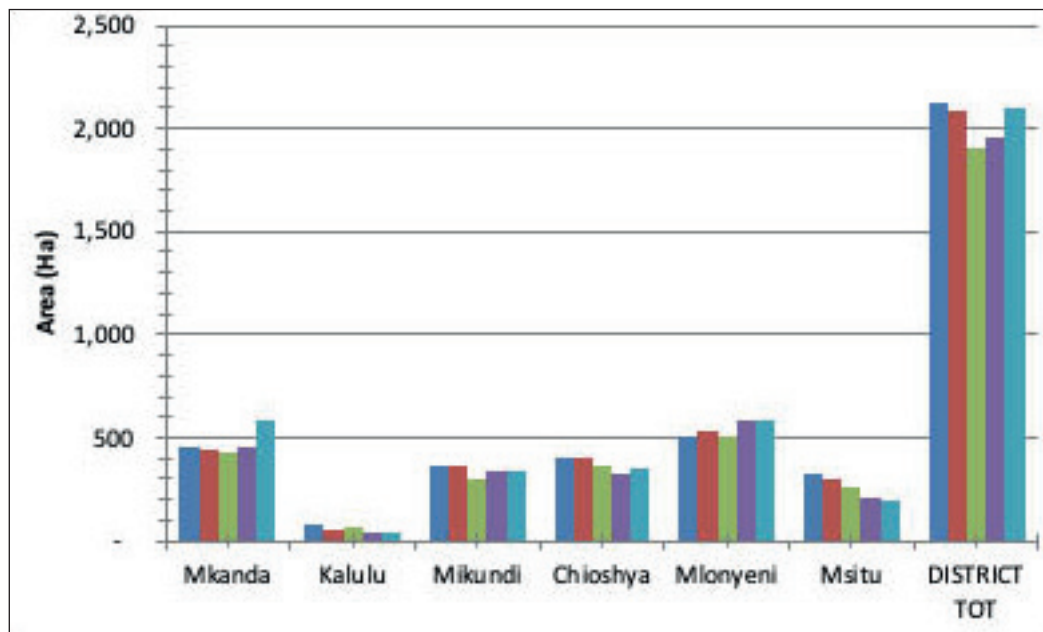


Figure 4.7 Analysis of Area Planted to Tomatoes for EPAs and District from 2013

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office 2017

From the figure above, major tomato cultivating EPAs are Mlonyeni and Mkanda due to favorable weather conditions. As a district, area grown to tomatoes was almost the same over years under analysis due to factors of market demand, perishability (limited shelf life) and constraints associated with husbandry practices. There was also room to explore initiatives towards elongating shelf life for fruits through value addition which could spur hectareage grown to the crop. Tomato yield was almost the same over years under analysis. However, there was room to exploit the yield potentials by improving husbandry practices and use of improved inputs.

4.2.6 Agricultural Markets

There are different forms of markets through which farmers channel their agricultural commodities in the district. Some markets are seasonal whilst others are weekly. Most markets are informally organized with little control by the council. The district does not have structured markets where agricultural produce is marketed hence farmers use the existing periodic markets in the designated trading centers and at farm gate level. Besides there are institutional markets which include government institutions, faith based institutions, companies and farmer based organization. Below is the table showing major types of markets within the district.

Table 4.9 Markets and Commodities in EPAs

Type of market	No. of markets	Commodities	EPA					
			Mkanda	Kalulu	Mikundi	Chioshya	Mlonyeni	Msitu
Institutional markets	47	Grains, L/stock Horticultural crops	7	6	1	16	8	9
Local markets	46	Grains, L/stock Horticultural crops	7	5	8	7	9	10
Farmer Based Organization	30	Grains, livestock	5	3	5	8	3	6
		Totals	19	14	14	36	20	25

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Annual Reports from 2013 to 2017

Table 4:9 indicates that Chioshya has the highest number of markets (36) in all categories except local markets compared to the rest of the EPAs. Kalulu and mikundi have the least number of markets. Chioshya is one of the economically active EPA because of its good road network and central for government institutions.

Though farmer Organizations have the least number, it has the potential to support effective commodity marketing due to its proximity to the farming community.

4.2.6.1 Performance of Agricultural Markets

Though the district has numerous markets, most of them are not properly functioning with respect to agricultural commodity marketing. There are no regulations to protect farmers from exploitation. During peak season there is influx of buyers who hung their scales all over. Pricing for most agricultural products is determined by buyers which result into farmers selling at very low profit margins. Information flow in these markets is not efficient as such it negatively affects farmers' decision making.

Some markets like ADMARC, and cooperatives have inadequate financial capacity to support farmers. Though cooperatives have warehousing facility and closer to farmers they are unable to buy from their fellow farmers because they do not have enough funds.

4.2.6.2 Price Determination and Commodity Trade Volumes

The sector also empowers farmers on enterprise/business planning, execution and management where determination of produce price and assessment of commodity trade volumes are some of the elements. Farmers can also access information on commodity prices and demand either within or outside the district; taking the form of previous years (for benchmarking), current and forecasts for decision making. Figure below provides prevailing prices for major crops over the years under review.

4.2.6.3 Price analysis for major grains

The figure below, shows price trends for major crops in Mchinji. From 2013 the commodity prices were slightly increasing this was due to inflation which was observed in 2012 which led to increased input prices. In addition to this there was a reduction in yield due to dry spells experienced over the period. Generally, price trends for soya, sunflower and maize were relatively increasing but at some point dropping. This was due to demand and supply effect. An example of maize price, it had a steady increase in the first five years

until MK 200 in 2016 then it dropped to Mk70 in 2017 and a hike again to MK 100 in 2018. This was affected by the ban which the government imposed preventing maize export but rather import from Zambia.

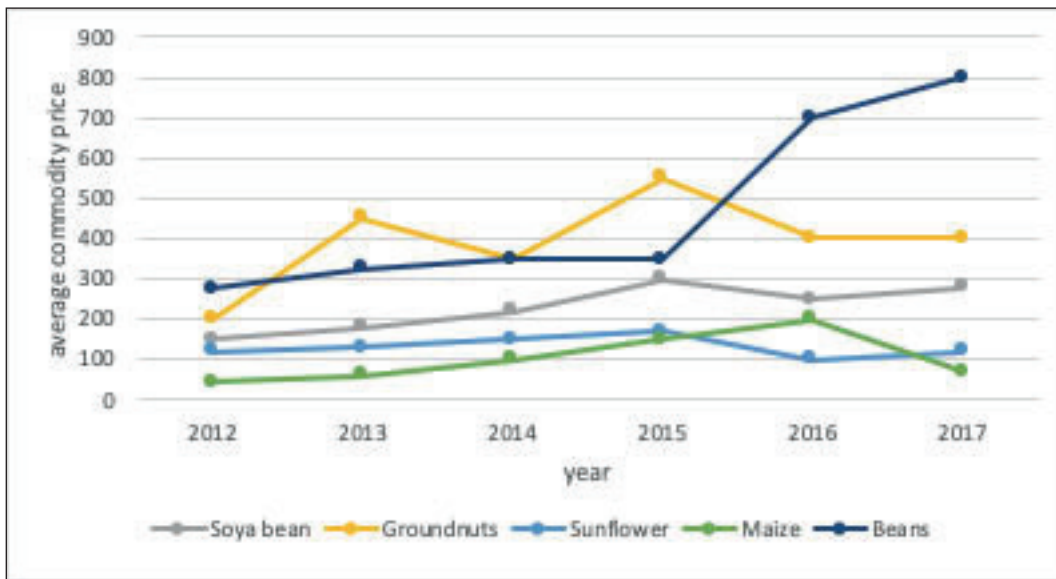


Figure 4.8 Price analysis for major crops in the district from 2012 to 2017

Source: APES Reports from 2012 to 2017

The figures further indicate that ground nuts had continuously registered an increasing trend however, a drop was observed in 2014 and then started rising again in 2015. Ground nuts has high demand at both domestic and export market. More interventions by the government are pushing ground nuts seed on the platform which is increasing production hence higher supply on the market hence unstable prices. There are new opportunities arising on the legume platform which indicate high and competition on the market for ground nuts.

Beans is another value chain that its export market has never been thoroughly explored. There is also higher demand for the commodity in Botswana, South Africa and Congo. Beans prices are always increasing at an increasing rate because of its export base. More interventions on beans production would increase income for smallholder farmers in Mchinji.

4.2.7 Sources of farm inputs in EPAs, TAs/STAs and District

The district has a number of sources from which farmers' access farm inputs. The sources are grouped into farmer organizations, private companies, government institutions and agro-dealers. These farm inputs are acquired through cash, credit from lending institutions and Safety-net programs like Farm Input Subsidy Programme and others that are supported by NGOs and government like Legume multiplication project. There are some companies and organizations that support farmers with inputs on credit such as Alliance One, Japanese Tobacco International (JTI), Limbe Leaf, Total Land Care (TLC), FINCA, Vision Fund, MERDEF, NASFAM, Concern World Wide and Ex-AGRIS Africa. The loans range from short term to long term and are used for buying fertilizers, improved seed, pesticides, herbicides, and manure. Major companies that sale inputs on cash are SFFRFM, Farmers World, Kulima Gold, Chipiku, Export Tradings, ATC, Dalitso and Takondwa General Dealers. Major agro-dealers are Pagwanji, A.B. Mwale and Slashers. Different farm inputs are acquired to support crop production.

4.2.7.1 Uptake of Farm Inputs

Of all the sources for crops farm inputs, over the years under analysis, the highest tonnages (fertilizers and seeds) were acquired under Farm Input Subsidy Programme. Table 4:10 below shows an overall farm input uptake from 2012 to 2017 from various sources in the district.

Table 4.10 Overall Farm Inputs Uptake

Input (MT)	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Sources
23:21:0+4s	4316.7	5069.6	4,138.30	5,492.90	3,829.40	Normal Cash Sales, Subsidy, Credits and Other Stakeholders
UREA	4353.02	4945.95	4,525.50	5,377.10	4,356.30	
CAN	727.75	1031.65	498.8	831.6	210.6	
Super D & D compound	2485.26	513.31	314.2	437.6	271.7	
Maize seed	561.13	624.369	656	840.8	274.2	
Soya	121.37	79.2	77	213	2,274.60	
Beans	45.59	40.84	41.7	43.3	19.9	
G/nuts	58.29	145.46	72.6	377.4	424.1	
Herbicides (L)	215	265	335	1,500.00	2,210.00	

Source: APES Reports from 2013 to 2017

4.2.8 Access to Agriculture Services

The district agriculture office provides a number of services that support agricultural production and utilization of the produce by providing extension staff and farmers with the necessary information and facilities in order to improve agricultural production. The district also supports farmers with services to enable them improve their economic and nutrition status.

4.2.8.1 District Agriculture Sector Administrative Structure

The sector has technical and support sections/departments that spearhead planning, implementation and evaluation of policy based interventions. The formulation and implementation of interventions is done in liaison with farming households and partners through established DAESS structures. The sector has visibility at lower levels through EPAs and Sections where posts were established and personnel deployed to be in touch with the populace.

AGRICULTURAL STAFFING LEVELS

The agriculture staffing levels are low and most positions are with people on acting. The vacancy rate is at 25.6%. This hampers the service delivery in the sector. There is also need to review establishments at district level especially on field extension workers to match with growing population of farmers. Table 4:11 below shows established and filled posts.

Table 4.11 Staffing in agriculture sector in the district

SECTION/DEPARTMENT	ESTABLISHMENT	FILLED	VACANT
EXTENSION			
DADO	1	1	0
ADADO	1	1	0
AEMO	1	1	0
FBMO	1	1	0
FNO	1	1	0
AGRESSO	1	1	0
SCO	1	1	0
Statistical Clerk	2	0	2
Enumerators	7	6	1
AEDC	6	5	1
AEDO	90	65	25
LIVESTOCK MANAGEMNT			
AHLDO	1	1	0
SAVO	2	2	0
AVO	9	7	2
AHSA	9	18	
CROP MANAGEMENT			
Crop Protection Officer	1	1	0
Cereals Officer	1	1	0
Tobacco Officer	1	0	1
Farm Mechanization Officer	1	1	0
Horticulture Officer	1	1	0
Legumes officer	1	0	1
LAND RESOURCES MGT			
LRCO	1	0	1
SALRCO	1	1	0
RESIDENTIAL TRAINING CENTRE			
Principal	1	1	0
Warden	1	0	1
Clerical officer	1	0	1
Stores clerk	1	0	1
Accounts assistant	1	0	1
Copy typist	1	1	0
Messenger	1	0	1
Security guard	3	2	1
K/ attendant	1	0	1
Cooks	2	0	2
Herds/man	1	0	1
Labour	2	1	1
MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES			
B/layer	1	0	1
Carpenter	1	1	0
Mechanic	1	0	1

SECTION/DEPARTMENT	ESTABLISHMENT	FILLED	VACANT
Plumber	1	0	1
Driver	4	2	2
Labour	8	2	6
HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT			
HRMO	1	0	1
SCO	1	1	0
COHR	2	2	0
C/TYPIST	2	2	0
PBX	1	0	1
MESSENGER	1	2	0
S/GUARDS	3	2	1
FINANCE MANAGEMENT			
ASS. ACCT	1	0	1
S.ACCT.ASS.	2	0	2
ACCT. ASS.	6	2	4

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Report 2017

4.2.8.2 Agricultural Extension Services

The district has six (6) Extension Planning Areas (EPAs) covering all the fifteen (15) local leaders. These 6 Extension Planning Areas are further demarcated into 90 sections which are constituted from 720 blocks. In total there are 4 Agricultural Extension Development Coordinators (AEDCs) and 80 Agricultural Extension Development Officer (EADOs) that man the EPAs and Sections respectively. All 4 AEDCs are males while for AEDOs there are 16 and 64 female and male officers respectively. The District Agriculture Office is the hub for district agricultural extension development programs. The office comprises of technical heads of various programs and sub-programs among others management.

Table 4.12 Number of Agricultural Extension Workers, by EPA and TA/STA covered

Name of EPA	No. of sections	No. of blocks	Traditional Authorities Covered(TA)	Number of Extension Workers Against Number of Sections per EPA				
				2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Mkanda	18	144	Senior T.A. Mkanda, T.A. Kazyozyo, STA Pitala, Gumba and Kapunula.	12 (11m & 1f)	9 (8m & 1f)	11 (10m & 1f)	12 (11m & 1f)	12 (11m & 1f)
Kalulu	11	88	Senior T.A. Dambe and T.A. Kapondo	8 (6m & 2f)	8 (6m & 2f)	7 (6m & 1f)	9 (6m & 3f)	9 (6m & 3f)
Mikundi	16	128	T.A. Mduwa and STA Nyoka	10 (8m & 2f)	10 (8m & 2f)	11 (8m & 3f)	9 (7m & 2)	9 (7m & 2)
Chioshya	18	144	T.A. Zulu and Simphasi	13 (11m & 2f)	13 (11m & 2f)	16 (13m & 3f)	16	16
Msitu	12	96	T.A. Mlonyeni	8	5	10	10	10
Mlonyeni	15	120	T.A. Mavwere	13	13	11	12	12
District	90	720	13	64	58	65	67	67

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Annual Reports from 2013 to 2017

From the table above it could be observed that over the period under report there has not been significant increase in number of extension officer across the EPAs. Mikundi has the highest vacancy rate of all the EPAs. This has been due to the fact that some sections are far from basic social amenities such as trading centers, housing and access roads. This pushes extension staff away from these areas as they move towards sections closer to trading centers.

EXTENSION WORKER TO FARMER RATIO

The extension worker/ farmer ratio in the district is at 1:2684 which is above the requirement of 1:500, for more information refer to the table below.

Table 4.13 Agricultural Extension Workers to Farmers Ratio (2013 to 2017)

EPA	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
Mkanda	1:3426	1:3094	1:2532	1:3028	1:3028
Kalulu	1:2929	1:2564	1:2930	1:1727	1:1727
Mikundi	1:3518	1:3745	1:3405	1:3776	1:3776
Chioshya	1:2511	1:2476	1:2012	1:2124	1:2124
Mlonyeni	1:2874	1:4368	1:2184	1:1923	1:1923
Msitu	1:2498	1:2248	1:2657	1:2874	1:2874
District	1:2935	1:2915	1:2601	1:2590	1:2590

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Annual Reports from 2013 to 2017

From the table 4:13 it shown that there have not been significant changes in extension farmer ratio for the district since 2013. However, there had been internal and minor changes across the EPAs. Mikundi has the highest extension farmer ration due to high vacancies as staff shun sections within the EPA because of their remotiness. For EPAs like Chioshya and Mlonyeni most of the sections are occupied but the ratio is relatively high because of population density as the EPAs cover major trading centers in the district.

DISTRICT AGRICULTURE EXTENSION SERVICES SYSTEM (DAESS)

The extension services in the district follow the salient features of the national agriculture policy to implement agriculture activities in the district. The features are:

- (a) Pluralistic extension services which includes involvement of several players i.e. public, NGOs and private in implementing agriculture activities
- (b) Demand driven extension services where farmers are encouraged to demand services from agriculture service providers
- (c) Accountability where farmers are not only looked upon as beneficiaries of extension services but also as clients, sponsors and stakeholders. This calls for mechanisms for great accountability of extension services to farmers and their representatives to bring high quality and effective services.
- (d) Equalization whereby all gender categorizes are involved in extension service delivery
- (e) Decentralized services where agriculture activities are implemented through District Agriculture Extension Services Systems (DAESS) which enables farmers to identify and organize their agricultural felt needs for appropriate action by relevant stakeholders.

The DAESS system is integrated into the district council structures through district and area stakeholder panels and District Agriculture Extension Coordinating Committee (DAECC). The village is the entry, planning and implementation base for all agricultural interventions.

Table 4.14 Area Stakeholder Panels and Village Agriculture Committees per T/A

S/N	Name of EPA	Name of TA	Name of ASP	No. of VACs
1	Mkanda	Senior Chief Mkanda	Mkanda	4
		STA Gumba	Not Yet	3
		STA Matuwamba	Not Yet	2
		STA Pitala	Not Yet	1
		STA Kapunula	Not Yet	1
		TA Kazyozyo	Kazyozyo	1
		STA Kawele	Not Yet	4
	Sub-Total			16
2	Kalulu	Senior Chief Dambe	Dambe	9
		T.A. Kapondo	Kapondo	2
	Sub-Total			11
3	Mikundi	T.A. Mduwa	Mduwa	4
		STA Nyoka	Nyoka	4
	Sub-Total			8
4	Chioshya	T.A. Zulu	Zulu	6
		TA Simphasi	Simphasi	7
	Sub-Total			13
5	Msitu	T.A. Mlonyeni	Mlonyeni	12
				12
6	Mlonyeni	T.A. Mavwere	Mavwere	10
				10
	TOTAL	15	10	70

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Annual Reports from 2013 to 2017

The district has a total of 15 Traditional Authorities (STAs and T/As, Sub T/As inclusive). Currently the district has only 10 ASPs and 70 VACs. The ASPs are not yet established in the newly installed Sub-T/As and T/As.

APPROACHES IN DELIVERING AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICES

The district implements agriculture activities through the following extension approaches:

1. Model village approach- where subjects are committed to working together with various service providers to achieve their vision. This approach enhances the community capacity to identify their needs and come up with ideal solutions.
2. Agriculture clusters (a collection of farmers managing similar agricultural enterprise in the same catchment area or locality) and ulimi wa m'ndandanda (a stretch of well managed fields of different crops)
3. Farmer Field Schools/Farmer Business School- a participatory extension training methodology that centers on comparative application of both farmer's practices and recommended practices in addressing a technical problem. Farmers are also trained on business management aspects of the identified enterprise within the farmer field school context.

4. Farmer based organizations (Clubs, Associations, Cooperatives)
5. The district encourages formation of farmerbased groups which have respective objectives for easy collaboration and extension support by government and non governmental actors.
6. Lead farmer approach.

The approach uses prominent model and active community members to disseminate intended agricultural technologies. These lead farmers have their follower farmers whom they mentor.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION METHODS AND STRATEGIES FOR UP-SCALING SERVICE DELIVERY

The district follows some agriculture extension methods in order to reach more farmers. Some of the methods are:

- (a) Strategic extension campaigns
- (b) Demonstrations
- (c) Field days, visits and tours
- (d) Agriculture shows and exhibits
- (e) Agriculture fairs

4.2.8.3 Land Husbandry and Natural Resources Management

This service looks at recommended crop and animal husbandry practices. Some of the recommended practices are: soils and water conservation, soil fertility improvement, conservation agriculture and rain water harvesting.

4.2.8.4 Irrigation Services

These services are provided to farmers in the district in order to assist to address the challenges of food insecurity and poverty which have been brought about by the constraints of drought and high population growth rate. This situation gets compounded by the reliance on rain-fed agriculture.

4.2.8.5 Farm mechanization

This service is provided in order to reduce the drudgery so as to improve agricultural productivity and production. Some of the services provided are tractor hire scheme and oxenisation scheme

4.2.8.6 Crop protection

The aim of this service to address issues of low crop production and quality as a result of pest infestation and disease attack. Services offered in order to control crop pest infestation and diseases attack are biological control, cultural control, mechanical control, physical control, use of tolerant varieties, sanitation and use of pesticides

4.3 IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT

Malawi Government through Irrigation Office in Mchinji District is promoting irrigated agriculture principally to contribute attainment of sustainable national economic growth and development while achiev-

ing food security by increasing production and productivity of irrigated agriculture. The office in line with its Reform priority area promote solar powered irrigation technology on expense of existing and adopted technologies such as motorized based, treadle pump based and watering cans based irrigation technologies through sustainable development and management of the schemes as well as building capacity of farmers. This is in line with National Irrigation Policy (NIP), MGDS III key priority area 1. (Agriculture, water development and climate change), and Sustainable Development Goal No. 2 (SDGs) which intends to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

The country in recent years has been adversely affected by climate change leading to persistent food shortages. This reduced contribution of agriculture to national economy to less than 40% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In view of this, the nation re-aligned its agriculture policies towards rapid irrigation development to minimise over dependence on rain-fed agriculture thereby moving towards the attainment of food security and increasing its contribution to GDP.

The district has the potential irrigation area of 14055Ha of land and has developed only 1841Ha for irrigation farming with financial support from the Government and in collaboration with development partners, representing 13.1% of the potential area. The irrigation technologies used in the district include motorized pump based, treadle pump based, watering cans, river diversion and solar powered based. This benefit a total of 15043 farmers across all seven Extension Planning Areas (EPAs); Mkanda, Mlonyeni, Zulu, Kalulu, Mikundi, Msitu and Chioshya.

4.3.1 Water Sources

The irrigation in the district utilize both surface and groundwater resource for irrigation. This enables farmers' away from perennial and reliable streams/rivers to benefit from irrigation projects thus increasing the irrigated area. The surface water source supply mostly used are streams/rivers and dams whereas groundwater sources are mostly accessed through development of tube and shallow wells.

Table 4.15 Summary of Perennial Rivers/Streams

NO.	RIVER/STREAM	T/A	COSTITUENCY
1	Liweredzi, Rusa, Matizi.	Mkanda	Mchinji North
2	Rusa and Bua.	Mkanda, Kapondo. Dambe	Mchinji North East
3	Bua, Luthwe and Ludzi	Mduwa, Kapondo.	Mchinji East
	Matizi, Ludzi, Mankhonongo.	STA Nyoka	
4	Ludzi, Bua.	Simphasi, Zulu.	Mchinji Central
5	Bua, Namilolo, Likasi, Mtete.	Mlonyeni	Mchinji South West
6	Msitu, Mtete, Bua, Likasi, Kamwazonde, Namitete.	Mavwere	Mchinji South

The district is endowed with 13 perennial streams. These are Liweredzi, Rusa, Bua, Matizi, Ludzi, Luthwe, Mankhonongo, Namilolo, Likasi, Mtete, Msitu, Kamwazonde and Namitete stream. In terms of numbers, T/A Mavwere is supplied with water from 6 streams followed by T/A Mkanda, Mlonyeni and Kapondo each area supplied with water from 4 streams. Thereafter T/A Mduwa, and Sub T/A Nyoka each area supplied with water from 3 streams. The least is T/A Zulu, Dambe and Simpasi each area supplied with water from 2 streams. This therefore implies that the number of irrigation interventions in the Traditional Authorities varies as irrigation farming is a function of availability of reliable water resource especially if there is limitations in underground water exploration.

4.3.2 Irrigation Technologies and Adoption

The irrigation technologies promoted and adopted by farmers from 2012 to 2017 in the district are river diversion gravity fed, motorized pump, solar powered gravity fed, treadle pump and watering can based irrigation technology with area coverage of 1138Ha, 111.2Ha, 166Ha, 2120Ha and 6395Ha respectively. The figure below summarizes irrigation technologies and adoption.

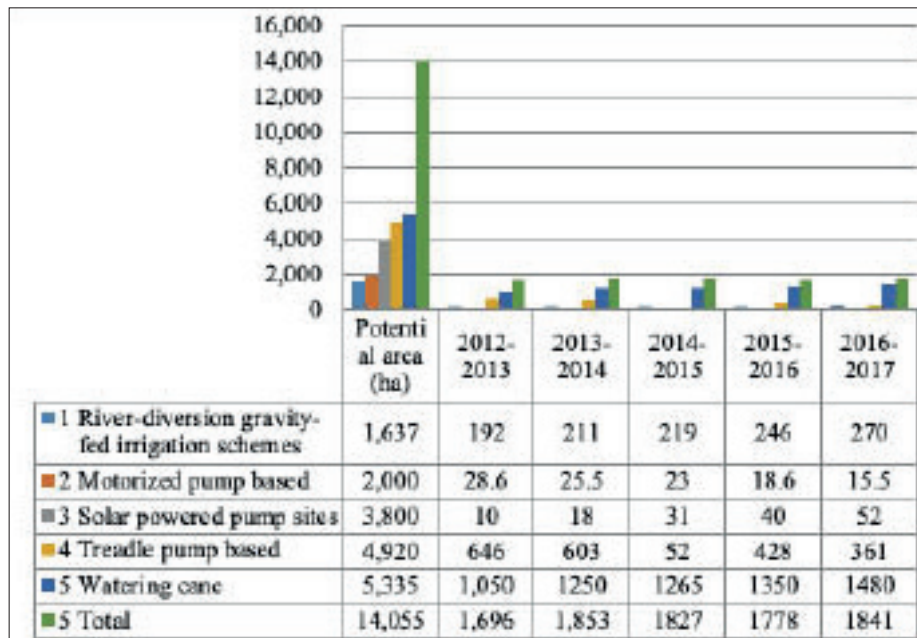


Figure 4.9 Irrigation Technologies and Adoption

The figure above shows area developed and area under irrigation farming from 2012 to 2017 in the district. It has 14055Ha potential area for irrigation development of which 1841Ha is developed representing 13.1%.

In 2015 to 2017 there was increase in development of small scale gravity fed irrigation schemes. This was due to financial support from development partners for the IRLAD and MIDSAP projects. The motorized pump based registered a reduction in area developed and adoption over the years mainly attributed to rise in fuel prices and operation costs. This technology with respect to its limitations is gradually being replaced by solar powered gravity fed irrigation technology which requires minimal operation costs and helps mitigate climate change effects. As for treadle pump technology, the decrease in adoption is mostly due to labour intensive and also failure of farmers to replace worn out parts of the treadle pump previously distributed by government through MASAF and MDRRP program. This is in contrast with watering can based technology which its use is still high amongst small scale farmers possibly due to low costs.

4.3.2.1 Irrigation Area by Technology

Irrigation technologies being promoted in the district are not adopted in all Extension Planning Areas except treadle pump and watering can based technology. The failure to reach out to farmers in some EPAs with the robust, efficient, effective, and smart irrigation technologies is due to unwillingness of farmers in provision of irrigation land and lack of financial support for development of irrigation schemes. This figuratively is summarized in the table below.

Table 4.16 Type of Irrigation per EPA

	Technology														
	Motorised Pumps			Treadle Pumps			Watering Canes			Solar Pumps			River Diversion		
	Po- tential Area (Ha)	Actual Area (Ha)	Pro- por- tional- ity a	Poten- tial Area (Ha)	Actual Area (Ha)	Pro- por- tional- ity	Po- tential Area (Ha)	Actual Area (Ha)	pro- por- tional- ity	Po- tential Area (Ha)	Actual Area (Ha)	Pro- por- tional- ity	Po- tential Area (Ha)	Actual Area (Ha)	Pro- por- tional- ity
Mkan- da	20	9	45%	902	40	4.4%	983	245	25%	8	3	37.5%	1095	225	20.5%
Kalulu	10	0	-	788	49	6.2%	863	175	20.3%	8	4	50%	80	0	-
Mi- kundi	10	0	-	565	86	14.7%	595	180	30.3%	10	0	-	160	20	12.5%
Chi- oshya	10	0	-	492	41	8.3%	543	165	30.4%	62	2	3.2%	100	0	-
Zulu	4	2	50%	683	57	8.3%	750	215	28.7%	10	0	-	10	0	-
Mlo- nyeni	7	3	43%	683	63	9.2%	833	277	33.3%	10	6	60%	167	15	9%
Msitu	3	1.5	50%	694	45	6.5%	769	223	29%	15	5	33%	113	10	8.8%
Total	64	15.5	24%	4,920	361	7.3%	5,335	4,920	92%	67	20	30%	1637	270	16.5%

The district has a huge gap in usage of advanced irrigation technologies in production of crops which are productive in achieving food security household, community and national level.

The EPAs that have been reached with advanced and user friendly technologies such as Mkanda, Msitu and Mlonyeni, the beneficiaries registered great transformation in their livelihoods. Most of the beneficiaries constructed corrugated houses, purchased motorcycles, bicycle and livestock and managed to pay fees for their secondary school education.



Figure 4.10 Crops irrigated by Treadle pump in Mchitanji Irrigation Scheme

4.3.2.2 Beneficiaries of Irrigation Technology

The district has 7450, 350, 11, 10 and 7 irrigation sites with corresponding 7450, 3728, 3202, 546 and 117 beneficiaries for watering can, treadle pump, river diversion, solar and motorized pump technology respectively. This is summarized in the table below;

Table 4.17 Irrigation sites and beneficiaries by technology

Technology	Number of Sites	Gross Area (Ha)	Total Area Developed (Ha)	Actual Area under Irrigation (Ha)	Male	Female	Total
Motorised Pump	7	2000	34	15.5	76	41	117
Treadle Pump	380	4920	1350	329	2322	1406	3728
Solar	10	3800	52	19.5	234	312	546
Water Cans	7450	3335	2200	1490	2517	4933	7450
River Diversification	11	1637	270	165	1626	1576	3202

4.3.3 Investments in Irrigation Sector

The development of irrigation schemes in the district depend largely on financial support from Government and development partners. This support is provided through respective irrigation development projects.

4.3.3.1 Government Irrigation Development Projects

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (LDF)

The implementation of the LDF projects in the district is solely at the discretion of beneficiaries. The beneficiaries choose irrigation project on expense of other projects through ADC and VDC. Through this approach Mchinji irrigation office constructed two treadle pump based irrigation schemes; Kakoma and Mchitanji irrigation scheme and two other river diversion schemes thus Liweredzi and Lipunga irrigation scheme.



Figure 4.11 Weir for Liweredzi Irrigation Scheme

Source: Mchinji Irrigation office 2017

MALAWI DROUGHT RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PROJECT (MDRRP)

The Government through Mchinji irrigation office under MDRRP provided 100 treadle pumps to 38 Irrigation Water User Groups (IWUGs) in 7 EPAs of the district. Through this project, it also constructing and

installing solar powered drip irrigation systems in Tigwirizane in Mkanda EPA and Namilolo in Mlonyeni EPA. In Tigwirizane and Namilolo, the system is expected to cover a total of 12Ha to be completed in 2020 thus 7Ha for Tigwirizane and 5Ha for Namilolo.

NGOS IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

The district has a number of irrigation development partners like World Vision operating in TA Mavwere, Church Action Relief Development operation in TA Kapondo, Dambe and Simphasi.

Table 4.18 Irrigation project areas of NGOs

Name of NGO	EPA	Project Area	Area	Beneficiaries			Type of Irrigation activities done
				M	F	Total	
2	Kalulu	Kayembe	5	47	25	72	Solar Powered Pump Scheme
	Kalulu	Tipindule	3	12	8	20	Solar Powered Pump Scheme
	Chioshya	Malabada	6	17	25	42	Solar Powered Pump Scheme
WVI	Msitu	Madzi	5	9	13	22	Solar Powered Pump Scheme
	Msitu	Chigumba	5	6	8	14	Solar Powered Pump Scheme
	Msitu	Chanjazi	5	12	26	38	Solar Powered Pump Scheme
RLEEP	Mlonyeni	Tithandizane	10	11	16	27	Solar Powered Pump Scheme
TLC	Mkanda	Sunama	8	15	31	46	Solar Powered Pump Scheme

ESTATE/PRIVATE IRRIGATION FARMING

Private sectors also implement irrigation farming projects in the district for commercial purposes. These private estates plays a great role in creation of employment opportunities to people within and outside the district. Mostly these commercial companies grow crops such as tobacco, beans and maize covering 160Ha of land.

Table 4.19 List of estates in Commercial Irrigation Farming

Crops	Ha	T/A	EPA	Owner
Tobacco	30	Mkanda	Mkanda	Estate
Beans/ Maize	40	Mavwere	Msitu	FISD co
Tobacco	50	Mkanda	Mkanda	Alliance one
Tobacco	40	Dambe	Kalulu	Exagris

EXISTING DAMS IN THE DISTRICT AND THEIR CONDITIONS

There are a number of dams in the district which can support irrigation development if rehabilitated and managed properly especially those constructed using government initiative and owned by the community as opposed to those owned by estates.

Table 4.20 Existing dams and their conditions

No.	Dam	EPA	T/A	Area	Condition of Dam	Works Required	Remarks
1	Msupadzi	Kalulu	Dambe	15Ha	Washed away	Rehabilitation	Community Dam
2	Rusa	Kalulu	Kapondo	60Ha	Enough water	Backfilling	Owned by Press
3	Kalulu	Kalulu	Kapondo	30Ha	Washed away	Rehabilitation	Community Dam
4	Kakoma	Zulu	Zulu	3Ha	Siltation	Embankment Rehabilitation	Community Dam
5	Namilolo	Mlonyeni	Mlonyeni	5Ha	Fair – used for Irrigation.	Backfilling	Community Dam
6	Estate 52	Mkanda	Mkanda	100Ha	Bleached embankment	Earth Dam embankment	Owned by Press Agriculture
7	Kawelawela	Mkanda	Mkanda	50Ha	Fair	De-silting	Owned by Press Agriculture Estate 78

4.3.4 Irrigation Priority Areas in Mchinji District

The priority areas of irrigation are; establishment of new irrigation Schemes, facilitate rehabilitation of damaged irrigation structures, promote crop diversification in irrigation farming and facilitate capacity building on crop, water and Scheme management.

4.3.4.1 Provision of Irrigation Services by the District Irrigation Office

The irrigation office provide distinct services to small scale farmers, medium and large scale farmers in the district. These services among others are provision of trainings, feasibility studies, designing and supervising construction works and maintaining irrigation infrastructure.

Table 4.21 Irrigation services provided with attached terms and conditions

Service	Requirements	Charges	Timeline
Request of Irrigation Master plan and its framework	Formal request	Free	1 to 2 days after submission of formal request
Trainings in Agriculture and irrigation aspect	Fees and related costs	varies	Short, medium long term
Provision of feasibility studies for irrigation development	Formal request in writing	Transport and up-keep costs	Within 20 working days.
Design and supervision of irrigation schemes.	Formal request in writing	Transport and up-keep costs	Up to 2 Months
Maintenance of irrigation infrastructure including Pump	Formal request in writing	Transport and up-keep costs	Up to 2 Weeks

4.3.5 Contribution of Irrigation Farming to the Local Economy

The irrigation farming contributes a lot to the local economy. Some of these contributions are as follows;

- Creation of job opportunities during and after development of irrigation farms
- Establishment of local markets for buying and selling of irrigation produce especially vegetables
- Increase revenue collection base through purchasing taxable construction equipment and household assets

4.3.6 Developmental Issues in the Irrigation Sector in Mchinji

4.3.6.1 Food Security

Some of the issues affecting attainment of food security in the district are as follows;

- Low crop yields due to change in rainfall pattern caused by climate change.
- Early drying of rivers affecting irrigation farming in other area of the district.
- High operational cost on motorized pumps due to rise in fuel and spare parts affecting farmers.
- Farmers have limited knowledge on proper operation and maintenance of irrigation infrastructures.
- Inadequate funding allocation to the department makes implementation difficult

4.3.6.2 Opportunities for irrigation development in Mchinji district

The district has unexploited irrigation opportunities as it is endowed with required resources for development of irrigation schemes. Some of these are as follows;

- The availability being a border district, farmers can choose where to sell their produce

4.3.7 Recommendations for Irrigation Development in Mchinji District

- The Irrigation office and partners should intensify formation of farmer irrigation groups in potential areas and train them on good crop and water management.
- Hectares and crop yields under irrigation to be increased by establishment of schemes where farmers are showing interest,
- Development partners, government and farmers should establish water harvesting structures like dams, water impoundments and shallow wells to make irrigation a success.
- Lobbying from partners in installation of solar powered pumps where farmers are struggling with motorized pumps for irrigation farming.
- The irrigation office should be supported to intensify training of farmers in irrigation farming, conduct irrigation assessment and produce designs for irrigation scheme development.

4.4 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Livestock in the district is kept as a social amenity or asset for social status especially among the Ngoni people. Cattle bulls are used for ploughing and oxenization. The district had a total animal population of 3,152,044 by 2017. These are big and small animals kept by smallholder farmers. We have NGO interventions such as WVI, and Heifer Malawi which contributed to an increase in population. Apart from animal proteins, livestock production in the district is used as, Source of income to households, Source of power e.g. ploughing, transportation among others and Source of raw materials.

4.4.1 Livestock production Distribution by Class

The table below shows Livestock Production Distribution by Class as per census livestock in Mchinji

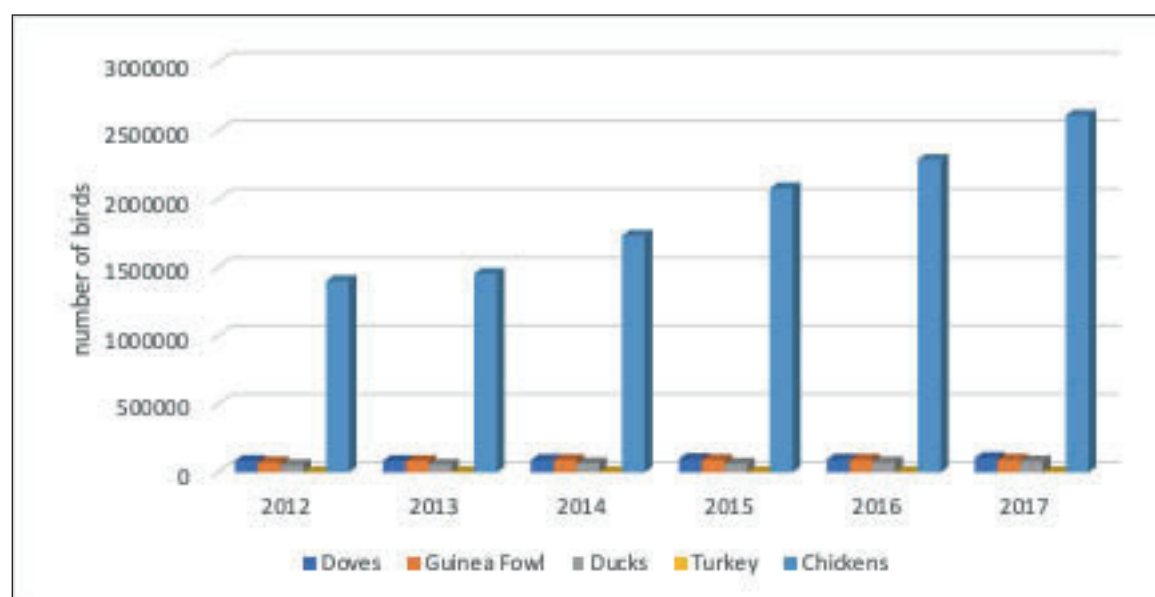
Table 4.22 Livestock Census by Class

Livestock Class	2012/13	Average # of animal/hh 2012/13	2013/14	Average # of animal/hh 2013/14	2014/15	Average # of animal/hh 2014/15	2015/16	Average # of animal/hh 2015/16	2016/17	Average # of animal/hh 2016/17
Beef Cattle	77590	7778	81,518	7,824	88243	7,824	88968	7,847	94666	7,847
Dairy Pure	388	158	502	216	663	216	911	347	1237	347
Dairy crosses	827	141	473	141	597	141	881	185	787	185
Goats	230629	29,711	243799	29,711	247239	29,711	269983	27,595	284,155	27,595
Commercial Pigs	4119	378	5643	375	6557	375	9888	375	11957	375
Indigenous Pigs	189036	21239	203674	21,239	223973	21,239	208470	33,939	209054	33,939
Indigenous Chickens	1421238	67688	1,699,629	67,688	1746387	67,688	2235811	69,732	2,565,777	69,732

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

4.4.1.1 Poultry Production

Mchinji is one of the district that puts poultry production as one of the important agriculture activity for both consumption and income.

**Figure 4.12** Poultry Production

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

Poultry production is a major enterprise in the district. Common poultry species that are kept by farmers in Mchinji include; chickens, doves, ducks, turkey and guinea fowl. Poultry production is done both at large and small scale. The graph also shows that turkey has the least number of units kept and this number was also decreasing during the period (from 241 from 2012 to 193 in 2017). Most farmers are not aware of this species as it is not common in the district.

Guinea fowls, Ducks and doves have relatively higher number than turkey but far less than chickens. The graph indicates that there was a slight increase in numbers over the period under report. Efforts by the department to diversify poultry production would enhance adoption of these species

From the figure 4:15 it can be observed that over the period since 2012 to 2017, chicken production increased from 1,400, 081 to 2,612,887 units. This increased number could be attributed to increased demand due to the growing population as well as changes in consumer preferences and ease of access among others. These chickens constitute all breeds namely broilers, layers, black australorp and local chickens. However local chickens represent the highest percentage number (98%) of all chicken breeds that the district produces because local chickens are found locally and do not require a lot of skills and inputs to be raised. Resistance of local chickens to diseases is another factor that contribute towards farmer preference for local chickens.

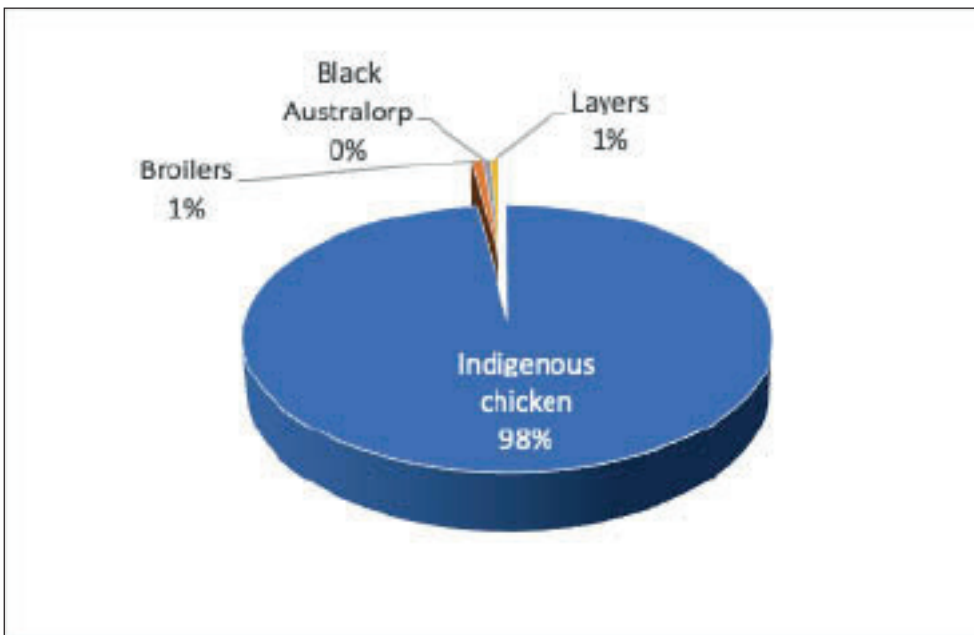


Figure 4.13 Proportion of chicken breeds kept in Mchinji.

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

Black Australorp breeds continue to be limited due to inadequate supply by the government institutions and also insufficient capacity by smallholder farmers and SMEs on black australorp breeding interventions. Few people are involved in black australorp breeding.

4.4.1.2 Cattle Production.

Cattle production is one of the most important class that is valued in livestock production in Mchinji. The cattle are used for beef, manure, power and milk. Dairy production remains one of the flag carriers of the department. There are local and exotic breeds kept in the district. The figure below summarizes status of cattle production in mchinji

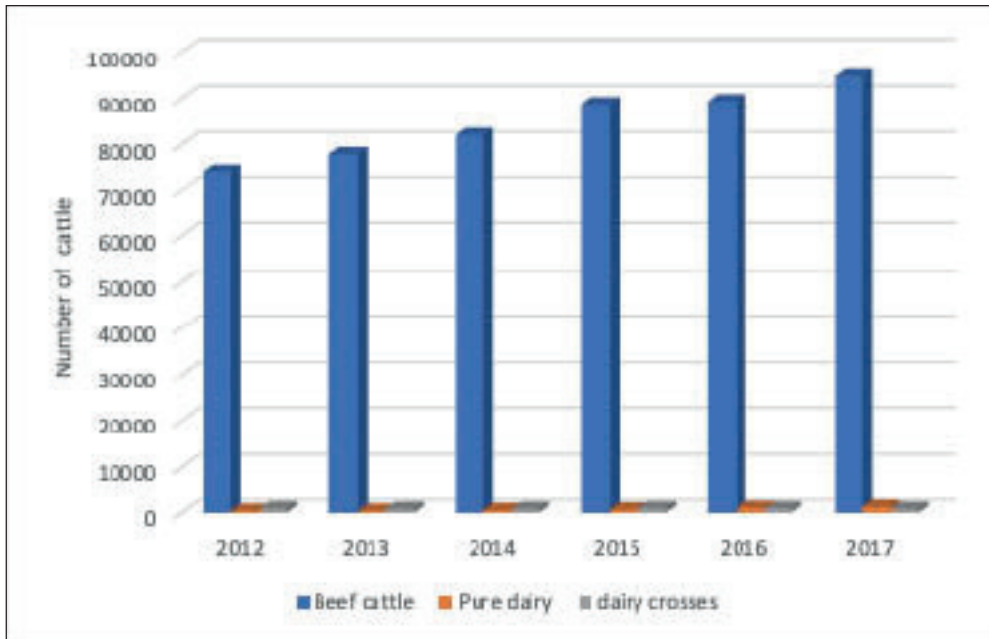


Figure 4.14 Analysis of cattle production

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

The district has a lot of beef cattle having 94,666 heads as compared to pure dairy and dairy crosses which have 1,237 and 787 units respectively. From the graph, number of cattle for all the breeds had been increasing relatively with a higher margin for pure dairy. From 2012 to 2017 Beef cattle rose from 73,844 to 94,666 units, pure dairy rose from 364 to 1,237 units and dairy crosses rose from 874 to 787. This increase has been due to breeding. In addition, population of pure dairy cattle and dairy crosses started to increase because of interventions from other NGOs such as World vision and Heifer Malawi who were providing the breeds to local farmers mainly on a pass on programme.

Most of the beef cattle are local breeds which are sourced locally at affordable price as compared to pure dairy and dairy crosses which are expensive and requires a lot of inputs interms of feed, veterinary services etc which a local farmer can not afford. This therefore jusfies why farmers' preference for beef cattle is higher. The presence of milk bulking groups and diary market coupled with higher marginal returns have enhanced farmers demand for dairy animals. There is therefore likelihood that the dairy cattle will continue increasing at an increasing rate.

4.4.1.3 Goat and Sheep Production

Goats and sheep are some of the small stocks being produced in the district. Goats and sheeps are primalily kept for income and meat, however they also provide mamure and hides. There are a number of goats and sheep in the District as analsed in the figure below

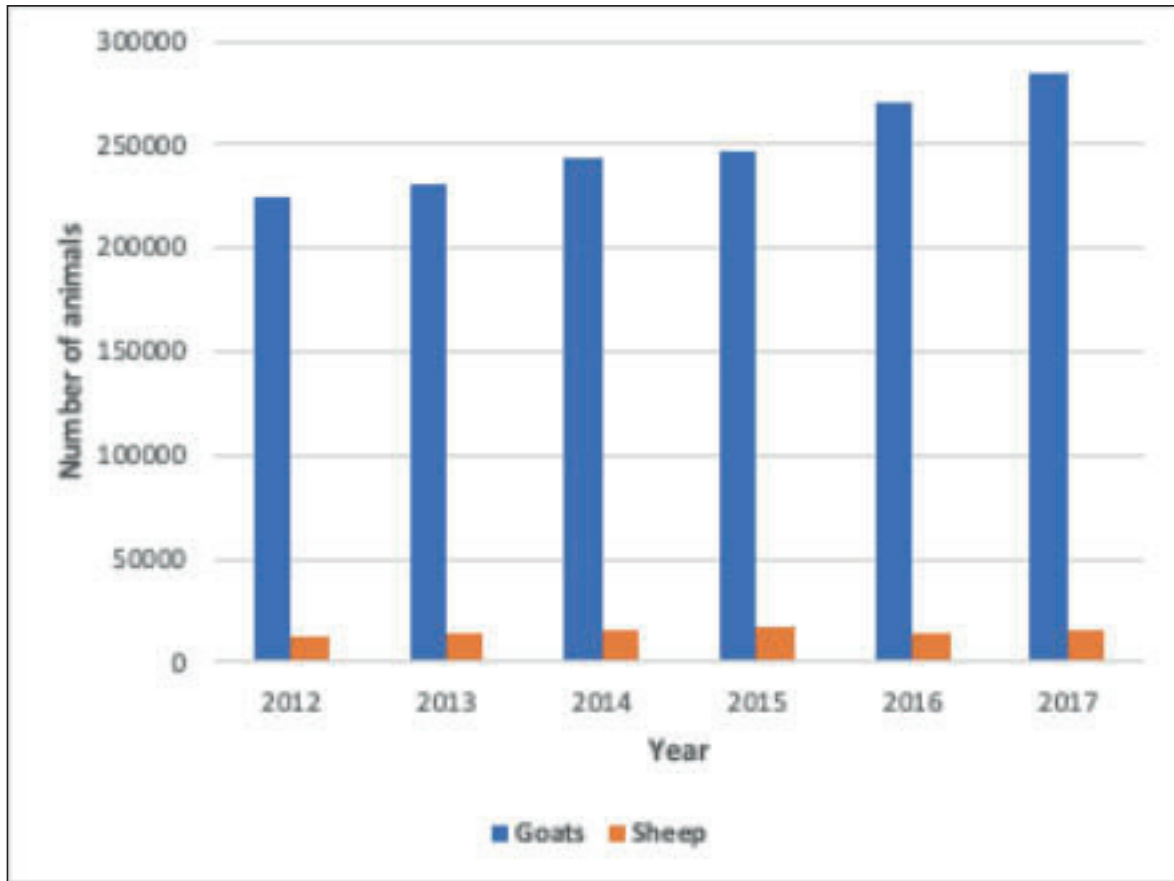


Figure 4.15 Analysis of small ruminants in Mchinji District

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

Small ruminants constitute goats and sheep. Over the period the number of goats has steadily increased whereas for sheep there was an increase in the first four years but a drop was noticed in 2016 and increased again in 2017. More farmers keep goats as a source of income. Goats have a readily availability markets, they are easy to purchase and do not require a lot of inputs such as feed and veterinary services. Sheep production has also been increasing over the years because availability of local breeds at affordable price. Little effort though was being rendered towards sheep production as compared to goats. This was also being exacerbated by farmer preference. More interventions on small stock livestock pass on by several NGOs and government where most goats were distributed enhanced goats’ numbers.

4.4.1.4 Pig Production

Pig production is one of the fast growing livestock enterprise in the district. It has high productivity and profit margins. Consumption of pork is relatively high hence increased demand. Major breeds raised in the district are categorised into indigenous and exotic. Graph 4.4.5 indicates production of pigs for the period under report.

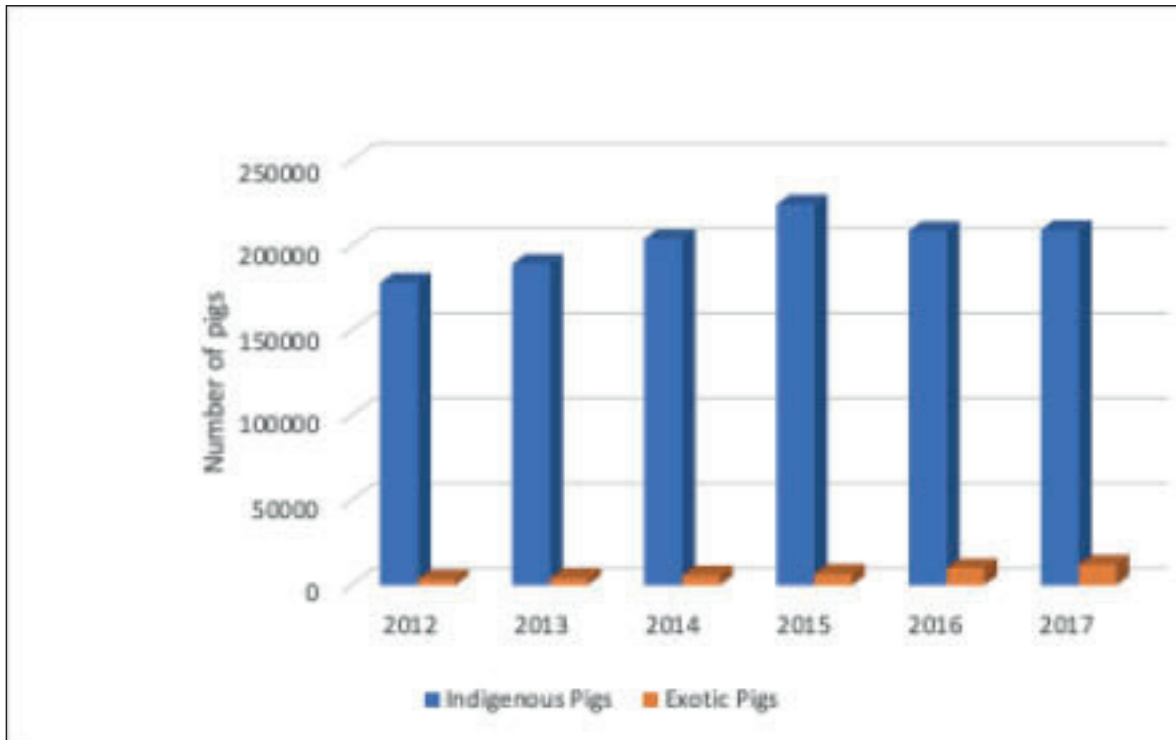


Figure 4.16 Analysis of breeds of pigs reared in Mchinji

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

The figure above shows that pig production has been increasing throughout the years because of the following reasons:

- Availability of piglets that are locally found at affordable price
- Availability of markets as traditionally the people in Mchinji prefer consuming pork hence they create a higher demand for pork at the market.
- Most farmers are following good Livestock husbandry practices which have reduced disease incidences like African Swine Fever (ASF) which causes high morbidity in pigs

The district has largest number of indigenous breeds as compared to improved ones. This breed is preferred by most farmers because of their resistance to diseases and simplicity in management. However, the graph shows that this increment is at a decreasing rate where as that of exotic is increasing at an increasing rate. Most of the farmers are adopting improved breeds because they are relatively fast growing and also highly demanded on the market. Exotic breeds have also higher profit margin as compared to the indigenous ones. Exotic breeds have high quality pork preferred by urban consumers and companies. Piggery is becoming a viable enterprise for both smallholder and semi-commercial farmers. Exotic pigs are likely to further increase and supersede the local ones in the near future.

4.4.1.5 Rabbits And Guinea Pigs Production

Rabbits and Guinea pigs are some of the livestock classes that are rarely kept by the majority of the farming households in the district. Nevertheless, they play a great role in provision of high quality protein for improved nutrition. These enterprises are suitable for low income earners and those residing in marginal lands as they do not require more space to produce.

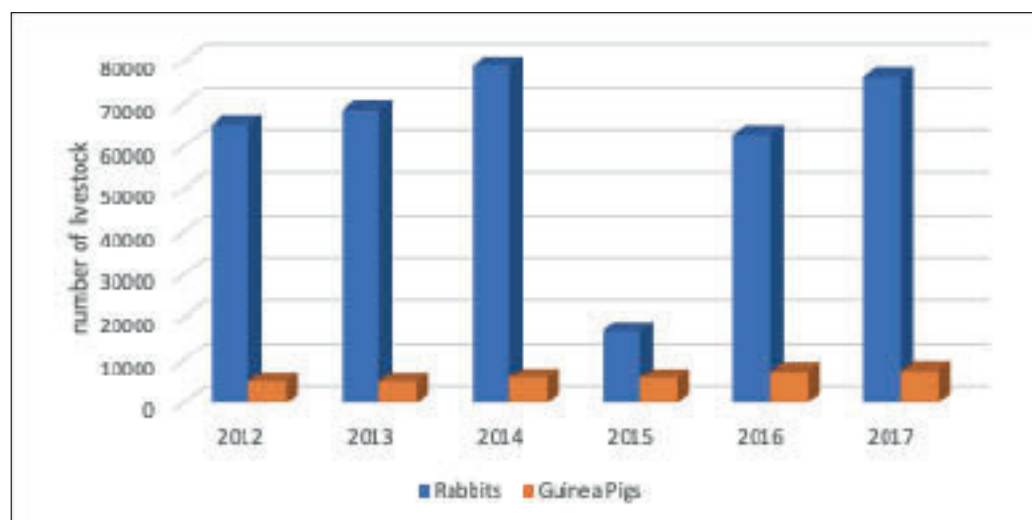


Figure 4.17 Rabbits and Guinea Pigs Production in Mchinji

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

The graph shows that rabbit and guinea pigs population were increasing in the district. It can be observed that relatively there are more farmers keeping rabbits unlike guinea pigs. The increment is attributed to interventions by World Vision Malawi on small stock promotion especially in Msitu EPA.

4.4.2 Livestock Parasites and Diseases

4.4.2.1 Parasites

The district has different parasites for livestock both internal (endo-parasites) and External (Ecto-parasites). Most of these parasites are found in the whole district. The parasites affect directly or indirectly in the production of livestock or livestock by-products. Below is a table of some of important parasites of economic importance and class of animals that they are prevalent.

Table 4.23 Parasites and class of animal it attacks

Class of Livestock	Name of Parasite	Percentage Affected
Cattle	Ticks	60%
	worms e.g. liver fluke	80%
Goats and Sheep	Ticks / worms	45%
	Fleas	30%
Pigs	Soft ticks	5%
	Cysts	50%
	Worms	80%
Chickens	Fleas	60%
	Worms	80%
Dogs	Ticks	71%
	Worms	60%

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

The table indicates that worms are one of the major parasites in livestock. They affect all classes of animals. They reduce animal productivity (in terms of numbers, meat and other products like milk and eggs) through intestinal sucking of blood, consumption of food that could be utilized by the body and also the nervous system.

4.4.2.2 Diseases

Diseases are one of the major factor that has a significant effect on livestock production in the district. Because of its geographical exposition to Mozambique and Zambia the Mchinji is prone to all forms of livestock diseases. Figure below shows some of the diseases that attack livestock.

Table 4.24 Livestock diseases and class of animals they attack

CLASS OF LIVESTOCK	TYPE OF DISEASE	PERCENTAGE AFFECTED
Cattle	East Coast fever	15%
	Lumpy skin disease	5%
Goats and Sheep	Helmiothiosis	60%
	Pupy Kidney	5% in sheep
Pigs	African swine fever	5% in times of outbreak
	Pneumonia	30%
Chickens	New castle Diseases	60% during outbreaks
	Coccidiosis	40%
	Fowl pox	20%
	Fowl cholera	5% in commercial production
	Gumboro	20%
Dogs	Rabies	25%
	venerel sacoma	15%

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

From the table it is shown that 5% of pigs are attacked by African swine fever in times of outbreak. This is one of the diseases that causes more deaths in pigs. Tick Borne Diseases affect 35% of cattle due to inadequate dipping services. New castle disease attacks 60% of chicken during the outbreak. Rabies is another threat to the district in terms of animal and human health. It attacks 25% of the dogs which are hosts and can be transmitted to human beings and animals. Currently the district registers high percentages of dog bite cases hence this poses higher threats for infection transmission.

4.4.2.3 Status of Livestock losses

Predation, infection and theft are major sources of animal loss in the district. These losses diminish return on livestock investments. Theft involves all classes of livestock but the degree is not alarming. The agriculture office does not receive theft complaints from farmers directly as most cases are reported to the nearby police stations for proper actions hence no data is kept at the office on livestock theft. Losses also occur due to diseases and parasites infestation. Preadation also contribute to these losses. However, it's high in poultry. These losses accounts for 20%, 15%, 20% and 31% in cattle, goats, pigs and chickens respectively.

Table 4.25 Showing percentages of losses on uses due to infection, predation and theft

Class of livestock	Livestock product	Percentage affected
Cattle	Beef	10%
	Dairy	1%
	Traction	3%
Goats and Sheep	Meat	8%
Pigs	Meat	20%
Chickens	Meat	34%
	Eggs	28%

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/1

4.4.2.4 Meat Inspection

Meat inspection is done for the purpose of ensuring that meat has quality and safe for human consumption. It involves diagnosis of meat for diseases and parasites and enforce by-laws for proper disposal of infected products to minimize further spread of diseases to more hosts and human beings.

Table 4.26 Showing number of meat inspection

Species	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Cattle	1708	3572	1,761	1,972	2,677
Goats	4672	7841	3,977	4,669	12,096
Sheep	304	380	310	234	753
Pigs	7808	9452	6,327	6,505	20,196

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

4.4.2.5 Milk Production

Mchinji is one of the districts that has potential for dairy development. With support from Heifer Malawi and World Vision Malawi the district established six clusters with four milk bulking centers. Farmers were given improved dairy animals on a pass on basis. These dairy animals are on the increase. Currently average milk yield is 10 litres per cow per day against the potential of 30 litres of milk per cow per day for improved dairy breeds. The district produces 429394 litres of milk per year and supplies to Malawi Dairy Industries through CREMPA.

Table 4.27 Location, membership and quantities of milk produced

Name of Bulking Group	T/A	No of Dairy Animals	Membership			Milk Production	Cooling Facility
			M	F	Total		
Bua	Mlonyeni	878	85	135	220	183,244	1
Ludzi	Zulu	531	72	136	208	87,259	1
Chioshya	Simphasi	489	69	107	176	129,280	1
Navikale	Mlonyeni	336	177	44	221	29,611	0
Totals		2234	403	422	825	429,394	3

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

Table above summarizes the information for milk production in the four clusters. The district has a total of 2234 dairy animals owned by 825 farmers (403m & 422f). Besides there are other farmers keeping indigenous dairy animals who do not bring milk to the centers but only sale through vending. Bua Bulking center has the highest number of dairy animals hence has the greatest volume of milk (183,244 litres per year) seconded by Chioshya Bulking center. Bua is one of the first bulking centers established with support from Heifer Malawi from which all other centers have emanated from. Hence more farmers benefited from the project.

4.4.3 Livestock Production and Marketing Support Services

4.4.3.1 Livestock (veterinary) services in the district

DIPPING SERVICES

The district has 6 dipping tanks i.e. Mkanda, Chisenga, Tembwe, Kankhowo, Bongera and Likasi livestock farm. These dip tanks were decentralized so that communities take full control on management and operations of the dip tanks. Currently there are no functional dip tanks because farmers are not contributing resources towards procurement of acaricides for operations of the dip tanks. However, tick control is being done through spraying mainly in dairy animals and exotic pigs. Table 4:27 below shows animals sprayed in the district for cattle and pigs in 2015 and 2016.

Table 4.28 Dipping statistics in the district since 2013 to 2016

Species	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cattle	1,152	23,541	21918	17695	16375
Pigs	486	220	220	2182	688
Dogs	4386	5,281	4785	4654	2836

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

The table above indicates that over the period the district has registered an increase in dipping services especially for cattle and pigs. This is because of the initiatives by the department to intensify home based spraying of animals as dip tanks are not functional. The district has more dairy animals which require intensive management of which tick control is paramount.

AVAILABILITY OF LIVESTOCK SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE (DIP TANKS, SLAUGHTER

SLABS AND CATTLE MARKETS)

In order to enhance health of livestock and meat the district is mandated to provide support infrastructure such as dip tanks, slaughter slabs and livestock markets. The table below summarizes the location and status of these infrastructures in the district.

Table 4.29 Dip Tanks, Slaughter Slabs and Cattle Markets

EPA	No. Dip Tanks	Remarks	No Slaughter Slabs	Remarks	No. Cattle Markets	Remarks
Mkanda	1	Non-functional	1	Very old	0	On-farm sales
Kalulu	0	-	1	Poor condition	0	On-farm sales
Mikundi	1	Non-functional	0	-	0	On-farm sales
Chioshya	0	-	0	-	0	On-farm sales
Mlonyeni	2	Non-functional	0	-	0	On-farm sales
Msitu	2	Non-functional	1	Poor condition	0	On-farm sales
Zulu	0	-	2	Good condition	0	On-farm sales
Totals	6		5		0	

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

The table above indicate that the district has a total of 6 dip tanks with a maximum of two in Mlonyeni and Msitu EPAs and none in Zulu, Chioshya and Kalulu EPAs. However, all of the dip tanks are not functional due to failure by the community livestock committees to either mobilize or sustain start-up funds. There are 5 livestock slaughter slabs located in Mkanda, Kalulu, Zulu and Msitu EPAs. The rest of the EPAs do not have the slaughter slabs. Inavailability of slaughter slabs may pose challenges to officers to effectively conduct meat inspection as animals are slaughtered everywhere. These slaughter houses only accommodate goats, cattle and chickens and there are no designated sights for pigs which is also one of the animals consumed by a significant number of households in the district

Livestock markets still remain a challenge for all classes of animals. There are no established markets for livestock in the district such that most of the sales are on farm. Kamwendo is one of the markets that is common for chickens but is temporary. As for meat there are butcheries established in the major trading centers within the district.

DEWORMING AND TREATMENT OF LIVESTOCK

Worm infestation is a problem in all classes of livestock especially during rainy season hence the district conducts routine deworming exercise to reduce the burden. For animals that fall sick the office provides treatment. The district also experiences tick-borne diseases in cattle, Diarrhea in calves, coccidiosis in chickens. There has been little done on treatment of various classes of livestock due to improved practices farmers are doing on animal husbandry and disease control. Table below shows the number of livestock that were dewormed and treated during the period under review.

Table 4.30 Number of animals dewormed and treated by type from 2013-2017

Species	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Dewormed	Treated	Dewormed	Treated	Dewormed	Treated	Dewormed	Treated	Dewormed	Treated
Cattle	5,116	2,387	5,876	1,834	6946	2345	4842	2032	9435	3836
Goats	4,377	1,684	4,914	1,969	5943	2591	3767	795	6655	1639
Sheep	59	0	121	4	5	0	2182	662	252	3
Pigs	2,954	300	3,441	400	1143	1683	600	0	6342	913
Poultry	151,538	41,953	25,450	18,173	41584	44155	60019	42456	37500	26151
Dogs	461	124	240	144	308	285	497	182	626	309
Total	164,505	46,448	40,042	22,524	55,929	51,059	71,907	46,127	60,810	32,851

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016/17

The district registered the highest figure of dewormed and treated livestock cases in 2013 and 2015 respectively. Poultry indicates more cases dewormed and treated than any other class of livestock over the reference period. There is a general increase in number of cattle dewormed as well as treated whereas for poultry its visa versa. This is due to the fact that most of these cattle are improved dairy breeds as such farmers are conscious about disease outbreaks and worm infestation. The other reasons for the declining number of treatments is reduction in the number of disease outbreaks attributed to better livestock management practices.

VACCINATION AND CASTRATION

The district also carries out routine vaccination of animals to prevent animals from various disease outbreaks which causes high mortality. New castle, foot and mouth, rabies and African swine fever are amongst the diseases of economic importance. The table below shows the number of animals vaccinated during the period under review.

Table 4.31 Number of animals vaccinated from 2012-2016

Type of vaccine	Number of animals vaccinated			
	2013	2014	2015	2016
BQ	0	0	0	0
LSD	100	0	0	0
Lasota	86,458	92,296	935936	153,115
I-2 Vaccine	133,780	125,508	183,263	214,078
Bursine 2	50,694	26,873	58,609	71766
Poxine	0	0	0	0
Hitchner	600	1,198	0	0
Rabies	3971	10353	285	2,487
Total	275,603	256,228	1,178,093	441,446

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016

The highest number of animals were vaccinated in 2015 (1,178,093). I-2 vaccine constitute the greater part of the vaccines administered. Lasota, I-2 and ant-rabies vaccines are the common types of vaccines available in the district. Administration of these vaccines is done routinely since they are mandatory such that has a specific budget for the procurement of such vaccines. BQ and LSD vaccination are rarely done in the district.

Low figures for ant-rabies vaccine was registered because of the inability of the district to procure adequate virals because of limited funds.

Castration is done in order to control inferior males used in breeding. Superior males are left for breeding so as to maintain preferred traits for animal breeds that will increase productivity and meat quality. During the period, the district carried out castrations in various classes of livestock. The table below shows the number of animals castrated since 2013.

Table 4.32 Number of animals castrated 2013-2016

Species	2013	2014	2015	2016
Cattle	1,216	624	1,101	708
Goats	223	1,658	455	275
Sheep	0	0	372	0
Pigs	250	559	6	445
Dogs	86	85	143	167
Total	1,775	2,926	2,077	1,595

Source: Mchinji District Agriculture Office APES reports from 2012/13 to 2016

From the table above the highest number of castrations in all animal classes was done in 2014. There are more castrated bulls in the district seconded by goats. Sheeps and dogs have the lowest number of castrations in all the years. Besides improving meet quality and controlling inbreeding in cattle, others are used to drive oxcarts.

LIVESTOCK MARKETING

There role of the district council is to ensure that there is a sound livestock marketing system. The system constitutes the infrastructure as well as the policy governing livestock marketing. There are two forms of livestock markets in the district:

- Formal markets- this is where farmers bring animals for sale by auction. Mchinji district had one such market at Tembwe but this market is not functional because the government handed over the marketing structures to farmers who eventually failed to manage the market as there were leadership problems hence contributing to the collapse of the marketing system.
- Informal Markets- Currently, this is the marketing system that is common in the district whereby livestock selling is done at farmer's premises or at the farm. There are also incidences where other animals especially goats are sold directly to the slaughter houses.

These informal markets negatively affect profitability because farmers sell at relatively lower prices as they do not have market information to draw comparison. Most farmers are price takers as such they are duped by the middlemen. The district needs to strategize on revamping central livestock markets in order to promote competition in sales. Central markets can also enhance tracking of livestock movements thereby minimizing theft cases which are rampant because of illegal sales and animal transfers.

4.5 FISHERIES RESOURCES

The policy of fisheries 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. This policy is in line with MGDS Key priority area 1 which is Agriculture, Water Development and Climate Change Management. It is also linked to SDGs 2, 3 and 14 which are zero hunger; good health and well-being and life under water respectively.

The aquaculture sector has 711 fish ponds throughout the district. The benefits derived from aquaculture include; promoting household level food security, increasing animal protein intake, alternative source of livelihood and source of income, however adoption is very low which affects protein uptake by the community and leads to malnutrition. These indicators are showing that consumption of fish is low regardless of being cheap. Refer to the table about malnutrition levels in Mchinji district.

Table 4.33 Malnutrition levels in Mchinji District

Malnutrition	Percentage%
Stunting Levels	44
Wasting Levels	7
Underweight Levels	16
Edema	9

Source: Mchinji DHO, 2017

Fisheries activities in Mchinji district are divided into two categories: aquaculture (fish farming) and capture fisheries (river line fishing). Almost 80% of the fisheries activities in the district concentrate on the development of fish farming while 20% concentrate on the management of river fishing and other small water bodies.

The district has the activity of border inspection. Fisheries officers assess fish safety and quality condition of fish product before they reach consumers and verify key documents that accompany fish consignments. The officers collect fish import and export data. Data collected showed that 1,960 tons imported and 142 tons were exported in the year 2016/2017. Exported data is low because always fish traders are using illegal routes when exporting therefore no proper records are kept.

4.5.1 Fishing grounds

4.5.1.1 Reservoirs (Small Water Bodies)

The district has got small water bodies which are important for the development of fisheries in the district. It is unfortunate that this resource is not fully explored that it can be utilized to its best because of drying of water in these water bodies due to climate change. Table below reflects the location by T.A and sizes of these small water bodies.

Table 4.34 Small Water Bodies

Traditional Authority	Name	Size/Area m2	Use
Mlonyeni	Mtukwa	11818	Fishing/irrigation
Simphasi	Kochilila		Fishing/Irrigation
	Kakoma	4225	Fishing /Irrigation
Mkanda	Chimombo/chawala	3125	Fishing
Kapondo	Kakunga		Irrigation
	Msupadzi	11973	Irrigation
Mawwere	Ntali		Irrigation
	Kankhowo		Irrigation
Dambe	Kalulu	16080	Irrigation
Nyoka	Nyoka	10000	Fishing

Source: RDP-Irrigation, 2019



Figure 4.18 Fish Ponds at Mikundi EPA, Nyoka Fish Farmin Village Scheme.

The above picture is one of fish farmers' scheme at T.A. Nyoka funded by Presidential Initiative on Aquaculture Development (PIAD) in the year 2008. The scheme has 13 fish ponds ranging from 500m² to 1000m² and one reservoir of about 1Ha.

4.5.2 Status of Fish Farming in Mchinji District

The district has 516 fish farmer's male 412 and female 104 having 711 fish pond. The fish ponds average sizes are 350m². Total area covered by fish ponds in Mchinji district 598, 500m²

Table 4.35 Status of Fish Farming in Mchinji District, 2017

No	Number of Fish Farmers			Number of Fish Ponds	Total Areas (Sq m)
	Male	Female	Total		
MCHINJI	412	104	516	711	598,500

Source: Mchinji Fisheries (2017).

4.5.3 Fish Ponds by Extension Planning Area (EPA)

In the district every EPA has a potential for fish farming, Refer to the graph below. Many ponds are appearing at Mkanda EPA, simply because Mkanda area has a reliable river, swamps which hold water throughout the year. An additional issue is the willingness of many stakeholders supporting fish farming in the area. Community in the area is also very dedicated when it comes to pond management, as a result many ponds in the area are operational comparing to other EPAs

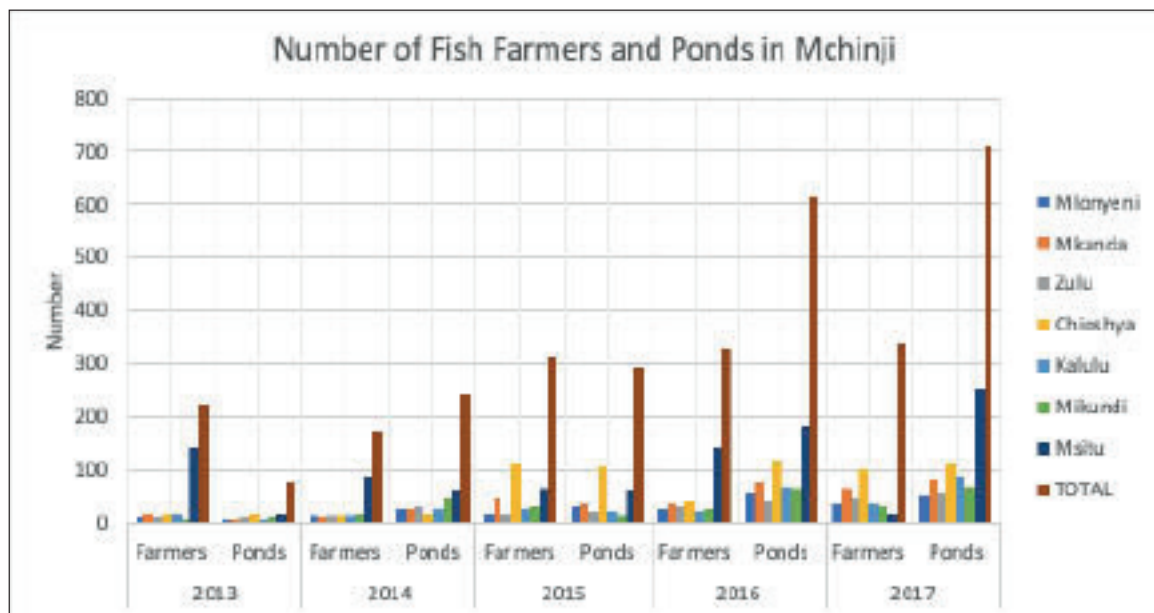


Figure 4.19 Number of Fish Farmers and Ponds in Mchinji, 2017

Source: Mchinji Fisheries (2017).

4.5.4 Capture Fisheries.

Most of river fishing activities are practiced in Bua, Liweredzi and Rusa Rivers. Along Rusa River in 2005 three River Village Committees were formed. These are Tsekwe, Chilowa and Khwere River Village Committee. In Bua and Liweredzi rivers there are no committees. Fishing activities are at a peak between August and November along the course of rivers. Fishers use seine nets, fish traps and hand lines as fishing gears. Fish species in their catch being: cat fish (Milamba), Barbusspp (Matemba) and HapochromineSpp (Mba-ba).

The District has also potential dambos that can be utilized for the development of village fish farming schemes. These dambos are reflected in the table below and their location

4.5.4.1 Number of fishers

The district has many rivers which are suitable for diverting water for the purpose of fish farming, refer to the table some of the rivers used in the district for fish farming.

Table 4.36 Number of Fishers in Mchinji

RIVER	YEAR				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Rusa	12	14	1	18	18
Bua	9	9	11	11	14
Liweredzi	9	6	9	5	9
Source: Mchinji Fisheries	2017				

4.5.4.2 Potential Dambo

The district has many dambos which are suitable for diverting water for the purpose of fish farming, refer to the table some of the dambos used in the district for fish farming.

Table 4.37 Potential Dambo for fish farming in Mchinji

Name of Dambo	Location	Utilization
Msachembe	G.V.H Mduwa	Hook and line fishing
Mankhonongo	G.V.H Maole	Irrigation, fishing.

Source: Mchinji Fisheries Office, 2017

4.5.4.3 Aquaculture development

Table below indicates the number of fish farmers and area underutilization in the district

Table 4.38 Status of fish farming

District	No. Of Fish farmers		Total no. of fish farmers	Total no. of fish ponds.	Total pond area (m2)	Total ponds area (ha)	Total ponds under utilization	Total number of ponds non-operational.
	M	F						
Mchinji	516	329 87	416	769	398,500	398,500	711	48

Source: Mchinji Fisheries Office, 2017

The results show that Mchinji district has 416 fish farmers with 711 fish ponds. It further show that more men are practicing aqua farming than women due to extensive work required in excavation of fish ponds.

4.5.5 Fish Production

4.5.5.1 Fish species Cultured

Mchinji district has three species that are promoted which are: *Tilapia rendalli* (Chilinguni), *O Shiranus* (Makumba) and Cat fish.

Level of production should have been higher but unavailability of harvesting nets decreased production. The office has three pond seine nets to cater over 711 fish ponds which are not ideal. Most of catch data is not reported. Most of fish harvested in ponds are sold fresh on the pond site. Average selling price is K2000/Kg.



Figure 4.20 Showing part of harvested *Tilapia* species at Tikondane fish club

Source: Mchinji Fisheries Office 2017

4.5.5.2 Accumulative production by EPA from fish ponds (Kgs)

The sector has information of production from each EPA, production data is usually collected from farmers on each and every harvest. Farmers do submit their harvest figures to fisheries extension workers and agriculture field staff in their areas. Refer to the table below:

Table 4.39 Accumulative production by EPA from Fish Ponds (Tons)

Extension Planning Area	YEAR				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mlonyeni	90	155	95	519	1590
Mkanda	160	185	400	720	2453
Zulu	50	90	72	380	1646
Chioshya	118	108	45	1976	1187
Mikundi	175	380	393	2470	1223
Kalulu	105	45	75	1422	2160
Msitu	850	745	1280	1803	2720
Total	1610	1708	2360	9290	12979

Source: Mchinji Fisheries, 2017

Table above indicates that there are more ponds at Mlonyeni, Msitu, and Mkanda EPAs and that the production in these TAs has been more than the other areas. This is because of the availability of water and good soil condition in these mentioned areas.

4.5.6 Sources of Fish Seed (Fingerlings)

Fish seed or fingerlings are taken from: National Aquaculture Centre, Lake Malawi, Bunda university and even from farmers.

4.5.7 Collaborating Partners working with Fisheries Sector

The district has many stakeholder willing to support fish farming. Refer to the table below:

Table 4.40 Collaborating Partners working with Fisheries Sector

Name of NGO	Impact Area	Period	Activities
Concern World wide	Mkanda, Zulu, Mikundi	2013- 2015	Farmers trainings
CARD	STA Simphasi	2009- 2017	Ponds construction and trainings
RIDP	TA Mkanda	2010- 2012	Pond constructions
World Vision	T.A. Mavwere.	2010- 2017	Farmers trainings, Tours feed, fingerling
LDF- CCT through district council.	All T.As around the district.	2009- 2017	Pond construction
ASWAP (Agriculture Sector Wide Approach.	T.As Mkanda and Mavwere.	2015- 2017	Pond construction and trainings, supplying feed and fingerlings.
GIZ	T.As Mkanda, Nyoka, Mavwere, Kapondo, Dambe, Mlonyeni, Zulu.	2017- 2019	Training and fingerling supplying, feed.

Source: Source: Mchinji Fisheries Office, 2017

4.5.8 Fisheries Staffing Level

The District Fisheries Office has low staffing level. This has been a problem since the office was established in 2004.

Table 4.41 Staffing Level-Fisheries

Grade	Establishment	Filled		Not filled	
		M	F		
H	1	0			0
I	1	0			0
J	1	0			0
K	1	1		1	
L	1	0			0
M	3	1	1		2

Source: Mchinji Fisheries, 2017

In order to narrow the gap that exists due to staffing problems the sector promotes multi sectoral coordination. Most of extension activities are being implemented in conjunction with Agricultural staff as well as Development facilitators from NGOs. There are fish farmer's clubs in all potential areas. Currently some Community Based Organizations are also embarking on fish farming as an intervention for nutrition supplement and income generation. During this time the district had 159 tons of fish harvested from fish ponds.

4.5.8.1 Clubs under Fish Farming

Fish clubs were formulated in the district almost in all Traditional Authorities. These clubs when constructed were funded by fisheries stakeholders like: LDF, CARD and Concern World Wide. These Nongovernmental Organizations give farmers fingerlings, money for construction and tools like wheelbarrows and hoes.

Table 4.42 Existing Clubs at E.P.A level

E.P.A	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Zulu	3	3	3	4	7
Simphasi	4	3	6	7	6
Mlonyeni	4	3	4	5	6
Mkanda	2	3	6	8	6
Mduwa	2	4	5	6	7
Nyoka	4	5	3	5	7
Mavwere	5	9	6	6	6
Dambe	5	6	5	7	9
Total	27	36	38	41	49

Source: Mchinji Fisheries Office, 2017

4.5.9 Opportunities and Challenges in the Development of Fish Farming

4.5.9.1 Opportunities

- Demand by the communities to embark on fish farming is very high.
- There are other small water bodies in the district which could also be utilized in fish farming as well (Reservoirs).

- Readily available market for fresh fish in the district.
- Willingness of other stakeholders to fund fish farming activities.

4.5.9.2 Challenges

- Farmers are unable to harvest their fish since they do not have harvesting nets.
- Lack of knowledge on fish farming
- Other farmers have not yet stocked fish in their ponds due to scarcity of quality fingerlings
- Frequent breakdown of a motor vehicle contributing to the failure to achieve targeted plans

4.5.10 Plans outlined to enhance Aquaculture in Mchinji

- To promote fish production through establishing more village schemes or village demonstration ponds
- To ensure that fish harvested in the district is well processed and packaged as a way of adding value
- To train AEDOs about principals of fisheries management in all EPAs.
- To train more farmers about fingerling producing to ensure sustainability of fish in the district
- To facilitate stocking of fish ponds and cages
- To train farmers in mass fingerling producers
- To train farmers in principles of fish farming management
- To conduct feasibility studies on potential sites for fish farming schemes
- To facilitate community sensitization on fish farming as a business (ADC level)

4.5.11 Possible solutions to the challenges affecting Aquaculture in Mchinji

- Government should procure harvesting nets for farmers.
- Fisheries extension workers to intensify farmers with pond management trainings for good production.
- Fisheries stakeholders to procure fingerlings for farmers
- Ministry of agriculture should consider fisheries office with a new vehicle since the one we have is the old one.

4.6 FOREST SERVICES

4.6.1 Forestry Extension Services

The Forestry Department disseminates information and technical expertise to the general public on afforestation/re-afforestation, Forestry Policy, Agroforestry technologies, conservation and sustainable utilization of forest products and other natural resources. Methods used include Field days, booklets, electronic media, forestry shows, VNRMCS' trainings and awareness meetings. Main collaborating partners include Government and Non-governmental organisations.

4.6.1.1 Number of People reached with Extension Services

The number of people reached with forestry extension services was estimated at 7231 in 2012. This number has increased from 2012 to 2017 due to the installation of Muziwathu Community Radio Station, which is assisting in dissemination of forestry messages in Mchinji district

4.6.1.2 Extension Services versus Extension Staff to Population Ratio

There is limited dissemination of information to smallholders and stakeholders regarding appropriate silvicultural management, particularly in the area of seedling production, tree planting and management, natural regeneration and sustainable forest management in the face of climate change and population growth. This is attributed to acute shortage of qualified staff, logistical (motorcycles and fuel) and budgetary constraints in the Extension Services at the DFO. As a result, service delivery to communities is inadequate thereby negatively affecting forest development and management in the district.

Table 4.43 Number of forestry extension workers (FEW) to Population Ratio

Title/Post	Current Number			Requirement	Gap	Formal Forestry Training (Yes/No)
		Male	Female			
Principle Forestry Officer	0	0	0	1	1	NA
Forestry Officer	2	1	1	1	0	Yes
Senior Assistant Forestry Officer (STO)	0	0	0	1	1	Yes
Assistant Forestry Officer	2	2	0	2	0	Yes
Senior Forestry Assistant	1	1	0	3	2	yes
Forestry Assistant	2	2	0	11	9	Yes
Chief Forest Guard	0	0	0	2	2	No
Senior Forest Guards	0	0	0	6	6	No
Forest Guards	14	10	4	60	46	No
TOTAL	21	16	5	87	67	

Mchinji Forestry Office -2017

The decline in the number of field staff from 2012 has generally resulted from non-replacement of the staff members that were posted, passed away and those that retired. Out of the 26 members of staff available at the District Forestry Office, only six (6) have had the formal forestry training. the total number of staff shows that males are more than females

4.6.2 Afforestation/Conservation Practices

Mchinji is experiencing a high rate of deforestation and forest degradation in both state owned forestry reserves and customary land forestry. This is because harvest rates of woody products like timber and bio-energy need (firewood, charcoal) is higher than regenerative activities and influenced by demand not on allowable cut or sustainable yields. Further, tobacco curing, brick burning, land for settlement and agriculture exacerbated by inadequate sustainable alternative livelihood strategies and the growing of human population seriously contribute to forest depletion.

4.6.2.1 Proposed solutions to forest issues

In an effort to reverse the negative trend, forestry sector collaborates with various governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in order to conserve forestry resources and restore degraded areas for the purpose of improving landscape value and environmental health. Some of the stakeholders are Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Parks and Wildlife, District Council through the Local Development Fund (LDF) and NASFAM. Such stakeholders support forestry initiative in promoting sustainable

forest management through tree planting, development of management plans, provision of afforestation inputs, staff and community trainings among others.

4.6.2.2 Tree Planting and Sustainable Forest Management

In the past seven years, the district managed to plant over 11,317,718 trees, facilitated the formation of more than 301 Village Natural Resources Management Committees (VNRMCs) and developed over 35 VFA management plans of which 10 are registered with the District Council. Tobacco Control Commission through department of forestry, GIZ, World Vision and combating desertification programme facilitated the training of 23 VNRMCs.

Table 4.44 Tree planting and survival figures.

Year	Trees planted	Area (Hectare)	Trees Survived	Survival Rate	Management plan Developed	Management plan Registered
2015/2016	2,499,839	919.9	1,799,839	72	0	0
2016/2017	2,831,954	1,052.9	2,031,954	71.8	2	500
2017/18	2,578,782	951.5	1,778,782	69	5	0
2018/2019	3,407,143	1362.9	2,100,097	85	17	00
Total	13,946,259	5258.6		291.8		
Mean Annual Values	2,789,252	1051.72		73		

Source: Mchinji Forestry Office -2017

As described in the table above, the annual average tree planting in the five-year period is 2,789,252, while in terms of area planted, the annual average is 1051.72 hectares while the annual average survival rate is 73 percentages. In some years the survival rate was lower due to some climatic conditions such as water logging conditions and in some cases due to prolonged dry spells or short rainfall period. In some cases, the reasons are manmade such as uncontrolled wild fires, unattended domestic browsing and trampling animals. The high survival rate in some years can be attributed to conducive climatic conditions for tree survival and good tending operations conducted.

4.6.3 Opportunity in Forestry

Despite facing numerous challenges mentioned herein, forestry provides many opportunities to satisfy the people's many diverse and changing needs, particularly those of the rural people who are the most disadvantaged such as:

- Forestry resource bases are endowed with timber and Non-timber Forestry Products (NTFPs) that can be utilized in daily lives. Thus forest genetic resources contribute to poverty reduction through various livelihoods strategies.
- Local communities are able to establish tree nurseries and woodlots for commercial and domestic use.

Table 4.45 Revenue Generation through Forestry

Year	Amount
2013/2014	0
2014/2015	0
2015/2016	0
2016/2017	715,000
2017/2018	1,200,000
2018/2019	825,000

Source: Mchinji district forest office 2017

From table above, it shows that the year 2017/2018 revenue generation increased and dropped in the year 2018/2019. This can be the result of deforestation. Afforestation is still lagging behind and hence failing to generate more income through timber selling.

4.6.4 Key Forestry Issues

- Wildfires
- Charcoal production
- Hunting
- Encroachment
- Climate change
- Forestry Degradation

4.7 MINING

Malawi has traditionally been considered as an agro-based rather than mineral-based economy because of the policies that Government pursued since attaining independence in 1964. However, there are some prospects of mining in Malawi and particularly in Mchinji.

There are two categories of mining prospects in Mchinji.

These are large scale mining and artisanal. However, the most available mining activities in the district are small scale mining (artisanal) viz quarry stones which are found in the numerous rocks accompanying mountains around the district and sand mining or river excavation is taking place along big rivers such as BUA River, Kachebere, Liweredzi, Rusa, and Namitete and small rivers which originate from Mchinji mountain forest reserve, Dzalanyama forest reserve and many other rivers. This is mostly done by local communities in the surrounding areas. There is also sand river excavation taking place along big rivers such as Bua River, Kachebere, Liweredzi, Rusa, Namitete and small rivers which originate from Mchinji mountain Forest reserve Dzalanyama forest reserve and many other rivers. This is mostly done by local communities in the surrounding areas

4.7.1 Mining Deposits in Mchinji

Prospects of silica sands deposits in Mchinji have been identified in Chimimbe area, TA Mlonyeni and other areas in the district. There is also a potential of chromium, PGE, lead and zinc deposits in the district along the Kasungu – Mchinji dyke

4.7.1.1 Geology of Mchinji.

Mchinji has igneous charnockites. North south trending dyke clearly picked by the airborne data shows much on the potentiality of mining in Mchinji. This dyke is not mapped on the existing geological map but probably covered by superficial deposits. The structure has a high magnetic signal. Continuation of the Mchinji dyke, with similar trend and magnetic signal gives mineral deposits points. It requires follow up with ground geophysics and drilling to obtain sample

4.7.1.2 Categories of mining in Mchinji

ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE MINING (ASM)

Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM) activities in Mchinji have grown considerably in recent years probably due to rise of construction industry. Mostly Sand and Quarry stone are the materials which are being used in this industry and these are a source of livelihood for many families in some rural areas. ASM has the potential to contribute towards poverty reduction and limiting rural-urban migration by stimulating local processing and manufacturing industries that provide employment opportunities.

LARGE SCALE MINING

Although there are prospects of mining in Mchinji, at present there is no any company which is doing mining at a larger scale. Of late one company has been registered to do the mining prospecting in Mchinji at Kamphata on Black Granite mining The works haven't started yet but all procedures have been taken into account and put in place. In brief there was no any company in the district in the past which was doing mining on a larger scale. All were involved in surveys

4.7.2 Impacts and challenges with mining in Mchinji district

Mining needs heavy investment to operationalize. Mchinji, therefore, is far from achieving this due to financial constraints.

4.7.2.1 Positive impacts of mining activities in Mchinji

GENERATING ECONOMIC BENEFITS:

The sources of income that a mine generates – directly and indirectly – at the national, state or provincial, and local levels are diverse. Opportunistic businesses boom because of mining in an area where mining activities are taking place thereby increasing economical benefits

JOBS:

Large Mines Can Have Huge Multiplier Effects. While employment in the new operation is the main objective of the locals, indirect employment effects are often extremely important. Employment in subcontracted firms that supply mine goods and services

INFRASTRUCTURE:

One important benefit of mining operations is infrastructure creation such as building of

4.7.2.2 Negative impacts of mining in Mchinji

Some of the negative impacts that Mchinji mining sector faces include;

- Thousands of abandoned burrow pits are left behind after being abandoned
- Reduction of biodiversity due to land degradation and deforestation
- Contamination of soils, stream sediments, surface and ground waters.
- Creating environmental damage e.g. Soil erosion, bad landscape etc.

4.7.3 Challenges facing mining industry in Mchinji

The challenges the district faces in mining include;

- Inadequate geological data and information about the mineral deposits of Mchinji;
- Inadequate mineral processing and analytical laboratory technologies and human resource within the district; and
- Insufficient financial resources for the generation and updating of basic geological data

4.7.4 Opportunities in the mining Industry

The major opportunity is the existence of mineral deposits in the district.

4.8 TRADE AND INDUSTRY

The National policy on Industry and Trade aims to promote, support and facilitate private sector investment in production, agro-processing and manufacturing thereby increasing goods and services for domestic and international markets whilst sustaining competitive advantage.

The policy focuses on transforming Malawi into a manufacturing based economy and increasing exports. The policy is in line with MGDSIII –key priority area 3 on Energy, Tourism and Industrial Development as well as Sustainable Development goals 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth and 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure.

At district level, the policy is implemented through a programme called Small Scale Business Development. The objective of the programme is to empower Malawians to participate in economic activities through promotion of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). The major outcome of the programme is improved participation of Malawians (including women, youth and disabled persons) in economic activities through SMEs and cooperative development. The indicator being increase in number of rural industries and processing units established. This will increase exports as an outcome indicator for key priority area 3 improved environment for investment and private sector development. SMEs Development, Promotion, Cooperatives establishment and Management are output indicators

4.8.1 Trading activities in the district

Mchinji district has six main market centres namely; Msitu, Boma, Kamwendo, Kapiri, Mikundi and Mkan-da. These markets comprise core market shelters which are under the control of district council management. Markets are the main source of revenue for the council and is managed by the revenue collectors.

These main markets have other sub markets allocated strategically in the district. In addition to main market, there are other business establishments by different traders and under different business enterprises such as manufacturers, farmers, trade, services and transport.

4.8.2 Manufacturing Activities

Industries in Mchinji largely comprise agro-processing, bakeries, metal works, carpentry and other small industries. The district has cooperatives and individuals that process cooking oil, soya milk, soap and honey. At Mchinji Boma there is a puff manufacturing industry. The cooperatives in value addition include Kamwendo, Mthiransembe, Kasekese, Mikonga, Tayamba, Chimimbe and Mtenjemanga. There are also SMEs in manufacturing like Chitedze Agro-Processing, Malonje and Tatek Universal Supplies just to mention a few.

4.8.3 Agro-based Activities

There is a number of farming related activities in the district which include poultry production, sweet potato production, large stock production, selling of crops and fruits. A number of cooperatives in the district are involved in value addition which produce cooking oil, soy milk, peanut butter, honey and nsinjiro.

4.8.4 Business Activities

The district has businesses of different sizes. Most of the medium scale enterprises in the district are mostly into trading activities. These are: bottle stores, retail shops and wholesalers. On top of that, there are depots of nationwide businesses like Chipiku, Kulima Gold, ATC, ETG and Farmers World.

On mining, the district does not have outstanding mining activities apart from the minor excavation of small areas around Chimimbe Mountain in traditional authority Mlonyeni for deposits.

The district has 10 filling stations that support the transport services. These are Puma, Total, Dalitso, Petro-da and Mount Meru. There are also a number of private hospitals and schools.

4.8.4.1 Future demand for land for commercial/industrial activities in m²per Traditional Authority

The demand for land for commercial and industrial activities in the district is high based on the number of people that become entrepreneurs each year in the district and from other parts of the country.

Table 4.46 Table 4-46: Number of registered business establishments between 2012 and 2017

Scale of Business	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
Large	0	0	0	0	0
Medium	134	151	156	160	165
Small	620	622	624	628	631
TOTAL	754	773	780	788	796

Source: Mchinji Trade Office 2017

The table above, shows that there was a high number of small businesses in the period under consideration as compared to large business establishments. Small businesses are most prevalent in the district because of limited capital among the masses involved in business activities in the district to such an extent that there is not even one large business in the district. For categories of business type according to number of employees, refer to the table below.

Table 4.47 Future demand for land for commercial and industrial activities

TA	Present Land Holding of Markets (m2)	Future demand in area (m2)
Zulu	34,735	38,347
Mlonyeni	25,618	28,282
Nyoka	725	800
Simphasi	7,091	7,828
Mkanda	26,924	26,204
Kapunula	3,908	4,314
Gumba	1,594	3,519
Dambe	15,339	1,759
Kapondo	12,166	16,934
M'duwa	14,028	13,431
Mamvere	20,841	25,005
TOTAL	162,969	179,917

Source: Mchinji Trade office 2017

The table above provides projections in demand for land for commercial and industrial activities for the next five years based on the trend of enterprise and industrial development. Currently, T/A Zulu commands the highest land holding for business activities than the rest because of good road network and cross-border trade activities. On the other hand is T/A Nyoka which is in command of less than 0.5% of the total land allocated to business activities because there are no established markets that are gazetted by the council.

The future demand for commercial and industrial land is very high in each Traditional Authority based on entrepreneurial activities and the trend at which commercial activities are growing. All market centres and trading centres do not have available land for extension except in Senior Chief Mkanda where there is a development of new growth centre

4.8.4.2 Types/scale of businesses (Micro, Small, Medium-scale) by TA/STA

Mchinji, being one of the border districts, has a lot of types / scale of business. These are micro, small and medium scale business. The sizes are categorized according to number of employees.

Table 4.48 Categories of business type according number of employees

Type/Scale	Number Of Employees
Micro	1-4
Small	5-20
Medium	20-99
Large	99>

Source: National MSMEs Policy 2017

According to the categorization, there is no large scale business in the district because for a business to be a large scale business it must have 99 plus employees.

4.8.4.3 Number and size (m²/ha) of business establishments under each scale by TA/STA

Across all the T/As, there are many small scale enterprises than medium scale enterprises. Small scale enterprises hold about 11.51% more land than medium scale enterprises. Land holding for the two business categories seems to correlate with number of enterprises within the category. The more the number of establishments, the larger the land held.

Table 4.49 Different enterprise sizes, their current land holding size and future demand for land.

No.	TA	SIZE OF ENTERPRISE			AREA (M ²)			Future (m ²) 10.4% increase
		Large	Medium	Small	Medium (m ²)	Small (m ²)	Total (m ²)	
1	Zulu	0	35	135	15,295	19,440	34,735	38,347.44
2	Mlonyeni	0	26	99	11,362	14,256	25,618	28,282.27
3	Nyoka	0	1	2	437	288	725	800.40
4	Simphasi	0	7	28	3,059	4,032	7,091	7,828.46
5	Mkanda	0	24	92	10,488	13,248	23,736	26,204.54
6	Kapunula	0	4	15	1,748	2,160	3,908	4,314.43
7	Pitala	0	4	10	1,748	1,440	3,188	3,519.55
8	Gumba	0	2	5	874	720	1,594	1,759.78
9	Dambe	0	15	61	6,555	8,784	15,339	16,934.26
10	Kapondo	0	14	42	6,118	6,048	12,166	13,431.26
11	M'duwa	0	12	61	5,244	8,784	14,028	15,486.91
12	Mavwere	0	21	81	9,177	11,664	20,841	23,008.46
Total		0	165	631	72,105	90,864	162,969	179,917.78

Source: Mchinji Trade office 2017

4.8.4.4 Business sub-sectors/classification (manufacturing, trading, services, transport and farm related enterprises)

Micro, small and medium enterprises are prominent in the commercial and industrial business. Retail trading of merchandise such as groceries, clothes, food items and agricultural produce are major business occu-

pations. Most people are engaged in petty trading because of limited working capital as well as business and credit management skills.

Table 4.50 Business sub-sectors/classification in terms of percentages

Business Category	Representation in the District	Examples
Industry	Mainly small scale representing 25%	Carpentry, Bakeries and Confectioneries, Construction, Tinsmith, Farming, Beer Brewing, Welding, Pottery, Bee Keeping
Trading	Small, medium to large representing 40%	Hawkers, Retailers, Wholesalers, Bottle Stores/Bars, Major
Services	Small scale representing 35%	Resthouses, Restaurants, Construction, Garages, Telephone Bureaus, Grinding Mills, Private Schools, Private Hospitals, Tailoring, Herbalists

Source: Mchinji Trade Office 2017

The manufacturing industry in the district has about 25% of all the businesses in Mchinji. In addition, trading of different manufactured items takes up a bigger share of the total number of enterprises in the district. These are widespread in the district and are not limited to a few places as is the case with manufacturing.

4.8.5 Names of large-scale companies operating in the district

The most important companies in Mchinji are agro-based. These include Alliance One, Exagris, Press Agriculture and NASFAM. These companies have farms in Senior Chief Dambe and Mkanda.

4.8.5.1 Banking, Credit Facilities, interest rates and main clients

There are a number of financial service providers currently operating in the district. These entities serve business establishments of different sizes. Some clients of these financial service providers are organized in groups such as clubs, associations and cooperatives while others are simply individuals. Depending on financial needs pressing on clients, decisions are made on which entity to approach based on such factors as interest rate, collateral and required documentation.

Table 4.51 Banks and lending institutions in Mchinji

Banks And Lending Institutions	Main Clients	Sex Of Clients	Interest Rates/Lending Rates Percentage
National Bank	Institutions, individuals, farmers, workers, entrepreneurs, legal farmer organisations	Male/Female	23
NBS Bank	Institutions, individuals, farmers entrepreneurs, legal Farmer Organisations	Male/Female	33
FDH Bank	Institutions, individuals, legal farmers entrepreneurs, farmer organisations, legal farmer organisations	Male/Female	7/month
First Capital Bank	Institutions, individuals, farmers entrepreneurs, legal farmer organisations	Male/Female	35
FINCA	Entrepreneurs and farmers	Mainly Female	7.6/month
Vision Fund	Entrepreneurs and farmers	Mainly Female	8/month
Lonzoe Investments	Entrepreneurs and farmers	Male/Female	50
Umodzi	Entrepreneurs and farmers	Male/Female	48

Banks And Lending Institutions	Main Clients	Sex Of Clients	Interest Rates/Lending Rates Percentage
Micro Loan Foundation	Entrepreneurs and farmers	Male/Fe-male	24 – 28
MADEF	Entrepreneurs	Male/Fe-male	4/month or 48/year
Mchinji Civil Service SACCO	Civil Servants, legal farmer organizations	Male/Fe-male	24

Source: Source: Mchinji Trade Office March 2017

Lending institutions charge high interest rates on loans they offer. As a result, most business individuals and groups do not borrow funds from these institutions to establish or grow their enterprises. In other cases, the potential borrowers do not have collateral to back up their loan application processes.

The lesser the number of people who can afford such high costs of capital, the lesser the number of businesses that get established or thrive for a longer time period. In the end, most businesses that are opened source funds from personal savings which are generally small; the businesses are small owing to the size of initial capital. This in a way explains why there are no large scale enterprises in the district and a very high number of small scale business enterprises. In the district, the COMSIP and Village Savings and Loans are growing tremendously which assist the rural masses to access banking services and inculcate the saving culture to the communities. Community Development under Ministry of Gender and Community Services oversee the activities.

4.8.5.2 Business Promotion Services

Business promotion services are provided with an aim to motivate business owners and promote all kinds of businesses. Examples of business promotion services are trainings.

TYPES OF TRAININGS PROVIDED

The cross section of entrepreneurs in the district comprises individuals with low business background. Various trainings are provided to the individuals and business oriented groups. The types of trainings offered by various stakeholders primarily depend on the nature of the business, goals and stage of development. These include entrepreneurship, development of business plans, business management skills, marketing, loan management, costing and pricing, book keeping and basic accounting principles. Cooperatives are offered cooperative member education that leads to certification and leadership training apart from above mentioned. The cooperatives in value addition are further trained on product development, quality control and assurance, packaging, labeling and Malawi Bureau of Standards requirements especially the mandatory MS 19 and 21 plus the standard for the product they are adding value too.

TRAINING FACILITIES AVAILABLE

Several organizations provide formal and informal trainings to entrepreneurs and farmers. Different government departments such as Agriculture in the Agribusiness section, Community development especially in Village Savings and Loan and Non-Governmental organizations in their interventions include training facilities. GIZ (through their programs called SME Loop and FO Loop), Churches Aid in Relief and Development (CARD), World Vision, Vision Fund, Finca, Malawi Rural Development Fund (MARDEF), Action Aid are the NGOs involved in providing trainings. Small and Medium Enterprise Development (SMED) also

trains cooperatives on specific areas. The banks and other lending institutions also provide tailor made trainings to their clients. Cooperatives are trained at their respective infrastructure and/or Extension Planning Area Halls. Other non-governmental organizations train entrepreneurs at the Boma or Lilongwe in hotels, motels or lodges.

BUSINESS SUPPORT ACTIVITIES EXTENDED

Other business support services include checking business malpractices to ensure fair trade, price monitoring, provision of advisory services, monitoring cross border trade and provision of business support in terms of extension services.

4.8.5.3 Other extension services provided

Apart from the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism, other organizations and government departments provide extension services in the Commerce and Industry Sector. These include Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare (MoGCDSW), Ministry of Agriculture – Agribusiness section, Foundation for International Community Assistance (FINCA), SMEDI and Vision Fund operated under World Vision Malawi, a statutory corporation and MARDEF. The individual entrepreneurs and cooperatives are supported on business promotion through exhibition of their products at International and National Trade Fairs and at Local Agriculture Fairs.

4.8.6 Cooperatives

To enhance economic empowerment of rural communities, based on MGDS III and Sustainable Goals, the district has 45 registered cooperatives out of which 28 are well managed and functional; the rest are disbanded. There are producing and marketing cooperatives and value adding cooperatives. By focusing efforts together, they are able to produce more and value add for internal and external markets.

The cooperatives were developed under the support of OVOP (Ministry of Industry and Trade), Ministry of Agriculture, CARD, World Vision, Action Aid and COMSIP. The cooperatives welcome members who are HIV positive, women and the youth. The programme of Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism focuses on SMEs and Cooperative Development. Value addition increases profits and offers better market opportunities.

In reform areas, the council strives to make Mchinji the home of cooking oil in Malawi. This will be achieved by linking all cooperatives processing cooking oil to Kamwendo Cooperative which has a facility for refining and fortifying cooking oil whose product is already pre-certified by Malawi Bureau of Standards. The three cooperatives to be linked to Kamwendo are Machichi, Mikonga and Mthiransembe. Through this arrangement, these three cooperatives will take advantage of the facilities at Kamwendo Cooperative to improve sales by selling well refined and fortified cooking oil. This is anticipated to improve linkages, strengthen value chain and profitability of products.

4.8.6.1 Functional Cooperatives in Mchinji and Total Members as of April 2018

Cooperatives form part of private sector investments found in the district. Different groups of people have come under the banner of cooperative through initiatives of their own, those of government or those of non-governmental organisations. People in cooperatives decide what they want their core business to be. They pool resources and engage in activities that seek to fulfil the vision they have at heart. The pursuit of

group vision is done under the strict observance of the Cooperative Act, regulations and by-laws that govern operations and conduct of cooperative society limited enterprises.

Table 4.52 Functional cooperatives in Mchinji District

Name of Cooperative Society	Reg. No.	Date Registered	Sector/ Activity	Status	Shareholders		
					Male	Female	Total
Simphasi Farmers and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd	794	20/03/2009	Produce	Active	21	83	104
Mikundi Farmers and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd	795	20/03/2009	Produce	Active	92	108	200
Kamwendo Cooking Oil Cooperative Society Ltd	798	20/03/2009	Oilseeds/ value addition oil	Active	21	83	104
Mthiransembe Cooking Oil Cooperative Society Ltd	800	20/05/2009	Produce / value addition oil	Active	50	48	98
Chandawe Producers and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd	849	28/01/2010	Produce	Active	42	50	92
Tayamba Agro-Processing Cooperative Society Ltd	869	29/04/2010	soya milk /value addition	Active	81	62	135
Mando Producers and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd	894	21/06/2010	Produce	Active	21	31	52
Likasi Producers and Marketing Coop. Society Ltd	952	01/09/2011	Produce	Active	16	48	64
Machichi Producers and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd	1008	17/08/2012	Oilseeds	Active	96	79	175
Luweredzi Producers and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd	1042	31/05/2013	Produce	Active	70	85	155
Bua-Mtete Producers and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd	1064	02/10/2013	Produce	Active	34	37	71
Kasekese Farmers and Marketing Cooperative Society Limited	1225	23/03/2015	Produce/Value addition P.nut butter and Soya milk	Active	13	52	65
Namilolo Horticultural Cooperative Society Ltd	674	20/06/07	Vegetables	Active	36	45	81
Gunungwi Horticultural Cooperative Society Ltd	675	20/06/07	Vegetables	Active	71	126	197
Chiwoko Producers and Marketing			Produce	Active	28	49	77
Mkanda producers and Marketing			Produce	Active	72	150	222
Mwati Farmers' Cooperative			Produce	Active	30	60	90
Mtenjemanga Honey	872		Honey	Active	12	35	47
Nkhunguyembe Agribusiness Cooperative Society	1142		Produce	Active	49	26	75
Mtapo Producers and Marketing	1317		Produce	Active	51	70	121
Mikonga Producers and Marketing	105	11/08/2017	Produce /Value addition oil	Active	42	41	83
ChitapalumeKachewere Producers And Marketing	1328		Produce	Active	14	16	28
SACCO							
Mchinji Civil service SACCO	450	21/10/1996	Financial	Active	765	735	1500

Name of Cooperative Society	Reg. No.	Date Registered	Sector/ Activity	Status	Shareholders		
					Male	Female	Total
COMSIP							
Nyakankhe COMSIP Cooperative Society Ltd	644	17/05/2007	Rural Livelihoods	Active	9	34	43
Kachimwa	687	17/08/2007	Rural Livelihoods	Active	19	37	56
ChimimbeBee-Keeping Cooperative Society Ltd	893	21/06/2010	Beekeeping	Active	15	22	37
LIVESTOCK							
Navikali Dairy Cooperative Society Ltd	895	21/06/2010	Dairy	Active	29	24	53
Kalumbe Piggery Cooperative Society Ltd	896	21/06/2010	Piggery	Active	33	27	60
Kankhowo Piggery Cooperative Society Limited	1068	9/20/2013	Piggery	Active	30	25	55

Source: Mchinji Trade Office 2017

As presented in the table above, across all the cooperatives, there are slightly more males than females. However, in most produce cooperatives there are more males than females. This could be because most primary farming activities are culturally done by women in Malawi. More females are also found in COMSIP cooperative because of a deliberate effort to have women incorporated into the financial system.



Figure 4.21 Kamwendo cooking oil, pre-certified by MBS, have bar code

Source: Mchinji Trade Office 2017

The Figure above, shows Thanzi Pure Sunflower Cooking Oil, a brand that is manufactured and marketed by Kamwendo Cooperative. The product is certified by MBS and the label has a barcode.

CONTRIBUTION OF SMES TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY

The contribution of SMEs to the economy is paramount. SMEs in their daily business are paying tax through daily market fees and other forms of revenue such as ground rent, slaughter fees. The revenue collected is used for development of their market facilities in trading centres and wages of direct employees of the council. The SMEs as entrepreneurs stimulate development in infrastructure which attracts new investments and these employ other individuals. The trading of agricultural products and other products enhances availability of income to local population that result to improved livelihood which results in good quality of life. Fees for school children, improved diets, better accommodation and availability of different amenities at a walkable distance sum up improvement of economy of the district.

4.8.7 Trading centres in Mchinji

Mchinji district has six sub-offices. Each of these has got not less than three trading centres. The council supports these trading centres with such facilities as slaughter house and sanitation facilities; the trading centres form part of the district council's main source of revenue. Some entities pay business licences, ground rental fees annually while others pay market fees on a daily basis. The table below summarises main business activities under various categories in all the six sub-offices.

Table 4.53 Main Trading Centres in Mchinji District

Sub-offices	Trading Centres	Grade	TA	Wholesalers	Retailers	Accommodation Units	Maize mills	Filling stations
Boma	Border							
	Boma	C	Zulu	26	27	20	14	5
	Ludzi	E						
Kamwendo	Kamwendo	B						
	Chioshya	E	Zulu	29	28	5	15	2
	Tembwe	D						
	Bua	E						
Mkanda	Mkanda	B						
	Gumba							
	Kazyozyo	E	Mkanda	11	21	3	20	1
	Fanuelo							
	Chawala	D						
Msitu	Kaigwazanga							
	Nathyola	D						
	Nkhwazi	D						
	Waliranj	E	Mavwere	13	18	2	9	1
	Kapanga							
Mikundi	Chithumba							
	Mikundi	D						
	Matutu	E	Mduwa	6	4	0	9	0
Kapiri	Mtapira							
	Kapiri	C						
	Chipumi		Dambe	12	21	3	3	1
	Kalulu	D						

Source: Mchinji Trade Office 2017

Table above, indicates number of business establishments in the categories industry, service and trading as they stand in the respective sub-offices in the district. Boma has the most business establishments than the rest of the sub-offices; the place has a lot of people who patronise different businesses. The least number of business establishments is found in Mikundi. This could be attributed to remoteness of the area as compared to the others where road connectivity is a bit better. Noteworthy is the fact that this table does not show all the enterprises across the different business categories according to function. It rather depicts the key enterprises that are most prominent in the district..

4.8.8 Growth Trends in small scale investment in Mchinji

There has been a general increase in business establishments across the different types. Retailing takes centre stage since it does not require heavy capital injection in order to start business

Table 4.54 Growth trends in small scale investment in Mchinji

ENTERPRISE SIZE	NUMBER OF ENTERPRISES					
	2010/2011	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Small	620	622	624	628	631	653

Source: Mchinji Trade Office, 2017

Table above shows that there has been a general increase in business establishments across the different types. Retailing takes centre stage since it does not require heavy capital injection in order to start business

Table 4.55 Summary of Business Investments in Mchinji District

Business Type	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Bakery	18	21	24	25
Butchery	24	25	25	28
Babershops	76	84	90	102
Carpentry	48	49	49	53
Maize mills	52	55	56	67
Retailing	111	117	121	132
Hardwares	69	71	75	82
Wholesales	23	32	38	47
Welding	16	16	21	44
Filling station	6	6	6	7

Source: Mchinji Trade Office 201

Table above shows that there has been a general increase in business establishments across the different types. Retailing takes centre stage since it does not require heavy capital injection in order to start business. On the other hand, there are fewer filling stations since the business requires special licensing requirements as well as heavy capital requirements.

4.8.9 District Council Revenue Sources

The main sources of revenue for the council includes; Market fees, ground rent, business premises licensing, liquor licensing, car park fees, marriage certificate, passport fees, slaughter fees, Bank opening recommendation fees, plots and rest house.

4.8.10 Opportunities in Commerce and Trade Sector

Mchinji, being a border district, has a lot of opportunities. There is a growing cross border trade ranging from food industry to accommodation. Tourism industry and agro processing are most important opportunities based on the fact that the district is endowed with good agricultural conditions.

The district has friendly people and security on business property is good. The district has financial institutions for financial support to businesses. Good road networks support the businesses.

4.8.11 Challenges in Commerce and Trade Sectors

Despite the opportunities above, there are some challenges such as shortage of land for opening business in market centres, proliferation of smuggled goods, low standards of sanitation and hygiene in market centres (especially during rainy season), low entrepreneurial skills to most traders and lack of certification of most processed goods which makes the products uncompetitive.

4.9 LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Labour force is defined as the total number of all the employed and the unemployed individuals from within the ages of 15yrs to 70yrs. The labour force in the district is composed of both skilled and unskilled workers working in the agriculture sector, public service and other private sectors. The Agriculture sector is the highest employer with the labour force of 90 percent. Most of the labour force falls in the age category of 18-39 years meaning the labour force is youthful and present a great potential for industrial growth and productivity.

The Ministries strategic goal is to develop and support harmonious relations and skilled human resources in the labour market through enhancement of social justice and peace, technical and vocational training to ensure high quality, healthy and productive work force and decent work in Malawi. It is the labour force that is responsible for generating wealth both at household and national levels such that productive employment and work increase incomes of families and eradicates poverty. An educated and skilled population will help Malawi achieve economic growth in linkage with the MDGs III KPA 6 which aims to improve quality and relevant education and skills and it is also inline with Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) number 8 which focuses on the provision of decent work for all and economic growth., Decent work is achieved through promotion of productive employment to men and women including young people and persons with disabilities and child labour, protect rights at work and ensure safe and secure working environment. Mchinji district has both skilled and unskilled individuals in its workforce. The workforce contributes income to the people of Mchinji through Agricultural industries e.g. Farm estates. At district level, labour sector is mandated to enforce labour legislation through labour inspections in all work places and monitor minimum labour standards.

4.9.1 District Labour Force

Table below shows number of employees in labour department.

Table 4.56 District Labour Office Staff Profile 2017

Section	Establishment	Filled		Vacant	
		M	F	M	F
DLO	1	1	1	0	
ALO	2	0		2	
SLAS	2	2	2	0	
LAS	2	2	1	1	
COPY TYPIST	1	0		1	
MESSENGER	1	0		0	
S/GUARD	2	1	1	1	
Total	11	6		5	

Source: District Labour Office, 2017

From the table, there is a high number of male employees than female employees. The table also shows that most positions are vacant. There is need to fill vacancies

4.9.1.1 Formal sector

Employment in the formal sector falls in primary and secondary industry mainly in the agriculture sector which is the primary industry in the district.

4.9.1.2 Informal sector

Employment in the informal sector is limited to small scale business operating in the district. About 3500 people are employed in this sector. There are limited employment opportunities in the district hence there's need to intensify training opportunities in business management and vocational skills thereby creating employment.

4.9.2 Sector distribution of labour

Larger population of the people depend on subsistence farming for their livelihood. Very few are self-employed in non-farm activities. The unemployment rate is 7.2 percent in the district(2018 PHC). About 1,632 job seekers were registered over the period under review and out of these 832 were placed representing 50.9% of employment. The tabl 4:59 shows number of job seekers in the district.

Table 4.57 Job seekers in Mchinji

Year	Job Seekers Registered			Job Seekers Placed		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
2012/13	115	86	201	54	73	127
2013/14	103	121	224	120	69	189
2014/15	188	224	412	101	89	190
2015/16	191	225	416	67	48	115
2016/17	179	200	379	91	120	211

Source: Mchinji District Labour Office

In 2016 a lot of people got jobs than in 2017 because few agro factories were established and created jobs in the district.

4.9.3 Conditions of employment and workers' organizations

The condition of service in the district is still very poor especially in the informal sector with a minimum wage of K962 per day for non-skilled or semi-skilled workers and it translates to a monthly minimum basic wage of K25,012. This minimum wage rate is subjected to change after an approval by the tripartite labour advisory council whose secretariat is in the ministry of labour. Most of the workers, work more than eight hours a day without appropriate arrangements for paying overtime. This is why Labour and employment sector has growing complaints, most of which are related to payment of below minimum wage, unfair dismissals and nonpayment of terminal benefits.

The employers who do not follow labour legislations risk legal action when they are found by Labour Inspectors or if reported to labour Office.

4.9.3.1 Public Employment Exchange

This is a Bureau for Employment where job seekers seek assistance with employment. People who are seeking opportunities avail themselves at the bureau for registration, and employers submit vacancies in order to find suitable applicants.

4.9.3.2 Labour Complaints

Labour complaints arise from employees grievances on labour or labour related issues as a result of dissatisfactions on the conditions of the employment agreed between an employer and worker or basing on the minimum standards guidelines stipulated in the employment act 2000 cap 55:02. Some reported complaints are from individual workers and others from a group of workers. Table below indicates level of complaints by age category for each year.

Table 4.58 Labour Complaints on labour related

Age group	Accumulated Outstanding Complaints														
	2013			2014			2015			2016			2017		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
18-29	98	59	39	33	21	12	84	71	13	102	91	11	45	31	14
30-39	59	40	19	23	19	4	39	26	13	22	14	8	30	19	11
40-49	30	21	9	15	9	6	21	18	3	11	7	4	55	29	26
50-59	14	10	4	10	7	3	10	9	2	16	10	6	35	27	8
60 above	8	7	1	6	4	2	5	4	1	8	5	3	10	8	2
Totals	209	137	42	87	60	27	159	128	32	159	127	32	175	114	61

Source: Mchinji district labour office 2017

It has been shown that a high level of Complaints came from the youth aged 18-29 years. Most youth know their rights.

Table below shows new labour complaints on labour related issues

Table 4.59 New labour complaints on labour related issues

Age group	New Complaints Reported in the Year														
	2013			2014			2015			2016			2017		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
18-29	101	89	12	100	79	21	150	99	51	180	122	58	72	51	20
30-39	69	38	31	89	47	42	95	84	11	91	56	35	96	67	29
40-49	50	29	21	151	115	36	101	90	11	112	69	43	102	87	15
50-59	47	31	16	125	98	27	105	89	16	41	33	8	108	92	16
60 above	30	25	5	14	10	4	98	88	10	15	9	6	67	48	12
Totals	297	212	85	479	349	130	549	450	99	439	289	150	445	345	98

Source: District Labour office 2017

From the table, many complaints came from the youth aged 18-29 years. This implies most youth know their workers' rights.

Table 4.60 Settled and pending cases each year by age category

Age group	2013			2014			2015			2016			2017		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
18-29	123	91	22	105	85	20	212	127	85	160	93	67	112	86	26
30-39	209	161	48	216	179	37	389	208	181	302	194	108	107	89	18
40-49	99	78	21	111	88	23	150	102	48	87	69	18	93	72	21
50-59	56	41	15	31	24	7	21	13	8	40	29	11	89	68	21
60+	7	4	3	9	6	3	6	4	2	8	6	2	10	5	5
Totals	494	375	101	472	382	90	778	454	324	597	391	206	411	320	91

Source: District Labour office 2017

Table above shows that despite more case being received in the age category of 18 to 29, the labour office resolved more cases in the age 30 to 49 each year. As such the office deny the youthful employees the much needed labour justice.

Table below shows pending complaints on labour related issues

Table 4.61 Pending complaints on labour related issues

Age group	COMPLAINTS PENDING														
	2013			2014			2015			2016			2017		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
18-29	98	62	36	33	22	11	84	59	25	102	87	25	45	30	15
30-39	59	41	18	23	14	9	39	26	13	22	14	8	30	19	11
40-49	30	21	9	15	8	7	21	16	5	11	4	7	55	37	18
50-59	14	10	4	10	6	4	10	7	3	16	9	7	35	21	14
60 above	8	5	3	6	4	2	5	4	2	8	5	3	10	6	4
Totals	209	139	70	87	54	33	159	112	48	159	119	50	75	113	62

Source: District Labour office 2017

Table above indicates that level of outstanding complaints increased each year and most cases were still outstanding. There is need to increase members of staff to reduce workload.

4.9.4 Child Labour in the District

child labour is still a great problem mainly in agriculture industry where children are engaged in farming activities such as herding live stock, tobacco harvesting and applying chemicals in various crops.

4.9.4.1 Elimination of Child Labour in the District

In the fight against child labour, the district has managed to form district child labour committee and community child labour committees (DCLC and CCLC) at group village headman level in collaboration with development partners such as Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco foundation (ECLT), Save the Children, CRECCOM, Total Land Care and YONECO, with the aim to monitor all child labour malpractices in the district and areas respectively. The formation of community child labour committee was conducted in two Traditional authorities namely: Mkanda and Dambe with a total of 27 community child labour committees with 10 members each. Mchinji District Labour Office has managed to withdraw 327 children (M325/F72) from child labour to this period (2013 – 2017) and repatriated them to their origin districts. During this period, 16 employers who were found employing children were prosecuted.

4.9.4.2 Number of Organised Labour Unions in the District

A labour or trade union is an organization of workers that has come together to achieve common goals such as fighting for better working conditions and bargaining for their improved wages / salaries. Currently there are only 10 organized and registered labour unions in Mchinji out of the 27 registered trade unions by the Ministry of Labour in Malawi according to the information maintained by the MCTU. All these 10 trade unions are affiliates of the Malawi Congress of Trade unions (MCTU) which is the Malawi's first national mother trade union of the two. The second one is Congress of Malawi Trade Unions (COMATU).

Table 4.62 Child labour activity in the District

YEARS	WITHDRAWN			REPATRIATED			SENT BACK TO SCHOOL			EMPLOYERS PROSECUTED		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
2012/13	40	5	45	25	5	30	15	0	15	2	0	2
2013/14	55	7	62	20	5	25	35	2	37	5	0	5
2014/15	68	20	88	4		28	12	2	14	3	0	3
2015/16	89	21	110	37	0	37	31	21	52	2	0	2
2016/17	73	19	92	22	2	44	51	20	71	4	0	4

Source: Mchinji District Labour Office, 2017

Table above shows that 110 children were withdrawn from child labour in the year 2015/16 than any other year because the labour sector intensified child labour inspections with resources from development partners (CLEAR project) which is fighting to eliminate child labour in the district.

4.9.5 Labour Inspection Visits

In accordance with the Employment act; Cap 55:02, the district labour office carried out a number of inspections to workplaces. Table below highlights the trends.

Table 4.63 Labour inspection visits

YEAR	NO OF VISITS
2013	280
2014	230
2015	200
2016	248
2017	298

Source: District labour office 2017

The most common infringements found during this period were failure to pay overtime, no weekly rest days, employment of children and most employees were paid below minimum wage set by government.

4.9.6 HIV/AIDS Workplace Policy

There have been HIV/AIDS workplace activities in the District. Most of the workplaces especially in public sector and the formal companies have workplace committees. The government sectors are supported by the 2 percent from Other Recurrent Transaction. Mchinji District Council does not have the HIV/AIDS workplace policy. There is HIV/AIDS Workplace committee but not trained.

4.9.7 Challenges of the labour sector in the district

The sector faces the following challenges :

- Low income levels of the households due to unemployment
- Child labour
- HIV/AIDS at workplaces
- Poor conditions of service in public and private sectors
- Inadequate of information of labour rights by the general public
- Inadequate enforcement of labour legislation
- Inadequate alternatives to children withdrawn from child labour.

4.9.8 Summary of Key Issues

4.9.8.1 Child Labour in:

- Plucking tobacco from the gardens
- Heading livestock e.g. cattle
- Chemical application in various crops i.e. maize, tobacco and Gnats.

4.9.8.2 Labour Complaints

- Both employees and employers are lacking knowledge on labour legislations
- A lot of complaints come from Agricultural sectors and wage rate (80%)

4.9.8.3 Increase in Unemployment Rate

- Lack of entrepreneurial skills
- Most of the vacancies registered during the period are for the unskilled workers

4.10 TOURISM SECTOR

Tourism is one of the fastest growing economic sectors in the world that is significantly contributing to the growth of the global economy. Tourism sector in Malawi directly and indirectly contributes 7.2 percent to the GDP. The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism developed a Tourism policy which aims to create an enabling environment for the development, regulation and promotion of sustainable tourism which enhances tourist experiences and satisfaction whilst improving the socio-economic wellbeing and maintaining cultural identity of the local communities. This is in line with MGDS III KPA 3 on energy industry and tourism development which intends to have improved quality of tourism services, higher investment in tourism, support of infrastructure development, conservation and management of cultural heritage resources. It is also linked to SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure and SDG 11 on making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable for all by strengthening efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.

Mchinji District has a variety of tourism products. The sector has shown positive growth in the recent past years, whereby we have seen an increased number of Tourism units and Tourists both Local and International.

4.10.1 Tourism Potential Areas in Mchinji

Mchinji district has natural and cultural heritage attractions which offers tourism potential. Table below shows tourism sites based on TAs

Table 4.64 Tourism sites based on TAs

Traditional Authority	Tourism Site	Distance from the Boma	Remarks
Zulu	Fortmanning Hole	300meters	Not developed
Zulu	Zulu cultural centre	10.5 kms	Need to be developed
Simphansi	Nthira-Nsembe	48 kms	Need to be developed
Mlonyeni	Kachebere seminary	8kms	Beautiful Old building

Source: Mchinji Labour 2017

4.10.1.1 Fort-Manning Hole

Fort Manning hole is situated half kilometers from the Boma. This is a historical site with rich history. It is where the British and the Ngonis fought. The British built trenches and big hole which they used to defend themselves from the Ngoni warriors.



Figure 4.22 Fort-Manning Hole

Source: Mchinji district tourism office 2017

Curently, some of the land is being encroached and there is need to protect the site.

4.10.1.2 Zulu Cultural Centre

Zulu Cultural Centre is located within the Zulu Ngoni area, about one and half kilometers off the main road. It is not yet developed the Paramount chief Mpezeni has expressed great interest to develop the cultural centre.

Developing the project concept and mobilize the required resources for the commencement of the project is the only outstanding issue at the moment.



Figure 4.23 Zulu Cultural Centre

Source: Mchinji district tourism office 2017

4.10.1.3 Nthira-Nsembe (The Big Kachere Tree)

The place is situated in Mphanga Village, 48 kilometers from Mchinji Boma. It is a huge Kachere tree of about 21 meters in diameter. In the 1800s, the Akafula and Chewas fought over land which saw the Chewas winning the battle and made their settlement in the area.

Currently, the tree attracts visitors to the place to admire the amazing nature of the tree. It was also under this tree that the Chewas used to offer sacrifices to their spiritual ancestors to ask for rain during the dry season or blessing to win wars during their battles. This is why the place was called Nthiransembe. The area has potential to develop as a tourism destination.



Figure 4.24 The great kachere tree

Source: Mchinji district tourism office 2017

The area has potential to develop as a tourism destination.

4.10.1.4 Kachebere Seminary

This offers a good religious tourism location. The church was built over 100 years ago using local materials. This is one of the historical churches in Malawi in the line of St Michaels and All Angels church which is located in the Malawian commercial city of Blantyre.



Figure 4.25 Kachebere major seminary

Source: Mchinji district tourism office 2017

Kachebere major seminary is a catholic school for priest where most of the Malawian catholic priest are educated and trained. It offers a good tourist site.

4.10.2 Tourism Facilities Available

4.10.2.1 Accommodation for Travelers

The units that meet minimum standards are given tourism licenses which are valid for a year. Regular Inspections are carried out by the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism to ensure that standards are maintained. Mchinji has seen an increase in accommodation units and most importantly in the level of services provided in these units, particularly in room arrangements, conference facilities and other ancillary services.

Many accommodation units have been built between 2012 and 2018 such as Greenhill lodge, Compass lodge 2, and Rewards Lodge extension, Mkolokosa Guesthouse, Fort manning Guesthouse, Julats lodge, Kwathu lodge and Chizengezege Lodge which are operational. These units are registered by Tourism and Hotels Board. Tourism office has been closely monitoring all new projects from the conception stage to ensure that their plans and structures are in line with Tourism Laws and regulations as stipulated in Tourism and Hotels Act, so that once completed they should be of acceptable standards.

The table below shows the number of accommodation units in the district, range of room rate, average number of rooms and beds.

Table 4.65 Motels, Lodges, Rest houses in Mchinji District

UNIT CATEGORY	NUMBER OF UNITS	ROOM RATES	AVERAGE NO. OF ROOMS	AVERAGE NO. OF BEDS
Lodges	10	6,000-15,000	12	13
Motels	2	5,500-7,000	20	20
Resthouses	7	2,000-5,000	23	23
INNS & Resorts	2	3,500-10,000	11	24

Source: Mchinji District Tourism Office, 2016

As outlined in the table above most of the accommodation units in Mchinji are of low to medium standard (prices), this is because up to now there is no single Hotel in the district. There is a need to lobby investors to come and invest in the accommodation sector so that Mchinji also should have up-scale Hotels.

FOOD PREMISES

This sector mainly consists of establishments which provide food services to people especially the traveling public.

Table 4.66 Licensed food units in the district

LEVEL	NUMBER OF UNITS
Low	2
Medium	4
High	5

Source: Mchinji District Tourism Office, 2016

Table above has categorized restaurants into high, medium and low level according to the price, services quality provision and the infrastructure (both in and outside). There is a need to lobby investors to come and invest in the food and beverage so that Mchinji also should have up-scale restaurants

4.10.3 Other Facilities

Other facilities are live music venues, bars and pubs in the District that provide entertainment to the public e.g. Super spot, Madzimayera Bars, Booze Den, Tiyeseke Motel Bar, Abro bar, and Skyway at the border just to mention a few. A lot of sporting activities take place in these areas e.g. Pool, Darts, watching premier football while refreshing themselves with drinks.

Table 4.67 Bar and Liquor Centres

CATEGORY	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	TOTAL
Bar	10	12	5	27
Night Clubs	-	-	3	3
Liquor Centres	-	5	-	5

Source: Mchinji District Tourism Office, 2017

The table above has ranked bars into low, medium and high according to the price, infrastructure and amenities that are found in the bar. A lot of sporting activities take place in these areas e.g. Pool, Darts, watching premier football while refreshing themselves with drinks

Table 4.68 Live Events Venues

NO	NAME	LOCATION	PRICE LEVEL	OWNERSHIP
		NEIGHBORHOOD		
1	Booze Den	Mkanda Road	Medium	Private
2	Tiyeseke Motel	Mkanda Road	Medium	Private
3	Joes Motel	Boma (M12Road)	Medium	Private
4	Kwidu holiday Resort	M12 road(Boma)	Medium	Private
5	Gravity plus	Boma	Medium	Private

Source: Mchinji District Tourism Office 2018

Table above shows that all these places are private owned hence there is a need for government to intervene so that it can increase its revenue generating ventures.

4.10.4 Contribution of Tourism to the Local Economy

It is estimated that close to 210,171 international visitors entered our country through Mchinji border from 2015-2017. Out of that figure, close to 45% of the figure visited Mchinji for business purposes. Border passes given to them by the Department of Immigration only allows them to visit Mchinji and not beyond.

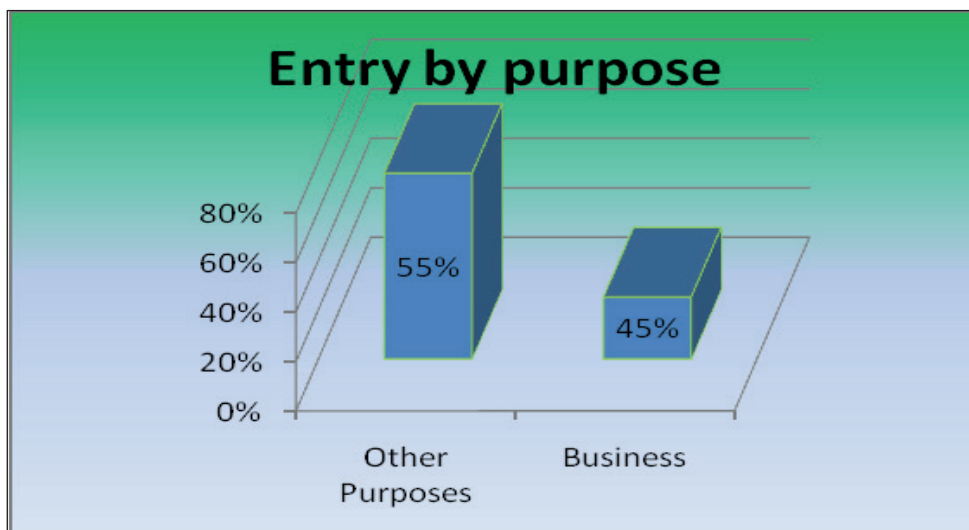


Figure 4.26 Contribution of Tourism to the Local Economy

Source: Mchinji District Tourism Office, 2016

The figure above indicates that 45% of the people visit Mchinji for business purposes while 55% visit Mchinji for other purposes as we are sharing the border with Zambia and Mozambique.

4.10.4.1 Employment in Tourism Sector in Mchinji.

Tourism is one of the largest employers in the country. The sector has directly employed about 264 people and most people benefit indirectly.

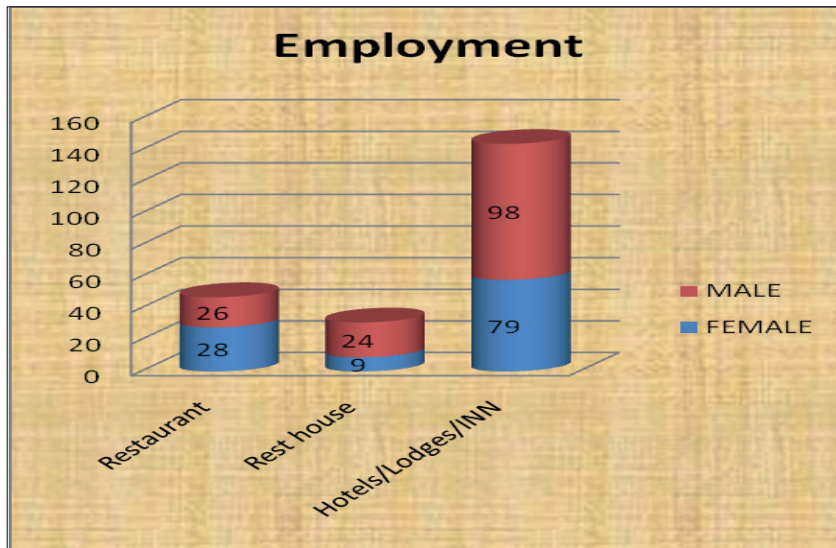


Figure 4.27 Contribution of Tourism to the Local Economy

Source: Mchinji District Tourism Office, 2016

The figure above shows that there were more women employees in restaurants than men while more men were employed in Lodges and rest houses. Most Lodges preferred hiring men because women are more mobile than men usually when they get married however nowadays things are vice versa.

4.10.4.2 Revenue generated through tourism

Council collects revenue from traders operating tourists service facilities through ground rents, liquor license fees which is used in various development projects in the district. When Tourists come they also support local business operators by buying various items from them e.g Taxi operators, shops. Cultural dances also benefits from tourists by staging performances e.g. Gulewamkulu and Ingoma dances. Beside that, tourists also visit cultural centres.

4.10.5 Key Issues for Tourism Sector

- Low service quality
- Limited tourism mainstreaming across all sectors
- Inadequate and undeveloped cultural and natural attraction

CHAPTER 5: SOCIAL SERVICES

5.1 HEALTH AND POPULATION

The Mchinji Health Sector delivers health services in line with the National Health Policy, 2018 whose main goal is to improve health status of all Malawians, and to increase clients' satisfaction and financial risk protection towards attainment of Universal Health Coverage (UHC). The national health policy is linked to MGDS III KPA 5 thus "Population and health" and it is also linked to SDG 5 "Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages"

The vision of the health sector is to improve the health status of the people in Mchinji through the provision of effective, efficient and safe health care. To achieve this, the sector implements its interventions in line with other Ministry of Health policies and Health Sector Strategic Plan II, a medium-term strategic plan which outlines objectives, strategies and activities guiding resources over the period 2017-2022.

5.1.1 Indicators of Health Status in the District

5.1.1.1 Life Expectancy

The life expectancy for the district is generally low. Life expectancy for women is 58.2 years while that of men is 55.1 years. This shows that life expectancy for women is higher than that of men. This discrepancy in life expectancy could be due to men engaging in risky behaviors and lifestyles more than women. Secondly, health seeking behavior is displayed more among women than men. The general low life expectancy is due to the numerous challenges the health sector and other players are facing coupled with low social economic status of the population.

5.1.1.2 Morbidity

The district continues to experience a high burden of diseases such as malaria, acute respiratory infections and diarrheal diseases among others. Details are provided in the figure below.

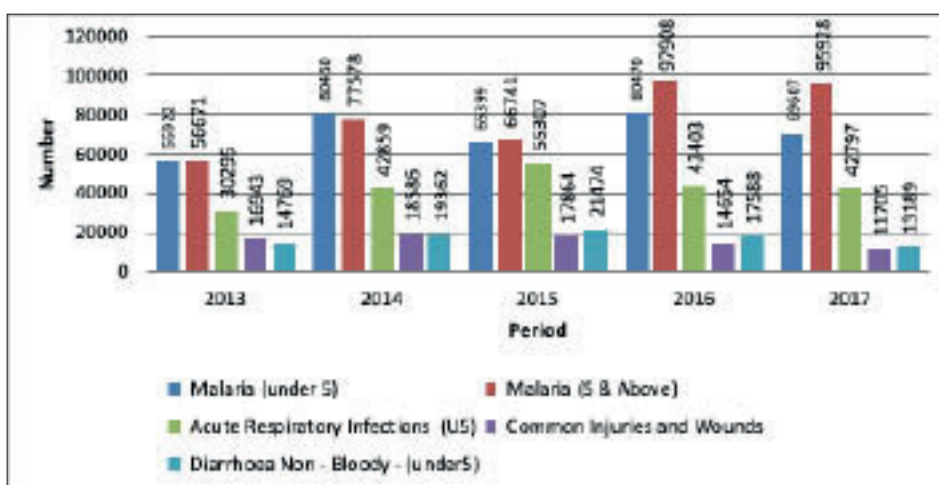


Figure 5.1 Five Leading Causes of Morbidity for Mchinji District

Source: Mchinji DHO – HMIS, year 2017

The figure above shows the five leading causes of morbidity in the district from 2013 to 2017. Malaria is the leading cause of morbidity in both under five children and adults (5 and above) followed by Acute Respiratory Infections in under fives. The trend generally increased from 2015 to 2017.

5.1.1.3 Non communicable diseases

Non-Communicable diseases are contributing significantly to the morbidity and mortality in the district. For more details, see the figure below.

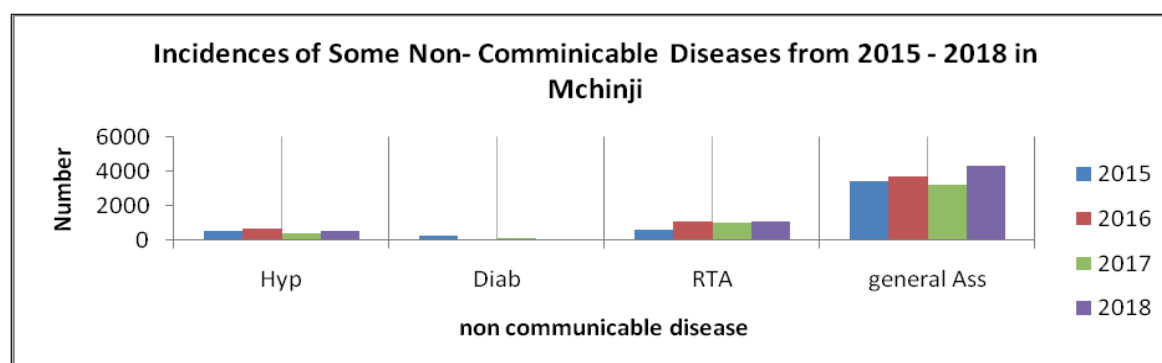


Figure 5.2 Incidences of Non-communicable Diseases in the District

Source: Mchinji DHO – HMIS 2018

The figure above shows incidences of some non-communicable diseases from 2015 – 2018. Some non-communicable diseases like Hypertension and Diabetes are mostly due to unhealthy lifestyles. RTAs are to a great extent due to unroadworthy vehicles and unqualified drivers and in some instances, poor state of roads. From the figure, the highest source is RTA, seconded by hypertension and the least being diabetes.

5.1.1.4 Mortality

MATERNAL, NEONATAL DEATH AND STILL BIRTHS

Maternal death is death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy while neonatal death is death of a new born within 28 days of life. Maternal and neonatal mortality rates are measured per 1,000 live births.

Mchinji DHO reports (2017), indicate that there is high maternal and neonatal deaths in the district. The major contributing factors include lack of availability of blood for transfusion, incomplete initial assessment, poor obstetric skills, transport problems for referred cases, patient monitoring issues and delayed decision making for caesarean section delivery. Another possible contributing factor was low delivery by skilled birth attendants which dropped from 65% in 2010 to 62% in 2016/17 against the national target of 75%.

The health sector will undertake to improve skilled attendance at birth and percentage of women attending at least one ANC visit during pregnancy in order to contribute to the nations goal of reducing maternal mortality rate from 439/100000 live births to 350/100000 live births by 2022.

UNDER 5 MORTALITY

Under 5 Mortality refers to death of a born child in age range beyond neonatal to not more than five (5) years. There are a number of causes leading to under 5 mortalities as indicated in figure below.

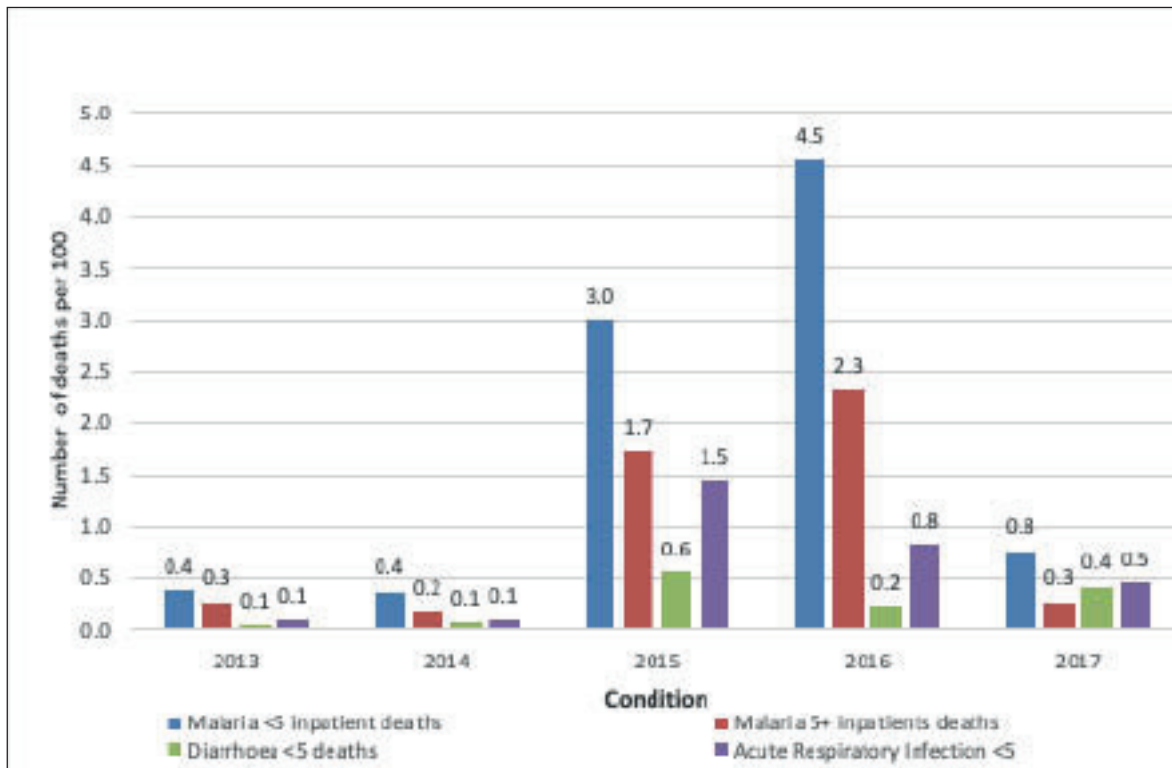


Figure 5.3 Leading Causes of Mortality in Under 5 Children, mortality rates (per 100) for 2013 to 2017

Source: Mchinji HMIS, 2017

As presented in the figure above, malaria remains the leading cause of mortality among children under five years of age.

To address the high mortality rates, the health sector envisages to scale up Long Lasting Insecticide Nets distribution to pregnant women and children through routine channels and mass distribution campaigns to scale up vector control measures. The other earmarked initiative is to scale up the IMCI approach to ensure more than 70% of all the health facilities in the district offer the services to improve management of common childhood illnesses such as acute respiratory infections and diarrhea.

5.1.2 Health Services

5.1.2.1 Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health Services

Maternal, neonatal and child health services is one of the key areas in health delivery systems. It looks at the life of the mother and the newly born child. Several programs are in place to coordinate the activities aimed at improving and safeguarding the lives of the mother and the child. The programs include: family planning, postnatal care, antenatal care and HIV/AIDs.

5.1.2.1 Antenatal Care Services, Deliveries by Skilled Personnel and Treatment of Obstetric complications

The health sector put in place various programs to reduce maternal deaths and improve obstetric treatment outcomes.

Despite efforts by the health sector putting in place various programs to reduce maternal deaths and improve obstetric treatment outcomes, pregnant women accessing antenatal care services at various health service delivery points remains staggeringly low. This is largely due to inadequate community sensitization on importance of ANC which the district health office is determined to work on.

Although there have been some improvements in the treatment of obstetric complications, there is need to do more to prevent maternal deaths.

The district has not performed well in pregnant women coming for antenatal services in the first trimester. The goal is to increase the number of women attending antenatal services during first trimester to at least 15% by the year 2022.

5.1.2.2 Immunizations

Mchinji has a robust immunization program targeting both children under ones as well as pregnant women. This program has led to coverage for all antigens. High coverage, particularly of measles, is essential to maintain herd immunity. The District targets a coverage of 90% and above for all antigens. The immunization program also targets pregnant and non-pregnant women to prevent neonatal tetanus which is a leading cause of deaths in developing countries, including Malawi. Figures 5:5 and 5: 6 below show trends of immunization coverages for some antigens.

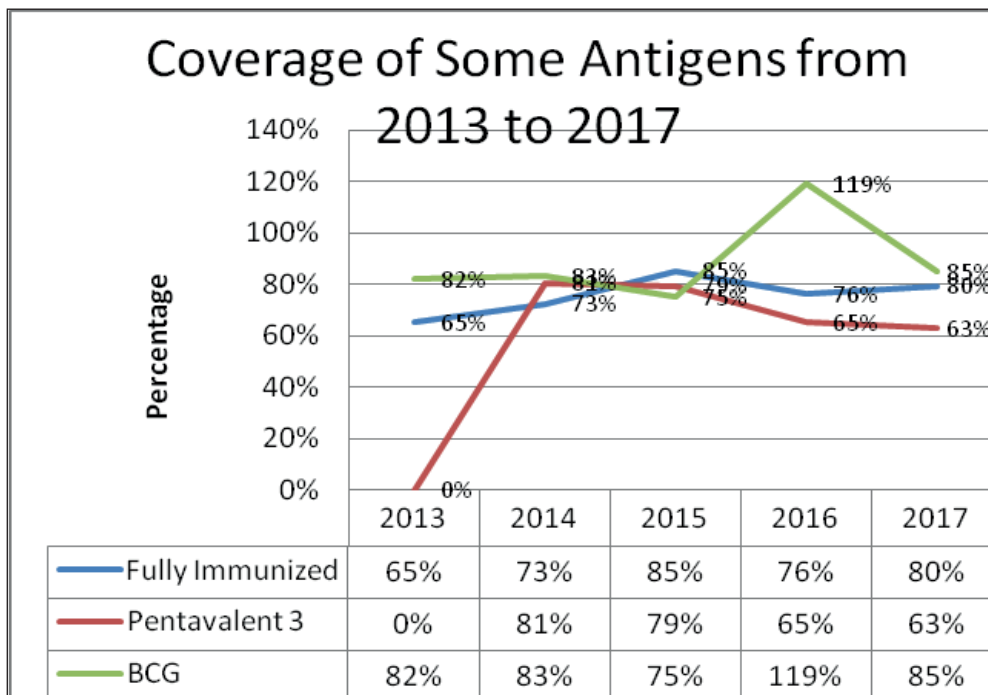


Figure 5.4 Trends of immunization Coverages for some Antigens, from 2013 to 2017

Source: Mchinji DHO, 2017

As presented in figure above, performance on antigens is being affected mostly by poor documentation. This is because HSAs are overwhelmed with work during immunization sessions as there are normally fewer of them against relatively large number of clients. The population estimate used to determine coverage was much higher as compared to the actual on ground.

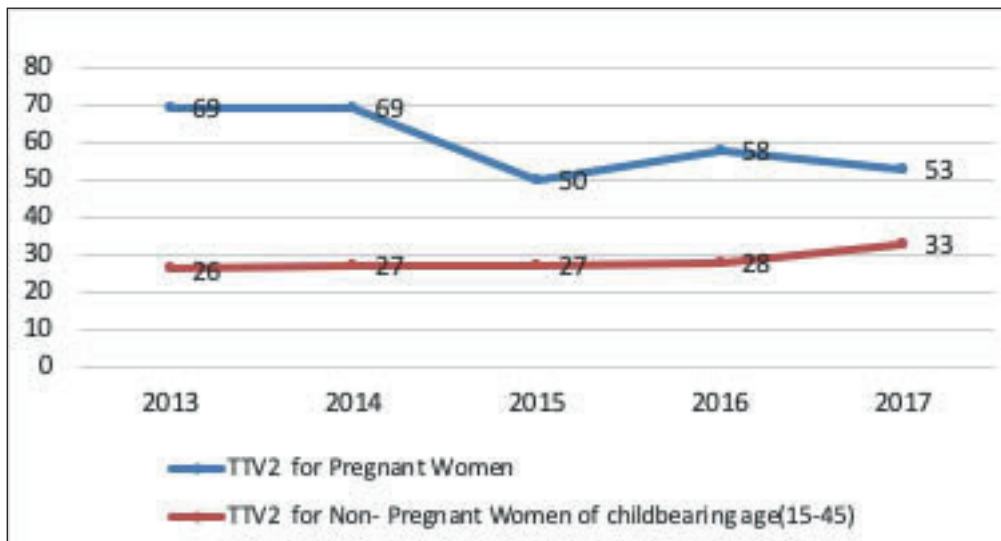


Figure 5.5 Immunization Coverage for TTV2, both in pregnant and Non-Pregnant Women

Source: Mchinji DHO, 2017

As shown in figure above, the district has registered fewer pregnant and non -pregnant women accessing TTV 2 due to problems with documentation. Besides, health workers lack capacity to conduct assessment (screening) for pregnancy resulting in missed opportunities.

5.1.2.3 Cancer of the Cervix, Prostate and Breast

The district offers cervical cancer screening service through visual inspection using acetic acid (VIA). Previously, the service was being offered at Mchinji District hospital and BLM; however, with support from partners such as Elizabeth Glazer Paediatric Foundation (EGPAF), Population Services International (PSI), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), service delivery has extended to other health facilities through outreach clinics. There is need, however, to train VIA service providers from the health centers to facilitate service delivery at facility level.

5.1.2.4 Fistula

Mchinji District has been receiving support mainly from UNFPA for fistula case management; however, it has been difficult to capture data regarding to the program mostly because of poor documentation and reporting, as well as lack of coordination among service providers. In the year, 2017/18, a total of 20 cases were mobilized of which 5 cases were operated with vesicovaginal fistula (VVF) and the other cases were referred to Bwaila.

5.1.2.5 Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health

Adolescents in Mchinji face a lot of Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) problems for example HIV infection, early and unwanted pregnancies, childbirth related complications, Sexually Transmitted Infection (STIs) and sexual abuse, among others. There is poor access to health services due to low sensitization on existence of YFHS and no motivation by parents and other influential leaders in the community. Out of the 18 health facilities only one health facility, at Kochilira has a youth corner where all required services in relation to SRH are provided under one roof. There is lack of recreation materials that would be used to keep the adolescents busy. It has however been noted most of the youths freely access services such as contraceptives from community health workers yet there are a few trained community-based distribution agents.

5.1.2.6 Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV

Prevention of Mother to Child HIV Transmission is another service offered by Health Sector. The district has made strides in prevention of transmission of HIV from mother to child (PMTCT) as shown in figure below.

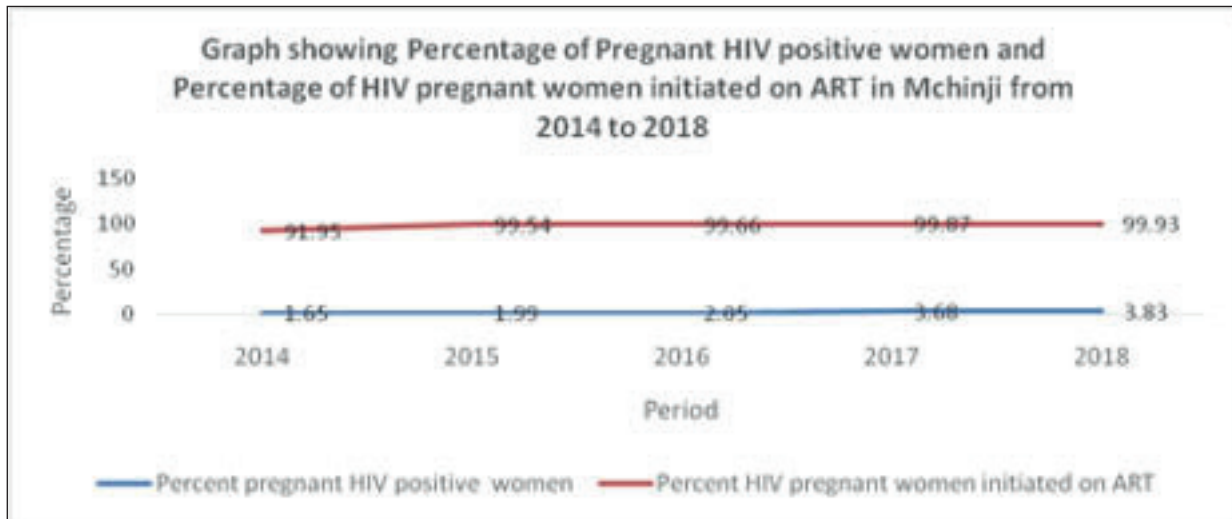


Figure 5.6 Percentage of Pregnant HIV Positive Women and HIV pregnant Women initiated on ART

Source: Mchinji HMIS, 2017

As shown in the figure above, the percentage of HIV positive pregnant women initiated on ARVs continued to improve. The district intends to maintain the trend to be above the national target of 95%.

5.1.2.7 5.1.2.8 HIV and AIDS Testing and Counselling Services

HIV Testing Services started in 2005 in Mchinji with only 3 HTS providers, 2 HSAs and 1 nurse. More sites were opened and more providers were trained in 2008 with funding from National Aids Commission (NAC).

In 2017, HTS program tested 146,301 people surpassing the target of 113,702 for the district. 7,696 new positives were identified representing 5.3% positivity rate. The program also tested 7,703 pregnant women and 4,314 below 14-year-old in 2017. The positives identified in specific indicators cannot be isolated because the data tools do not disaggregate the positives according to age groups or sex. Table 5:1 below provides data on HIV Counselling and Testing Sites, and table 5:2 provides data on HTS Counsellors by Site and Gender.

Table 5.1 HIV Counselling and Testing Sites by Ownership and Year established

No	Ownership	Number	Facilities
1	Government	15	Kazyozyo, Mkanda, Kaigwazanga, Gumba, Chimwankango, Kochilira, Chioshya, Kapanga, Nkhwazi, Tembwe, Namizana, Chipumi, Mikundi, Mchinji District Hospital and
2	CHAM	3	Guilleme, Ludzi and Kapiri
3	WVI	2	Pinda, Kabuthu
4	Private	1	Jumpha Clinic

Source: Mchinji DHO, 2017

For HIV Counselling and Testing to be implemented in the designated sites, availability of skilled personnel is one of the prerequisites. Table 5.2 below displays staffing levels in such sites.

Table 5.2 Data on HTS Counsellors by Site and Gender.

Name of Health Facility	Number of Counsellors		Total
	Male	Female	
Mchinji District Hospital	11	14	25
Ludzi	4	2	6
Kapiri	8	4	12
Mkanda	6	0	6
Kochilira	3	4	7
Chioshya	3	1	4
Guilleme	5	3	8
Tembwe	7	1	8
Nkhwazi	7	1	8
Mikundi	5	0	5
Chipumi	2	0	2
Kapanga	5	2	7
Namizana	2	0	2
Kazyozyo	1	1	2
Chimwankango	1	0	1
Gumba	1	2	3
Gumulira I	1	0	1
Gumulira II	1	0	1
Kabuthu	1	0	1
BLM	0	0	0
Wellness Centre	0	0	0
Total	74	35	109

Source: Mchinji - DHO 2017

From the table above, it is evident that the district has only 109 HTS counsellors in 23 testing sites. There is need for additional counsellors in most sites to meet the recommended minimum of 2, of each gender category, per site.

5.1.3 Health Service Delivery.

The decentralized system has four tiers of service delivery: community, primary, secondary, and tertiary. Community health services include those delivered through community initiatives, village clinics/health posts, and community health workers. Primary level delivery points include dispensaries, maternity facilities, health centers, and community and rural hospitals.

The district hospital delivers secondary-level care which includes inpatient and outpatient services; it also serves as a referral facility for the primary level.

5.1.3.1 Health Service Delivery at Primary level

Health centers and dispensaries provide most of the primary level health care in the district. Health services provided include all EHP services (maternal, family planning, OPD, rehabilitative and promotive) on a 24 - hour basis. Service delivery is done mostly by clinicians, nurses and HSAs. The target population for dispensaries is 5000 to 10000 while that for health centers is 15000 to 25000. In practice, these health delivery points accommodate more people than the target.

5.1.3.2 Health Service Delivery at Secondary level

Secondary level health care in the district is provided by the district hospital and rural hospitals.

The Rural hospitals provide such services as outpatient clinical care and in-patient care of common and uncomplicated conditions they also carry out common diagnostics and provide minor theater services like caesarian sections. These facilities usually serve population of between 25000 and 50000.

The district hospital provides comprehensive essential clinical services for serious medical and surgical conditions. Both district and rural hospitals act as referral centers for the primary level.

5.1.3.3 Health Service Delivery at Community Level

Health service delivery at community level is implemented in line with the newly launched National Community Health Strategy (2017-2022). Community Health -the provision of basic health services in rural and urban communities with the participation of people who live there- is supported by various structures at community level which include community health workers and volunteer groups (VHCs and CHAGs).

HEALTH POSTS

In order to increase access to health services of populations who do not currently live within 5km of a health facility, the health sector runs health posts-integrated community health service delivery structures which are staffed by HSAs- to provide services such as immunizations, growth monitoring, screening and treatment of minor illnesses offered by HSAs in liaison with community volunteers. Health posts are meant to serve a population of 5000 as a target. Table 5:3 below shows the health posts in the district

Table 5.3 Data on Health Posts in the District

Name of TA	Population (Males)	Population (Females)	Total Population	Number of Health Posts
Mkanda	39,108	42,366	81,474	4
Dambe	28,224	30,576	58,800	8
Mlonyeni	31,136	33,730	64,866	3
Mavwere	47,173	51,105	98,278	4
Simphasi	16,119	17,463	33,582	13
Gumba	12,877	13,951	26,828	5
Mduwa	29,492	31,949	61,441	3
Zulu	46,429	50,299	96,728	8
Kapondo	13,339	14,450	27,789	1
Kazyozyo	7,338	7,950	15,288	0
Nyoka	17,871	19,360	37,231	2
Total	289,106	313,199	602,305	51

Source: Mchinji DHO, 2017

From the table above, there are few health posts and these are unevenly distributed to serve Mchinji population effectively as a result more than half of Mchinji population is deprived of adequate access to health services especially in hard to reach areas. There is need to establish more health posts in all the underserved areas.

CHAGS AND VHCS

The Community Health Action Group (CHAG) and Village Health Committees (VHC) are critical community structures in the delivery of health services at community level. They serve as the collective voice on community health issues for both the Village Development Committee and individual village heads. Table 5:4 provides information on CHAGs and VHCS

Table 5.4 Number of CHAGs and VHCS established in the district

Name of TA/ STA	Number of GVHs	Number of VHs	Number of Established & Trained CHAGS	Number of Established
Kazyozyo	9	26	9	0
Gumba	5	21	5	0
Mduwa	19	80	17	0
Dambe	26	79	15	25
Mkanda	31	88	11	5
Mlonyeni	26	98	19	0
Simphasi	28	75	0	0
Nyoka	17	74	0	0
Mavwere	12	117	0	23
Zulu	28	110	0	0
Kapondo	12	74	0	0
Pitala	1	8	0	0
Kapunula	2	8	0	0
Total	216	858	76	53

Source: Mchinji DHO, 2017

From the table above, there is critical shortage of CHAGs in almost all the TAs in the district which needs to be addressed. Currently, there are inadequate functional VHCs mostly due to lack of training. This affects community health programs performance as there is limited participation and ownership by communities.

5.1.4 Health Facilities in the District

The district has 18 health facilities of which the majority (14) are owned by the Ministry of Health. The rest are owned by CHAM (3) and Police (1). The district health office is awaiting the handover of Mphelero health center from Clinton Hunter Foundation. Table 5:4 below provides data on health facilities, services provided and their ownership.

Table 5.5 Health Facilities, Services Offered and Ownership

S/No	Name of Health Facility	Ownership	Type	Size of Population	Bed Capacity	Health services provided															
						OPD	G.IPD	MAT	HC	AT	AC	EPI	NUT	PMTCT	FP	STI	TB REG	LAB	USS	X-ray	Theatre
1	Chimwankango	MMoH	Dispensary	12,343	2	√			√	√	√	√	UT	√	√	√	√	MRDT			
2	Chiosya	MMoH	H/Center	36,546	12	√		√	√	√	√	√	NUT	√	√	√	√	MRDT			
3	Chipumi	MMoH	H/Center	30,242	13	√		√	√	√	√	√	NUT	√	√	√	√	MRDT			
4	Fanuel	MMoH	Dispensary	11,080	8	√			√	√	√	√	UT		√	√	√	MRDT			
5	Guilleme	CCHAM	Hospital	18,809	99	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	UT-NRU	√	√	√	√	LAB	√		√
6	Gumba	MMoH	Dispensary	16,851	2	√			√	√	√	√	UT	√	√	√	√	MRDT			
7	Kaigwazanga	MMoH	H/Center	29,590	10	√		√	√	√	√	√	UT	√	√	√	√	MRDT			
8	Kapanga	MMoH	H/Center	32,257	15	√		√	√	√	√	√	UT	√	√	√	√	MRDT			
9	Kazyozyo	MMoH	Dispensary	15,550	2	√			√	√	√	√	UT	√	√	√	√	MRDT			
10	Kochilira	MMoH	Community/Rural Hospital	48,944	90	√		√	√	√	√	√	NUT-NRU	√	√	√	√	MRDT			
11	Ludzi St Josephs	CCHAM	Hospital	39,430	100	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	UT	√	√	√	√	LAB	√		√
12	Mchinji District Hospital	MoH	District Hospital	63,970	263	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	NUT-NRU	√	√	√	√	LAB		√	√
13	Mikundi	MoH	H/enter	66,859	31	√		√	√	√	√	√	NUT	√	√	√	√	MRDT			
14	Mkanda	MoH	H/enter	47,991	42	√		√	√	√	√	√	NUT	√	√	√	√	LAB			

S/No	Name of Health Facility	Owner-ship	Type	Size of Population	Bed Capacity	Health services provided															
						OPD	G.IPD	MAT	HC	AT	AC	EPI	NUT	PMTCT	FP	STI	TB REG	LAB	USS	X-ray	Theatre
15	Namizana	Police	Dispensary	22,017	2	√			√		√	√	NUT	√	√	√		MRDT			
16	Nkhwazi	MoH	H/Center	52,667	8	√		√	√	√	√	√	NUT	√	√	√	√	MRDT			
17	Tembwe	MoH	H/Center	46,302	10	√		√	√	√	√	√	NUT	√	√	√	√	MRDT			
18	Kapiri	CHAM	Community/Rural Hospital	63,983	160	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	NUT-NRU	√	√	√	√	LAB	√	√	√

Source: Mchinji DHO, 2017

As shown in the table above, Namizana Dispensary offers the least number of services despite serving a big population. There is need to upgrade it to a health center so that it can provide more services including maternity services.

5.1.5 Health Service Accessibility

Health services in the public sector are free-of-charge at the point of use. However, in line with the new health sector reforms, the Mchinji health sector is planning to introduce some paying services at the outpatient department and in the ward for those willing and able to pay. This would also cater for employees under medical schemes with various organizations. The rationale for introducing these paying services is to allow the institution to generate some revenue locally which can be used to meet some hospital emergency needs to further improve service delivery. However, this shall not in any way compromise the quality of the services provided for free. In CHAM and other privately-owned health facilities a small user fee is charged for services.

5.1.5.1 Geographic Access

Currently only 46% of the population has access to formal health facility within 5km radius while 54% of the population cannot access health services due to long distances (MDHS-2015-16). This results in communities not seeking health services or seeking it too late when the situation has worsened which puts their lives at risk and becomes expensive on the part of ministry of health to manage them.

5.1.6 Client Satisfaction

In order to ensure patient/ client satisfaction the sector has put in place service charters in all facilities outlining the services being provided, at what time and clearly indicating that they are for free. In the event that a patient/ client feels dissatisfied with a service or they want to lodge any complaint, the sector has in place ombudsmen in all facilities to handle such issues.

5.1.7 Health Human Resources

The total number of professional Health Care Workers (HCWs) is 650. This number includes the HSAs who are in majority and constitute 50 % of the workforce. The other 50% is for the Nurses, Clinicians and support staff. The staffing level is relatively low especially on doctors and nurses as shown in the table below.

Table 5.6 Ratios of Cadres to population, Mchinji as on 30th June 2017

Year	Doctor to Patient Ratio	Nurse to Patient Ratio	HSAs to Population Ratio
2015	1:196,524	1:4,886	1:1,839
2017	1:203,593	1:4,848	1:1,902
2018	1:218,477	1:4,370	1:2,094
Recommended	1:62,000	1:4,000	1:1,000

Source: Mchinji DHO, 2017

As shown in the table above, the ratio of doctor to population ratio has increased over the past 3 years. During the same period, nurse to patient ratio decreased. There is need to further decrease the patient to nurse ratio in order to effectively deliver health services.

5.1.8 Family Planning

There has been a steady improvement in contraceptives uptake by women of child bearing age from 50.8% in 2014 to 76.1% in 2017. This shows the unmet need for family planning has been reduced from 49% to 24%. Currently the district plans to increase Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR) from 61% in 2016 to 80% by 2020.

The sector will promote the small family concept in the district. To achieve this, the sector will adopt aggressive approaches to increase the accessibility and availability of modern, especially long term and permanent family planning methods to exceed the national target of 60% by 2020. Among the strategies to promote the small family concept, the sector will conduct mass sensitization campaigns to promote family planning using modern methods.

5.1.9 Issues for Mchinji District Health Sector

1. High number of maternal and neonatal deaths
2. High mortality in under 5 children mostly due to malaria
3. High morbidity due to malaria
4. Low coverage of community health structures
5. Low attendance during first trimester by pregnant women
6. Low numbers of HTS Counsellors
7. Low staffing levels

5.2 WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION

Mchinji District Council is committed to providing safe water supply and sanitation services to all groups of people it serves which includes women, so as to improve their health and socio-economical life.

This is done to fulfil the vision of the Water and Sanitation sector of “Water and Sanitation for All, always” as stipulated in the National Water Policy of 2005 and the National Sanitation Policy of 2008.

The provision of safe water and sanitation services is also in line with the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III (MDGS III, 2016) which seeks to “increase access to clean water”, as well as Sustainable Development Goal 6 of “ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030”.

5.2.1 Access to Safe Water

The Water Supply and Sanitation District Operational Manual (July 2010) recommends that, one borehole should serve utmost not more than 250 people within a radius of 500 metres while one shallow well or one communal tap should serve not more than 120 people within a radius of 500 metres.

According to the 2016-2017 Integrated Household Survey (IHS) the proportion of people with access to improved water sources in the district is at 79.1%. 75% of the households, to which the 79.1% people belong, are within the average distance of 500 metres to the water facility with safe water while 25% are in a radius of more than 500 meters.

Despite the good access(79.1%) to potable water, the non-functionality or seasonality of some of the water facilities lead to a further decrease in the number of people accessing safe water at a given point in time. It is therefore, important to ensure that the water facilities provided in the communities are functional at all times and provide safe water.

The district needs to construct more new water facilities in all un-served areas, rehabilitate the broken down water facilities and pipelines of the rural piped water system, extend the rural piped water system to un-served areas and ensure continued operation and maintenance of the water facilities which have minor breakdowns.

Mchinji Forest Reserve is the catchment area for most of the water sources in the district and serves as an intake point for the three piped water schemes. The three piped water schemes consist of the two for rural piped schemes and the third one for the urban water supply which is provided by Central Region Water Board.

Other major sources of water in Mchinji include rivers, dams, wetlands, springs, swamps as well as rich aquifers that supply safe ground water when drilled.

Mchinji is one of the districts in Malawi that does not have any hydrological station for capturing the water flow and water levels in its rivers; hence this chapter does not contain any hydrological data.

5.2.1.1 Main Sources and Conditions of Water Facilities in Mchinji

There are two main sources of safe drinking water supply in the district namely the Point Water Supply and Gravity Fed Water Supply Systems. Currently there are two thousand and nine (2,009) water points/facilities in the six Traditional Authorities in the district.

THE WATER POINT SUPPLY SYSTEM

Coverage by Boreholes and Protected Shallow Wells in the District

Boreholes and Protected Shallow Wells constitute Point Water Supply Systems in the district. Table 5:7 below provides data for these facilities.

Table 5.7 Percentage of people with access to Safe Drinking Water, by TA/STA

TA	Year	Projected population	Coverage of point water sources			
			Boreholes	Coverage	Shallow Wells	Coverage
Mavwere	2012	110,325	241	54.61%	4	0.44%
	2013	113,737	254	55.83%	4	0.42%
	2014	117,255	276	58.85%	4	0.41%
	2015	120,882	289	59.77%	5	0.50%
	2016	125,225	310	61.89%	5	0.48%
Mlonyeni	2012	45,395	130	71.59%	14	3.70%
	2013	46,798	135	72.12%	15	3.85%
	2014	48,245	140	72.55%	16	3.98%
	2015	49,738	150	75.40%	18	4.34%
	2016	51,525	155	75.21%	18	4.19%
Zulu & Simphasi	2012	111,551	288	64.54%	46	4.95%
	2013	115,002	292	63.48%	53	5.53%
	2014	118,558	295	62.21%	55	5.57%
	2015	122,225	296	60.54%	68	6.68%
	2016	126,617	310	61.21%	70	6.63%
Mduwa & Nyoka	2012	100,141	188	46.93%	97	11.62%
	2013	103,238	190	46.01%	99	11.51%
	2014	106,431	197	46.27%	117	13.19%
	2015	109,723	201	45.80%	121	13.23%
	2016	113,666	206	45.31%	124	13.09%
Dambe & Kapondo	2012	66,250	160	60.38%	67	12.14%
	2013	68,298	168	61.50%	69	12.12%
	2014	70,411	177	62.85%	76	12.95%
	2015	72,589	182	62.68%	78	12.89%
	2016	75,197	192	63.83%	78	12.45%
Mkanda	2012	103,693	177	42.67%	87	10.07%
	2013	106,900	180	42.10%	97	10.89%
	2014	110,206	188	42.65%	99	10.78%
	2015	113,615	194	42.69%	101	10.67%
	2016	117,197	201	42.88%	101	10.34%

Source: Mchinji District Water Development Office 2017

As presented in the table above, the highest proportion of people with access to safe water from boreholes is in TA Mlonyeni while Mduwa & Nyoka have the lowest proportion of people that access safe water from boreholes. This can be attributed to the World Vision project that was undertaken in the area, while the lowest proportion of people that access safe water from boreholes in Mduwa & Nyoka is because of the existence of the Mchinji GFS which covers most of the villages in the area, a sign of being overstretched.

There has been a steady increase in the proportion of people that access safe water from boreholes in TA Mavwere due to the efforts made by World Vision which is currently working in the area after closing the project in Mlonyeni.

The proportion of people that access safe water from boreholes has been declining in TAs Zulu, Simphasi and the whole of Mkanda. This can be attributed to the fact that there was no any corresponding invest-

ment in the construction of water facilities yet the population of the water users has been increasing. The figure below shows the situation regarding households that access water within the recommended distance of 500 metres against those that access it at a long distance of above 500 metres.

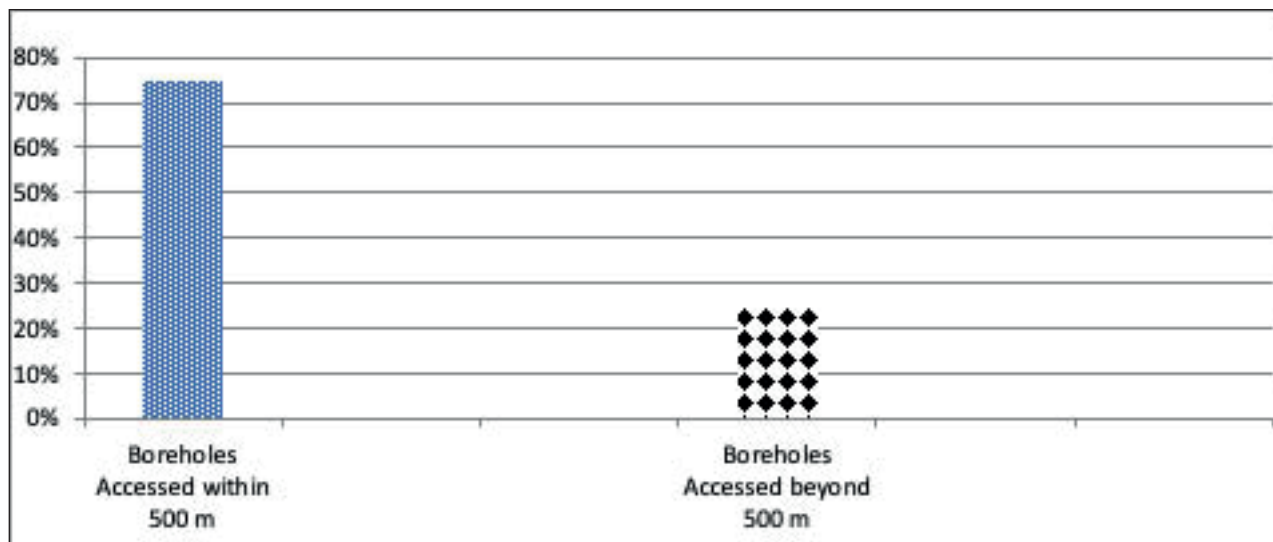


Figure 5.7 Households' Access to Water, distance of within or more than 500 metres

Source: District water office 2016

From the figure above, 75% of households are within the average distance of 500 metres from safe water source ie from boreholes while 25% of households are above the average.

Point Source Water Supply Functionality Levels

Apart from the construction of new water facilities, access to safe water is also dependent on the functionality of the water points.

According to JICA O&M survey final report of 2015, the non-functionality rate of water points in the district was at 18% which was far much better than the national rate of 35%. The functionality rate of water points in the district varies from one source type to the other and also from one TA to the other. Table 5.2.2 below provides data on functionality of boreholes and protected shallow wells in the district.

Table 5.8 Percentage of the Functional boreholes by TA/STA in the district.

No.	NAME OF TA/STA	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
1	Mkanda	70%	73%	77%	80%	82%
2	Mlonyeni	69%	71%	75%	78%	80%
3	Zulu & Simphasi	75%	77%	83%	87%	92%
4	Dambe & Kapondo	60%	62%	70%	75%	78%
5	Mduwa & Nyoka	57%	62%	71%	79%	83%
6	Mavwere	55%	57%	62%	77%	80%

Source: District Water Development Office 2017

As presented in the table above, there has been tremendous increase in the functionality rate of water facilities in the district from 2012 to 2016. This can be attributed to the pilot Project for the Enhancement

of Operation and Maintenance for Rural Water Supply which was undertaken in the district with support from JICA which started in 2010 and ended in 2015. The project created ownership of the communities to contribute a water fee for the Operation and Maintenance of the water facilities. The situation, however, is not the same and sustained in communities where protected shallow wells are used as a source of drinking water since most of the shallow wells dry up during the dry season. This is a burden to women who have to walk long distances to fetch safe water.

The Gravity Fed Water Supply System

The district has two rural gravity-fed schemes (GFS) namely Mchinji GFS and Tikoliwe GFS. The Mchinji GFS was established by government in 1975 and supplies safe water to TA Nyoka and TA Zulu, Mkanda and Mduwa in the district while Tikoliwe GFS supplies water in TA Mlonyeni.

Estimated Coverage by Communal Taps

Communities and households covered by the two (2) rural gravity-fed water supply systems access water through taps which are communal. Table below provides data on estimated population served by the communal taps installed across the communities.

Table 5.9 Estimated Coverage of Communal Taps by TA/STA in the district.

TA	Year	Projected Population	Communal Taps	Estimated Coverage
Mavwere	2012	110,325	2	0.21%
	2013	113,737	2	0.21%
	2014	117,255	2	0.20%
	2015	120,882	2	0.19%
	2016	125,225	2	0.19%
Mlonyeni	2012	45,395	30	7.90%
	2013	46,798	30	7.60%
	2014	48,245	30	7.40%
	2015	49,738	30	7.20%
	2016	51,525	30	6.90%
Zulu & Simphasi	2012	111,551	84	9%
	2013	115,002	84	8.70%
	2014	118,558	84	8.50%
	2015	122,225	84	8.20%
	2016	126,617	84	7.90%
Mduwa & Nyoka	2012	100,141	120	14.30%
	2013	103,238	120	13.90%
	2014	106,431	120	13.50%
	2015	109,723	120	13.10%
	2016	113,666	120	12.60%
Mkanda	2012	103,693	3	0.34%
	2013	106,900	3	0.33%
	2014	110,206	3	0.32%
	2015	113,615	3	0.31%
	2016	117,197	3	0.30%

Source: District Water Development Office 2017

As presented in the table above, there has been a decline in the coverage of water supply from Mchinji and Tikoliwe Gravity Fed Schemes. This can be attributed to an increase in the population of people served against the lack of rehabilitation and expansion of the existing schemes.

Functionality of Communal Taps

Only 14% of the population is served by communal taps. Table below provides data on functionality of communal taps in the district.

Table 5.10 Percentage of Functional Communal Taps by TA in the district.

NO.	NAME OF TA	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
1	Mkanda	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
2	Mduwa & Nyoka	47.5%	47.5%	47.5%	65%	65%
3	Mlonyeni	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
4	Zulu	4.7%	4.7%	4.7%	3.6%	2.4%

Source: District Water Development Office 2017

As shown Table 5:10 generally the functionality of communal taps is very low in the district due to break down of the pipelines and tap stands since there has been no major rehabilitation since the Mchinji GFS was established in 1975. The Tikoliwe GFS provided safe water for only three months upon being completed.

There was an increase in the functionality of the communal taps in TA Mduwa and Nyoka in 2015 and 2016 because of the National Water Development Programme Implementation Unit with support from African Development Bank, which provided resources for partial rehabilitation of Mchinji GFS.

There is a great need to rehabilitate and extend the pipelines to un-served areas close to the areas reached by the Gravity Fed Scheme.

There is no scheme management system in place such as a Water Users Association which is leading to lack of repairs to the broken down pipelines and communal taps.

5.2.1.2 Institutional and Management arrangements for Sustainable Operation and Maintenance of Water Supply Facilities

The operation management and maintenance (O&M) of point water sources and services at community level is the mandate of water committees (which may either be the Village Health and Water Committee (VHWC) or Water Point Committee) or a Tap Committee. The composition of the water committees is that sixty percent (60%) of the members are women while 40% are men. There are more women in the WPCs because they are the ones who are directly involved in the drawing of water hence being the right people to manage water issues.

According to JICA O&M survey final report of 2015, most of the water facilities (87%) are managed by the water committees while 13% of the water points do not have any management structure, which poses a threat in terms of its sustainability.

The number of trained committees managing water points is as low as 55.3% in the district. It should be noted that most of the WPCs were trained long time ago when the water facilities were constructed and handed over to them, hence the need of conducting refresher training in Operation and Maintenance procedures of the water facilities through Community Based Management (CBM) concept.

The Caretakers within the water committees are trained to do preventive maintenance and simple repairs of the water points.

In case of repairs beyond the capability of the Caretakers in the water committees, Area Mechanics which are spread in all the TAs and STAs in the district are contacted to do the repairs. The Area Mechanics in turn refer repairs beyond their capability to the few Water Monitoring Assistants in the district.

There is no any Water Users Association (WUA) to manage the Gravity Fed Schemes in the district.

5.2.2 Status of Sanitation (Access To Improved Facilities) and Hygiene Promotion

5.2.2.1 Access to Sanitary Latrines

The current sanitation interventions in the district is Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS), School- led Total Sanitation (SLTS), and Sanitation Marketing at a very small scale.

5.2.2.2 Population/Households/Dwelling Units, By Type Of Toilet Facility Used

The figure below shows the percent of people with access to safe sanitation by type of toilet in all TAs/STAs in the district from 2012 up to 2016.

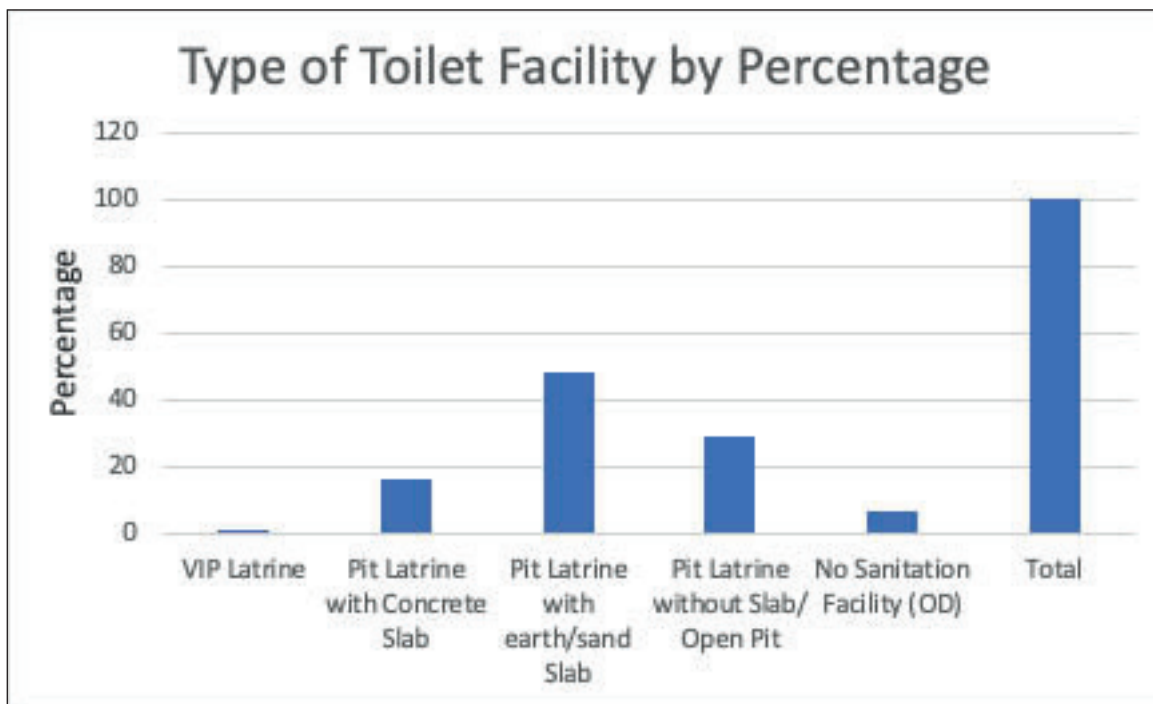


Figure 5.8 Percentage of Population with Access to safe Sanitation by Type of Toilet

Source: NSO 2018

As shown in figure above, 46% of the households in the district use pit latrines with earth/sand slab while 26% of the households use pit latrines without any slab.

Improved latrines coverage is very minimal in the district as only 16% and 1% use pit latrines with concrete slabs and VIP latrines respectively.

Open defecation is still practiced in the district since 6.2% of the households do not have sanitation facilities, hence the need of creating awareness to the communities to own and use proper pit latrines in all the households in the district.

5.2.2.3 Sanitation and Hygiene In Schools

Learners in schools are the most affected especially with diarrheal diseases hence their lives are endangered and affect their performance in school. In trying to reverse the situation in schools in the district, there is procurement and distribution of hand washing and water storage containers for use by learners in schools. Currently the sanitation intervention in use in all the primary schools in the district is School-led Total Sanitation (SLTS).

The district has only relied on the few WASH partners in the district for the construction of improved pit latrines in some of the schools in the district. It should be noted that most of the schools lack improved latrines.



Figure 5.9 Pictorial presentation of some hand washing and sanitation Facilities

Source: District Water Office 2016

Figure above presents students at Chioko Primary School in TA Simphasi which was one of the beneficiaries of hand washing facilities, to the left and the recommended Model Latrines at Namangwe Primary School in TA Mkanda, to the right.

The construction of child friendly and gender sensitive improved pit latrines, urinals and hand washing facilities in the primary schools strengthen the three Key Hygiene practice behavior by students.

5.3 EDUCATION SERVICES

The Malawi education policy overall goal is to improve the quality and relevance; access and equity; governance and management of inclusive education. This is in line with MGDS III key priority area number 2 which is to improve quality and relevance for all, linking to the SDGs goal number 4 thus to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, thereby reduction illiteracy levels in the country. Currently, illiteracy level for Mchinji is at 34% and it has to be reduced to 20% by 2022.

5.3.1 Primary Education

Under Primary Education, the district has a total number of 2,330 primary school teachers (1,492 males and 838 females) and 182,417 learners (88,245 boys and 94,172 girls) which translates to 78:1 Pupil Teacher Ratio. The total number of classrooms is 1,508 which translates to 120:1 Pupil Classroom Ratio while the total number of teachers' houses is 551 which translates to 4:1 Teacher House Ratio. Table 5:12 shows trend for important performance indicators in Education.

Table 5.11 Performance indicators in Education from 2013 to 2017

No	Important Performance Indicators in Education						
	Indicator	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	National Standard
1	Pupil Teacher Ratio	70:1	68:1	69:1	75:1	77:1	60:1
2	Pupil Classroom Ratio	140:1	121:1	118:1	116:1	119:1	60:1
3	Pupil Desk Ratio	13:1	12:1	12:1	16:1	21:1	2:1
4	Pupil Toilet Ratio	118:1	112:1	110:1	117:1	100:1	60:1
5	Pass rate at STD 8 PSLE (%)	70	74	77	73	78	71.6
6	Teacher Housing Ratio	3:1	3:1	4:1	3:1	3:1	1:1

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

5.3.1.1 Primary Schools

Mchinji district has 205 primary schools. Primary education in the district is provided by government or Local Education Authority (District Council), the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (Nkhoma Synod), The Roman Catholic Church (Lilongwe Diocese) and the Private Sector. Government owns 66 of the schools, the Roman Catholic schools account for 78 while CCAP owns 57 and 4 are registered private schools. The percentages showing government schools are established every year. Table 5:13 below provides further information.

Table 5.12 Data on Number of Schools by Levels and Ownership

School owner	Year	Number of schools owned				Percentage (%)
		STD1-4	STD1-6	STD1-8	Total	
Government	2015	19	9	32	60	30%
	2016	14	16	31	61	30%
	2017	15	15	36	66	32%
CCAP	2015	5	4	48	57	28%
	2016	4	6	47	57	28%
	2017	3	6	48	57	27%
Catholic	2015	9	8	63	80	40%
	2016	4	11	61	76	37%
	2017	6	8	69	83	40%
Private	2015	0	0	3	3	2%

School owner	Year	Number of schools owned				Percentage
		STD1-4	STD1-6	STD1-8	Total	(%)
	2016	0	0	3	3	2%
	2017	0	1	3	4	2%
District	2015	33	21	146	200	
	2016	22	33	146	201	
	2017	24	34	147	205	

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

Most primary schools in Malawi have up to 8 classes (standard 1-8). There are 133 out of 205 primary schools in Mchinji with classes 1 to 8. Twenty-four primary schools have standards 1 to 4 while 30 have standards 1 to 6. In 2013, there were fewer schools in Mchinji as compared to 2017. There has been establishment of new government schools in some T/As for instance in Gumba, Kazyozyo, Dambe, Mduwa, Simphasi and Zulu were introduced which were initiated by communities in terms of resources and few newly private schools were established in the TAs of Zulu and Dambe.

5.3.1.2 Primary School Enrolments

Education sector champion free primary education policy whereby it continues to encourage children to acquire formal education. This led to increases in enrollment over years under analysis. Table 5: 14 below provides data on primary school enrolments in all the TAs.

Table 5.13 Primary School Enrolment by Sex in all the TAs across the District.

Primary School Enrolment by Sex										
TA	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G
Dambe	7,372	7,317	7,569	7,550	7,480	7,491	7,735	7,782	8,590	7,929
Gumba	0	0	0	0	3,588	3,822	3,333	3,339	3,270	3,445
Kapondo	2,957	2,907	3,001	2,451	3,180	3,262	3,386	4,082	2,700	5,489
Kazyozyo	0	0	0	0	590	553	584	567	545	542
Mavwere	11,823	11,648	12,479	12,107	12,649	12,569	12,595	12,773	13,319	13,418
Mduwa	7,380	7,600	8,187	8,342	7,858	8,376	8,028	8,707	8,341	8,725
Mkanda	14,191	13,889	11,921	11,899	10,807	10,455	11,398	11,375	11,548	11,741
Mlonyeni	10,054	9,582	10,805	10,613	10,825	11,010	10,778	10,988	11,434	11,522
Nyoka	4,830	4,871	5,411	5,291	5,988	5,802	5,620	5,629	6,160	6,254
Pitala	0	0	859	836	899	915	1,000	968	967	989
Simphasi	6,358	6,595	6,514	6,603	6,707	6,762	6,450	6,445	7,370	7,566
Zulu	12,612	12,440	12,463	12,935	13,156	13,869	14,681	14,652	14,001	16,552
Total	77,577	76,849	79,209	78,627	83,727	84,886	85,588	87,307	88,245	94,172

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

As shown in Table above, there were a total of 179,717 pupils, by 2017, in the district schools, out of which 94,172 were girls. That means an improvement on increasing access and equity to education as more children are likely to acquire basic education regardless of their sex. However, the girl enrolment is usually

higher in the lower classes than in the upper classes due to increased dropout rate in upper classes because of early marriages and unwanted pregnancies. So far, the enrollment trend is increasing along the years. For instance, in 2013 there were 76,849 girls and 77,577 boys while in 2017 there were 94,172 girls and 88,245 boys thanks to USAID through the Lilongwe Diocese that came with the project “Keeping Girls in School” in T/A Zulu and CLEAR in T/A Dambe.

5.3.1.3 Pass rate in Primary Schools

Pass rate is an indicator of education quality as it is used to measure the learner’s achievements and monitor learning outcomes. Primary School Leaving Certificate Examination (PSLCE) is the national assessment and placement tool for learners to enter into secondary schools. Table 5:15 provided data on PSLCE pass rates for 2016 and 2017.

Table 5.14 Passes of Standard Eight Pupils by Gender and Traditional Authority

PASS RATES IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS												
Traditional Authority	2016						2017					
	Sat		Pass		T	%F PSD	Sat		Pass		T	%F PSD
	M	F	M	F	TT		M	F	M	F	TT	
Dambe	316	273	246	182	428	67	314	332	245	225	470	68
Gumba	154	103	123	59	182	57	133	139	104	86	190	62
Kapondo	179	143	130	76	206	53	120	113	108	83	191	73
Kapunula	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kazyozyo	51	39	16	18	34	46	65	56	43	23	66	41
Mavwere	722	503	637	411	1048	82	784	569	729	488	1217	86
Mduwa	324	291	277	210	487	72	362	409	310	331	631	81
Mkanda	451	327	365	225	590	69	575	557	448	393	841	71
Mlonyeni	450	334	348	191	539	57	481	318	410	268	678	84
Pitala	68	36	22	14	36	39	43	49	28	22	50	45
Nyoka	265	236	150	100	250	42	98	82	74	52	126	63
Simphasi	234	192	146	68	214	35	240	238	211	218	439	91
Zulu	936	763	735	680	1415	89	993	1032	789	710	1499	69
Total	4150	3240	3195	2234	5429	68	4208	3894	3499	2899	6398	74

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

As described in the table above, girls are generally lagging behind their male counterparts in academic achievements as it can be observed from the table above. The average pass rate for district is at 78% against the national pass rate of 71.6%. Simphasi and Mavwere has the highest girl’s pass rate due to the construction of new school blocks in these areas while in Kazyozyo the pass rate reduced in 2013 from 46% to 41% in 2017.

5.3.1.4 Dropout of Pupils by Traditional Authority

The sector experiences drop outs of learners every year. There are variations in dropout rates in the different Traditional Authorities. A comparative analysis of school drop-out rates for boys and girls shows that there are no noticeable differences. Table 5:16 below provides data for details.

Table 5.15 Average Dropout Rate from 2016 to 2017 by T A and sex.

Traditional Authority	PUPIL DROPOUT BY SEX							
	2016				2017			
	M	F	TT	%	M	F	TT	%
Dambe	356	379	735	4.7	329	387	716	4.3
Gumba	286	259	545	8.1	312	295	597	8.8
Kapondo	166	173	339	4.5	47	72	119	2.1
Kazyozyo	10	7	17	1.4	5	5	10	0.9
Mavwere	597	607	1204	4.7	680	696	1376	5.1
Mduwa	381	441	822	4.9	510	525	1035	6.0
Mkanda	649	670	1329	5.8	495	600	1095	4.4
Mlonyeni	448	482	906	4.1	391	472	863	3.7
Pitala	24	39	63	3.2	30	24	54	2.7
Nyoka	134	196	330	2.9	188	262	450	3.6
Simphasi	457	460	917	7.1	605	460	1065	7.1
Zulu	439	389	828	2.8	472	407	879	2.8
Total	3947	4102	8049	4.6	4064	4205	8269	4.6

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

Generally, dropout rate increases in upper classes. More girls tend to drop out of school because of early pregnancies, early marriages and lack of interest as they do not have role models; especially in rural areas that have few female teachers. There are high dropout rates from T/As Gumba, Mduwa and Simphasi due to child labour in estates enticing learners to drop from schools. Despite the project by CLEAR in the area of T/As Gumba and Dambe which is trying to end child labour and early marriages, much effort is needed from the relevant authorities such as parents and chiefs to report the cases related to child labour and child marriages to the offices of Labour, Social Welfare and Police.

5.3.1.5 Classroom Distribution

Availability of classrooms is key to the attainment of education objectives as they provide a conducive teaching and learning environment. In this regard, the education sector players, have over the years, been constructing school classrooms. School classrooms are either permanent or temporary. Permanent classrooms refer to those constructed with strong bricks, iron-roofed and cemented floors, while temporary classrooms constitute class rooms constructed using materials that result in weak walls, are grass thatched and have uncemented floors. Table 5:17 below provides data on number of classrooms by TA and their nature/durability

Table 5.16 Classrooms from 2013 to 2017 by Traditional Authority

Traditional Authority	Number of Schools					Number of Classrooms										
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Permanent					Temporary					
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
Dambe	17	19	19	19	19	81	103	95	106	114	30	18	24	16	22	
Gumba	0	0	11	11	12	0	0	29	29	29	0	0	0	0	0	
Kapondo	7	7	7	7	7	39	38	40	40	36	8	7	6	0	9	
Kazyozyo	0	0	0	1	1	0	10	10	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	
Mavwere	28	28	28	28	28	193	200	200	232	228	11	10	10	13	19	
Mduwa	18	18	18	18	19	78	82	90	100	109	41	33	47	42	50	
Mkanda	45	43	32	33	35	136	137	141	146	146	57	38	35	67	68	
Mlonyeni	27	28	28	28	28	155	162	175	174	183	21	14	16	18	20	
Pitala	0	2	2	2	2	5	5	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	
Nyoka	12	12	12	12	12	72	72	79	79	78	13	13	11	8	10	
Simphasi	17	18	18	18	18	82	86	79	100	109	2	12	21	14	8	
Zulu	23	23	23	24	24	186	192	187	216	216	22	24	30	34	34	
Total	194	198	198	201	205	1027	1116	1132	1239	1265	212	175	206	218	246	

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

As per table above, there were a total of 1,511 classrooms in the 205 schools of the district. 1,265 were permanent classrooms while 246 are temporary. This resulted into an average of 7.3 classrooms per school. However, in some TAs such as Kapunula, there are no schools which means something has to be done so that schools should be established in this area; whereas TA Mavwere has the highest number of Classrooms thanks to World Vision which has helped in classroom block construction. In the area of Traditional Authority Gumba has, there are very few classrooms. This is because no intervention has been made to improve the situation. In 2013, the number of classrooms was 1027 and in 2017 the number increased to 1265 because of the interventions of World Vision and Action Aid in T/A Mavwere and Dambe respectively. Pupils in other T/As learn in the open space where their learning is likely to be disturbed by passers-by, noise and poor weather conditions such as heat, cold, wind and rain. These conditions disturb pupils' concentration and may have a negative impact on their academic performance.

PUPIL - CLASSROOM RATIO

Availability of classrooms is key to the attainment of education objectives as they provide a conducive teaching and learning environment. In this regard, education sector players, have over the years, been constructing school classrooms. School classrooms are either permanent or temporary. Permanent classrooms refer to those constructed with strong bricks, iron-roofed and cemented floors, while temporary classrooms constitute class rooms constructed using materials that results in weak walls, grass thatched, and uncemented floors. Some of the temporary classrooms form include makeshift structures and under trees. Table 5:18 provides data for number of learners using one classroom, on average.

Table 5.17 Average number of learners per classroom at TA level

TA	Pupil Classroom Ratio								
	2015			2016			2017		
	Pupil	C/room	Ratio	Pupil	C/room	Ratio	Pupil	C/room	Ratio
Dambe	14971	119	126	15517	125	124	16519	134	123
Gumba	7410	53	139	6672	59	113	6715	63	106
Kapondo	6442	46	140	6468	46	140	5489	45	122
Kapunula	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kazyozyo	1143	10	114	1151	10	115	1087	10	109
Mavwere	25218	210	120	25368	275	92	26737	247	108
Mduwa	16234	137	118	16735	142	118	17066	159	107
Mkanda	10807	148	73	22773	166	137	23289	179	130
Mlonyeni	21835	191	114	21766	192	113	22956	203	113
Nyoka	11790	90	131	11249	80	141	12414	88	141
Pitala	1814	13	140	1968	13	151	1956	13	150
Simphasi	13469	106	127	12895	114	113	14936	117	128
Zulu	27025	217	125	29333	250	117	30553	250	122
Total	158158	1340	118	171895	1472	116	179717	1508	119

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

The higher enrolment and less number of classrooms has caused the Pupil to classroom ratios in the district to be much higher than the desirable ratio of 60:1. These figures signify the degree of congestion in the classrooms if all pupils were to learn in the classrooms. Overcrowding of pupils in classes poses a big challenge on classroom management as mobility of pupils and teachers in the classes is limited. For instance, TA Pitala has the highest ratio of 150:1 despite having two schools. There are fewer classrooms but more children going to school hence there is need for school establishment and construction of school blocks in T/As Pitala, Mlonyeni and Mkanda. However, on average, Zulu has the lowest despite having more schools.

DISTRIBUTION OF DESKS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

There 8208 desks against the 179717 learners from primary schools. This results into an average pupil to desks ratio 21:1 in the district against an ideal ratio of 2:1. That means the majority of learners sit on the floor when learning. Table 5:19 provides data on how desks are distributed in public primary schools in the district.

Table 5.18 Distribution of Desks in Public Primary Schools in the District

Traditional Authority	Total Enrolment Year 2017	No of Desks	Ratio
Dambe	16,519	1,243	13:1
Gumba	6,715	672	9:1
Kapondo	5,489	406	14:1
Kapunula	0	0	0
Kazyozyo	1,087	85	13:1
Mavwere	26,737	2,004	13:1
Mduwa	17,066	489	35:1
Mkanda	23,289	582	40:1
Mlonyeni	22,956	835	27:1
Pitala	1,956	16	122:1
Nyoka	12,414	378	33:1
Simphasi	14,936	624	24:1
Zulu	30,553	874	35:1
Total	179,717	8,208	21:1

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

From the table above, T/A Pitala has the highest PDR as there are few desks that means there is a need of more desks whereas T/A Gumba is the best as its ratio is 9:1; that means schools have desks but again, not reaching the recommended rate of 2:1.

5.3.1.6 Teacher Housing in Primary School

The district has a total of 798 houses out of which 69% are permanent and 31% are temporary housing structures against the 2,330 teachers filling established posts. This results into a teacher to house ratio of 3:1, on average. Table below provides raw data for teachers.

Table 5.19 Housing Levels in Primary Schools by Traditional Authority

Traditional Authority	Teachers' Houses by Status								
	2015			2016			2017		
	Perm	Temp	TOTAL	Perm	Temp	TOTAL	Perm	Temp	TOTAL
Dambe	30	40	70	34	49	83	34	49	83
Gumba	30	7	37	34	5	39	34	5	39
Kapondo	18	15	33	18	12	30	18	12	30
Kapunula	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kazyozyo	3	5	8	3	6	9	3	6	9
Mavwere	87	20	107	78	16	94	78	16	94
Mduwa	46	53	99	54	39	93	54	39	93
Mkanda	70	47	117	73	51	124	73	51	124
Mlonyeni	60	26	86	79	25	104	79	25	104
Pitala	2	3	5	3	4	7	3	4	7
Nyoka	42	14	56	47	16	63	47	16	63
Simphasi	30	13	43	48	6	54	48	6	54
Zulu	73	13	86	80	18	98	80	18	98
Total	491	256	747	551	247	798	551	247	798

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

Evidently, from Table above, there is acute shortage of teachers' houses in TAs Pitala and Kazyozyo where teachers are scrambling for one house. This is because most schools in these TAs are reluctant to do self-help projects.

The provision of adequate teachers' houses with basic facilities such as electricity, running water, and other facilities, can address this challenge as more teachers will be motivated to teach in the rural schools. Table below provides overview on teachers - house ratio by Traditional Authority.

Table 5.20 Teachers - House Ratio by Traditional Authority

TA	Teachers House Ratio								
	2015			2016			2017		
	Teachers	Houses	Ratio	Teachers	Houses	Ratio	Teachers	Houses	Ratio
Dambe	210	70	3:1	197	83	2:1	192	83	2:1
Gumba	93	37	2:1	89	39	2:1	82	39	2:1
Kapondo	80	33	2:1	81	30	3:1	77	30	3:1
Kapunula	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kazyozyo	13	8	2:1	19	9	2:1	13	9	1:1
Mavwere	384	107	4:1	379	94	4:1	366	94	4:1
Mduwa	195	99	2:1	185	93	2:1	176	93	2:1
Mkanda	280	117	2:1	293	124	2:1	272	124	2:1
Mlonyeni	346	86	4:1	301	104	3:1	340	104	3:1
Pitala	24	5	5:1	24	7	3:1	19	7	3:1
Nyoka	155	56	3:1	121	63	2:1	147	63	2:1
Simphasi	180	43	4:1	148	54	3:1	165	54	3:1
Zulu	441	86	5:1	447	98	5:1	481	98	5:1

TA	Teachers House Ratio								
	2015			2016			2017		
	Teachers	Houses	Ratio	Teachers	Houses	Ratio	Teachers	Houses	Ratio
Total	2,401	747	3:1	2,284	798	3:1	2,330	798	3:1

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

5.3.1.7 Pupil Teacher Ratio

Although teacher/ pupil ratio is not a reliable indicator of the quality of education, it gives a good indication of the teachers' workload. A higher ratio means more workload and a possible negative effect on the quality of teaching. Table below provides details on Pupil Teacher Ratio in the district.

Table 5.21 Pupil -Teacher Ratios in the District for 2016 and 2017

TA	2016			2017		
	Enrolment	No of Teachers	Pupil Teacher Ratio	Enrolment	No of Teachers	Pupil Teacher Ratio
Dambe	15,517	197	78:1	16,519	192	86:1
Gumba	6,672	89	74:1	6,715	82	81:1
Kapondo	7,468	81	92:1	5,489	77	71:1
Kapunula	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kazyozyo	1,151	19	60:1	1,087	13	84:1
Mavwere	25,368	379	66:1	26,737	366	73:1
Mduwa	16,735	185	90:1	17,066	176	97:1
Mkanda	22,773	293	77:1	23,289	272	85:1
Mlonyeni	21,766	301	72:1	2,956	340	68:1
Pitala	1,968	24	82:1	122,414	19	102:1
Nyoka	11,249	121	92:1	1,956	147	84:1
Simphasi	12,895	148	87:1	14,936	165	91:1
Zulu	29,333	447	65:1	30,553	481	64:1
Total	172,895	2,284	75:1	179,717	2,330	77:1

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

As indicated in the table above, the pupil to teacher ratio is generally increasing and higher than the national recommended average ratio of 60:1. The high pupil/ teacher ratio makes it difficult for a teacher to manage a class. That means learners do not get the desired individual assistance from their teachers and this negatively affects the learners' performance. The lower pupil/teacher ratio contributes positively to quality of teaching/ learning in the schools as teachers use learner centred approach of teaching with ease. The table above indicates that T/As Mduwa, Simphasi and Pitala need more teachers to reduce the Pupil/Teacher ratio while T/A Zulu has the lowest ratio of 64:1 which is not very far from the recommended.

5.3.2 Secondary Schools

Education sector also oversees provision of secondary education. These secondary schools are spread across the district.

5.3.2.1 Secondary School Enrolment by Sex and TA/STA

Attainment of education objectives is best reflected in the school enrolment rates. In secondary schools, it is affected by transition. The higher the transition rate the higher the secondary enrolment. Table below provides data for secondary school enrolment in TAs.

Table 5.22 Data for Secondary School Enrolment by TAs

Schools by Sex											Level by Form	
TA	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2017	
	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G	1-2	1-4
Dambe	464	346	492	547	516	454	476	534	509	466		1-4
Gumba	59	24	57	46	49	60	61	50	88	70	1-2	-
Mavwere	595	536	609	526	657	454	476	438	727	711	-	1-4
Mduwa	174	166	192	526	114	119	198	134	167	127	-	1-4
Mkanda	555	330	597	379	496	395	388	273	517	330	-	1-4
Mlonyeni	607	617	633	600	469	592	694	543	706	603	-	1-4
Pitala	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nyoka	248	274	247	265	400	325	274	283	280	400	-	1-4
Simphasi	1635	1759	163	162	1595	1409	138	155	146	176	-	1-4
Zulu	226	129	1799	1800	168	162	1434	1544	1667	1675	-	1-4
Total	4563	4181	4789	4851	4464	3970	4139	3954	4807	4558	-	

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

As depicted in Table above, there are fewer girls in the secondary schools such that their proportion is less than 50% except for T/As of Nyoka, Simphasi and Zulu. More girls tend to drop out of school because of early pregnancies, early marriages and lack of interest as areas do not have enough secondary schools. Further to that poverty and vulnerability lead to a girl to dropout.

5.3.2.2 Pass Rates in Secondary Schools

In Mchinji, on average, the pass rate has been 54% between 2013 and 2015. This is affected by factors such as lack of teachers, infrastructures, learning and teaching materials, and many more. Table below provides raw data on MSCE passes and pass rates.

Table 5.23 Secondary School Passes in the District by Clusters

Traditional Authority	MSCE											
	2013			2014			2015			2016		
	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%	Sat	Passed	%
Dambe	206	84	41	235	127	54	263	119	45	218	95	44
Gumba	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-
Mavwere	247	106	43	279	109	39	176	74	42	219	126	58
Mduwa	80	30	38	96	29	30	105	39	37	115	30	26
Mkanda	174	94	54	174	80	46	246	108	44	189	87	46
Mlonyeni	275	126	46	355	149	42	359	159	44	401	141	35
Nyoka	79	26	33	120	53	44	160	70	44	173	85	49
Simphasi	79	17	22	73	27	37	73	27	37	63	15	24
Zulu	734	519	71	1032	752	73	1087	803	74	630	261	41
Total	1874	1002	54	2364	1326	56	2469	1399	57	2008	840	42

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

As presented in the table above variations of pass rates in the TAs have been contributed by different factors. Though the average pass rate at MSCE is above 50%, the district could have been better had the learners been provided with the necessary requirements such as well-equipped libraries, laboratories and adequate qualified teachers

5.3.2.3 Number of Secondary Schools by TAs

Not all traditional Authorities have secondary schools. Pitala, Kazyozyo, Kapunula and Kapondo do not have secondary schools that is both government and private owned. Ownership of schools in Mchinji district is an important issue because it depicts the level of investment in education sector by different stakeholders. It also shows the extent to which various stakeholders demonstrate their commitment to the goals and objectives of the education sector. Table 5:25 below provides data on secondary schools in TAs.

Table 5.24 Number, Names and Ownership of Secondary Schools by TAs

Traditional Authority	No of Schools	Name of the schools	Name of Proprietor	School Level By Form
Dambe	4	Gandali CDSS, Chambidzi CDSS, Kapiri pvt Sec, Mbwabwa pvt Sec,	Govt, SJ Kanyatula & Mrs Hellen Zalira Chabunya	Senior: Form 1-4
Gumba	1	Gumba CDSS,	Govt	Form 1-2
Mavwere	3	Waliranji CDSS, Kamwanya CDSS & Kabzala CDSS	Govt	Senior: Form 1-4
Mduwa	1	Sopa CDSS,	Govt	Senior: Form 1-4
Mkanda	3	Mkanda CDSS, Mkanda Sec Sch & Takondwa CDSS	Govt	Senior: Form 1-4
Mlonyeni	3	Bua CDSS, Kholoni CDSS & Misale CDSS	Govt	Senior: Form 1-4
Nyoka	2	Mchinji Mission CDSS, Home of Hope Sec	Govt	Senior: Form 1-4
Simphasi	1	Chimteka CDSS	Govt	Senior: Form 1-4
Zulu	9	Mchinji Sec, Ludzi CDSS, Magawa Sec, Kochilira CDSS, Ludzi Girls Sec, St Annespvt Sec, Mthunzipvt Sec, KapatsaPvt Sec Fairview pvt Sec	Govt Lilongwe Diocese E S Mwale Mr W Chilinda MadalitsoKamatenda	Senior: Form 1-4
Total	27			

Source: Mchinji Education Office 2017

As described in Table above, the district has 20 Public secondary schools and 7 registered private secondary schools. Gumba CDSS is the only junior secondary school in the district with only forms 1 and 2. There are a total of 142 permanent classrooms for secondary schools which averages to 5 classrooms per school. T/A Zulu has 9 secondary schools while Gumba has 1 secondary school which is junior. There is a need to upgrade Gumba secondary school to a full secondary and in the T/As of Pitala, Kazyozyo, Kapunula Kapondo there is low transition rate to secondary school due to limited secondary school places hence there is need to establish their own community day secondary schools.

5.3.2.4 Secondary Education facilities

STATUS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL CLASSROOMS ACROSS TAs

Secondary school classrooms are categorized into permanent and temporary. This situation is the same across the district. The table below portrays status of classrooms.

Table 5.25 Secondary schools and Status of classrooms from 2013 – 2017

TAs	No of Schools					No of Classrooms									
						Permanent					Temporary				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Dambe	4	4	4	4	4	11	11	11	11	11	3	3	3	3	3
Gumba	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Mavwere	3	3	3	3	3	14	14	14	14	14	1	1	1	1	1
Mduwa	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Mkanda	3	2	2	2	2	14	14	14	14	14	0	0	0	0	0
Mlonyeni	3	3	3	3	3	20	20	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	0
Nyoka	2	2	2	2	2	8	8	8	8	8	0	0	0	0	0
Simphasi	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	4	4	0	0	0	0	0
Zulu	9	9	9	9	9	49	49	49	49	49	0	0	0	0	0
Total	26	26	26	26	27	122	122	122	124	124	5	5	5	5	5

Source: Mchinji Education Office 2017

As depicted in above, there is an increase in the total number of classrooms in 2016 and 2017 as compared to 2013 because the Government constructed a two-classroom block at Gumba Junior secondary school.

SCIENCE LABORATORIES AND LIBRARIES IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Conventional secondary schools have adequate laboratories and libraries as compared to Community Day Secondary Schools (CDSS) because development in these CDSS is done by the communities which have limited financial resources. Table below provides data on science laboratories and libraries in secondary schools by TAs

Table 5.26 Science Laboratories and Libraries in Secondary Schools by TAs

TAs	No of Schools					No of Science Laboratories					No of Libraries				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Dambe	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Gumba	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mavwere	3	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mduwa	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mkanda	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Mlonyeni	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nyoka	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Simphasi	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zulu	9	9	9	9	9	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Total	26	26	26	26	27	8	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	7

Mchinji Education Office, 2017As in the table above, the district has only 8 Science Laboratories and 7 libraries. Most community day Secondary Schools have no laboratories and libraries. Lack of laboratories reduces learner's chances of having hands on experience on scientific experiments. This reduce learners' interest in science subjects and hence failure to excel in sciences during MSCE examinations. Lack of libraries weakens the reading culture and results in poor performance of learners during national examinations.

5.3.2.5 Secondary School Staffing Levels

There are 378 Secondary school teachers in the district. 37% of them are not qualified to teach in secondary schools and these are mostly primary school teachers. Most of these non-qualified teachers are teaching in community day secondary schools (CDSS) and private schools. Table below summarizes distribution of teachers in secondary schools.

Table 5.27 Distribution of Secondary School Teachers

TA	No. of Trained Teachers						No of Untrained Teachers						Total No. of Teachers					
	2016			2017			2016			2017			2016			2017		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Dambe	15	2	17	19	4	23	20	8	28	13	5	18	35	10	45	32	9	41
Gumba	1	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	2	2	0	2	3	0	3	3	0	3
Mavwere	15	4	19	14	5	19	21	3	24	20	3	23	36	7	43	34	8	42
Mduwa	3	1	4	5	1	6	5	1	6	4	1	5	8	2	10	9	2	11
Mkanda	18	3	21	18	2	20	20	2	22	19	2	21	38	5	43	37	4	41
Mlonyeni	13	11	24	16	9	25	13	2	15	16	3	19	26	13	39	32	12	44
Nyoka	12	5	17	13	5	18	3	3	6	6	3	9	15	8	23	19	8	27
Simphasi	4	0	4	4	0	4	5	1	6	5	1	6	9	1	10	9	1	10
Zulu	107	24	131	96	24	120	13	6	19	24	15	39	120	30	150	120	39	159
District	188	50	238	186	50	236	102	26	128	109	33	142	290	76	366	295	83	378

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

5.3.2.6 Pupil/Teacher Ratio in Secondary Schools

The pupil to qualified teacher ratio shows a shortage of secondary schools. However, most of the qualified hold diplomas and degrees in other fields not related to Education; for example, degree in Agriculture, Theology etc. The recommended Student/Teacher ratio of Secondary level is 40:1. The table below gives cross-sectional view of Student/Teacher ratios for secondary schools per T/A.

Table 5.28 Pupil to Teacher Ratio in Secondary schools per T/A in Mchinji district.

TA	Enrolment	Teachers/Qualified	Total	Pupil/Teachers Qualified	Pupil/All Teachers Ratio
Dambe	975	23	41	42	24
Gumba	158	1	3	158	53
Mavwere	1438	19	42	76	34
Mduwa	294	6	11	49	27
Mkanda	847	20	41	42	21
Mlonyeni	1309	25	44	52	30
Nyoka	680	18	27	38	25
Simphasi	322	4	10	81	32
Zulu	3342	120	159	28	21
Total	9365	236	378	40	25

Source: Mchinji Education Office. 2017

5.3.3 Summary of Issues from the sector.

Issues in education can be grouped into three

1. Quality and Relevance
 - › Inadequate teachers across the district
 - › Inadequate teachers house in all Traditional Authorities.
2. Low pass rate at MSCE especially in CDSS. This requires more qualified teachers and construction of laboratories
3. Access and Equity
 - › High dropout rate in senior classes at primary schools
 - › Low transition rate to secondary school due to limited secondary school places. Eg Kazyozyo, Kapunula and Pitala TAs need own CDSS immediately.
 - › Inadequate classrooms
4. Governance and Management
 - › No proper/lack of Office space at DEM, some Zones and most school which is effecting service delivery
 - › Inadequate community participation in development activities

5.4 SOCIAL WELFARE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

5.4.1 Community Development Sector

Community Development Policy provides a clearly defined, consistent and collaborative people centered approach to development. It further aims at promoting community self-reliance through capacity building and active participation of community members which ensures ownership and sustainability of development initiatives. This is aligned to MGDS III on other development areas on integrated rural development, thus to improve local governance and democratic rural participation. Its further aligned to SDGs goal 11 which is to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

The sector is there to stimulate and rekindle the interest of communities living in rural areas to undertake various development activities such as:

- (a) Community mobilization and Capacity building
- (b) Resilience, Livelihood and Nutrition
- (c) Functional Adult Literacy

5.4.1.1 Community Mobilization

To identify priorities, communities should have the voice and decision making power. Village development committees and communities identify issues that affect them prioritize and come up with village action plans. The VAP from each VDC are then consolidated at area Development Committee level and are submitted to the District Council for further prioritization and planning.

In order to implement their action plans, communities initiate projects which are unaided or aided. Most of these projects include, construction of school blocks, construction of teachers houses, bridges, village access roads, guardian shelters, digging shallow wells, a forestation, under five clinics, victim support units' table below illustrate some of them.

Table 5.29 Showing Community Aided and Unaided projects by T/A

T/A	School blocks		Teachers Houses		Mother Waiting Homes		CVSU		Under Five	
	Aided	Unaided	Aided	Unaided	Aided	Unaided	Aided	Unaided	Aided	Unaided
Mawvere	228	19	78	16	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mlonyeni	183	20	79	25	0	2	0	0	0	0
Zulu	216	34	80	18	0	0	1	1	0	0
Kapondo	36	9	18	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mduwa	109	50	54	39	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dambe	114	22	34	49	0	0	1	0	1	0
Simphasi	109	8	48	6	0	1	0	0	0	0
Nyoka	78	10	47	16	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mkanda	146	68	73	51	0	1	1	0	0	0
Sub Gumba	29	0	34	5	0	0	0	1	0	0
Sub Pitala	7	6	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub Kapunula	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub Kazyozyo	10	0	3	6	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total	1265	246	678	247	0	5	3	3	1	0

Source: Mchinji Community Development Office, (2016)

According to the table above, there is a high number of aided projects as compared to unaided projects because communities mostly depend on donors to assist them and with the coming in of democracy; self help spirit has dwindled resulting into low community participation over the years. The other problem affecting community participation are chieftaincy wrangles in some traditional authorities which affect development activities.

5.4.1.2 Capacity Building

District community Development office in partnership with NGO's is responsible for building capacities of different target groups. The trainings are designed to strengthen the capacity at grass root level, where the VDC is the main planning unit which spearheads all development activities. Table 5:12 below shows the capacity building trend of training per year from 2013 to 2017 in the district. The table indicates that none was training under adult literacy, and Gender, HIV and AIDS.

Table 5.30 Showing capacity building Trend of training per year

Type of training/year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Business Management training	14	5	18	20	31
Leadership	16	12	17	14	36
Nutrition	8	0	14	7	26
Gender, HIV and AIDS	0	0	0	0	0
Project management committee training	34	27	30	15	12
Adult Literacy	0	0	0	0	0
CBM	3	7	5	8	6

5.4.1.3 Community Resilience, livelihoods and Nutrition

In order to improve the capacity of households to manage their livelihoods and nutrition well being, various institutions and Organizations, (Public and Non-Governmental Organizations) such as Community Development, World Vision, YONECO, CARD and Save the children facilitate economic activities of groups; be it for women only, men only or mixed. This is done through encouraging people (women, men and even the youth) to join COMSIP/VSL in order to increase household incomes by venturing into skills development such as bee keeping, irrigation, bakery and are also encouraged to venture into small scale businesses so that build resilience in times of shock.

Table 5.31 showing number of groups and membership of COMSIP/VSL Groups

T/A	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total groups	Membership	
							Male	Female
Mamvere	26	56	67	79	125	353	540	6672
Mkanda	8	15	24	36	56	139	208	386
Dambe	6	12	21	38	54	131	80	4450
Mduwa	8	17	20	23	28	96	297	1089
Simphasi	4	16	19	25	27	91	546	1197
Zulu	7	10	16	28	37	98	20	360
Nyoka	6	10	15	25	37	90	50	50
Mlonyeni	4	9	19	23	31	86	40	450
Kapondo	1	3	2	2	10	18	40	450
Total	67	151	183	281	396	1104	1796	13813

Source: Community Development Office, 2018.

There are few groups in TA Kapondo because it is the only TA which has been sidelined by most NGOs as far as VSL is concerned, whilst T/A Mavvere has the highest due to the interventions of World Vision which has been operating in the area for more than 5 years.

Most men are involved in many economic activities that is why they are not much involved in groups and VSLs are mostly patronized by women which leads to economic inequalities in the family, resulting into gender based violence's. However other VSL are self formed groups and not registered by the district, so to capture their data has proven to be difficult and these groups continue to suffer from poor financial and business management skills. Extension services in financial and business management are mainly restricted to groups that are affiliated to an organization while the majority is left to manage businesses based on common sense or practices. This leads to loss of disposable income in the households; hence there is need

for concerted efforts so that every group in the district is reached with financial and business management skills.

5.4.1.4 Functional Adult Literacy

The adult literacy rate for the district is at 73.4%. The male illiteracy rate is at 80% while that of women is at 69.4% (Integrated Household Survey, 2016). To address the problem of illiteracy, Mchinji district council established a total of 270 Chichewa and 58 English adult literacy classes to help adults who had no chance of attending formal education or those that had dropped out in the early years of primary education to read, write, numerate and speak English.

Adult Literacy Programme classes exist in all Traditional Authorities and apart from imparting skills in reading, writing and numerating, they also offer lessons in governance and human rights, health, agriculture, economic empowerment and crosscutting issues.

The aim of this program is to provide basic literacy and numeracy skills to illiterate adults and provide post-literacy initiatives to graduates of basic adult literacy classes so as to ensure active participation in the national agenda. The table below shows the trend of Centers in all Traditional Authority both Chichewa and English.

Table 5.32 Showing Functional Literacy trend

TA	Number of Centers									
	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Chic	Eng	Chic	Eng	Chic	Eng	Chic	Eng	Chic	Eng
Mavwere	37	0	37	0	37	6	29	6	29	6
Mlonyeni	46	0	46	0	46	3	30	3	30	3
Zulu	53	0	53	0	53	6	30	6	30	6
Kapondo	34	0	34	0	34	7	30	7	30	7
Mduwa	30	0	30	0	30	8	30	8	30	8
Dambe	35	0	35	0	35	0	27	5	27	5
Simphasi	22	0	22	0	22	0	30	7	30	7
Nyoka	3	0	33	0	3	0	4	10	34	10
Mkanda	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	6	30	6
Totals	290	0	290	0	290	58	270	58	270	58

Source: Community development office (2018)

As presented in Table above, there has been a drop in the number of chichewa centers from 290 to 270 because of funding cuts the department has been experiencing since 2016, hence the closure of 20 centers, the number of classes have remained constant since 2016 because of low partner's interest in adult education coupled with inadequate extension staff to offer extension services.

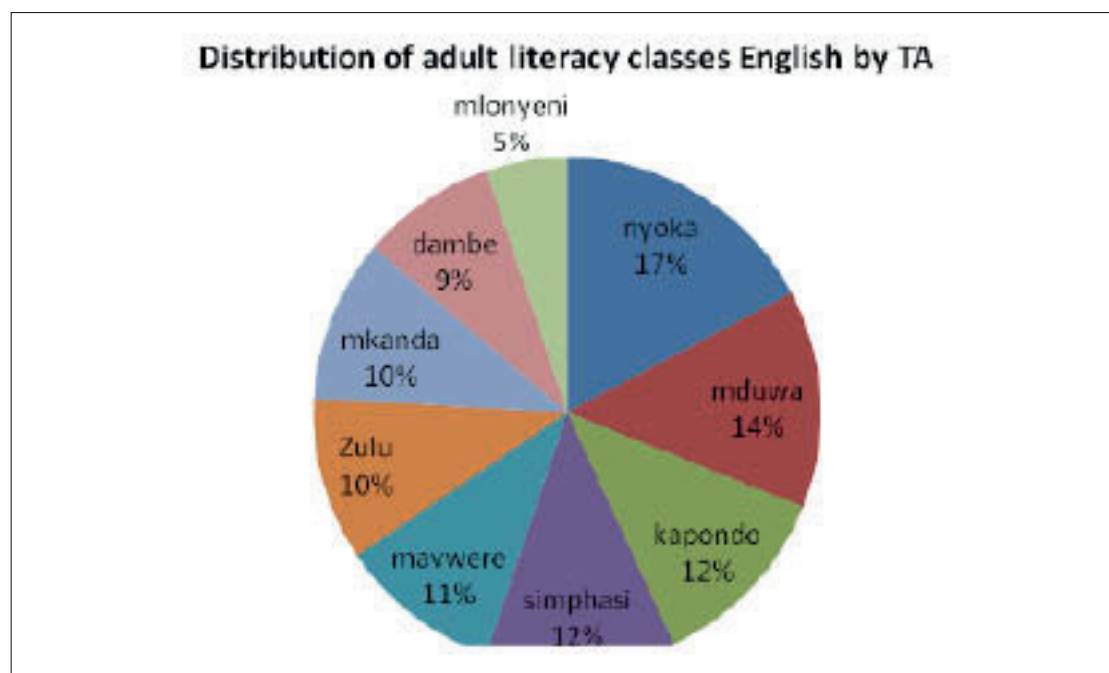


Figure 5.10 Percentage of English classes in all T/As

Source: Community Development (Office 2017)

English classes were introduced in all the traditional authorities to cope up with unlimited demand and offer chances to those who wish for continued learning. Demand is still high because the district has only 58 English centers against 270 Chichewa centers and absorption rate into the English classes is very minimal.

Table 5.33 Enrollment Trend in adult literacy by T/A

T/A	Centers	Enrollment trend														
		2013			2014			2015			2016			2017		
Gender		M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Dambe	27	23	159	182	32	243	275	53	248	301	64	322	386	82	341	423
Kapondo	30	43	160	203	65	169	234	76	267	343	92	364	456	102	386	508
Mavwere	29	66	240	306	78	378	456	89	431	520	95	489	584	63	625	652
Mduwa	30	54	402	456	66	502	568	75	603	678	98	669	767	143	742	885
Mkanda	30	70	278	348	56	338	444	67	497	564	76	612	688	82	691	773
Mlonyeni	30	88	236	324	76	376	452	86	415	501	98	470	568	125	551	676
Nyoka	34	31	249	280	45	312	357	55	421	476	65	524	589	78	523	601
Simphasi	30	68	234	302	78	256	334	87	345	432	92	495	587	102	554	656
Zulu	30	30	206	236	33	335	368	45	413	458	56	510	566	66	558	624
TOTALS	270	473	2164	2637	529	2909	3488	633	3640	4273	736	4455	5191	843	4971	5798

Source: Community Development Office 2017

The activity has been facing a lot of problems as highlighted. However, enrollment has been increasing over time because of the massive sensitization meetings. However male participation has been low because most men shy away from attending adult literacy classes and they are also busy with other activities. This calls

for innovative strategies which would encourage more men to attend the classes as they are decision makers in the family. T/A Dambe has less learners as compared to the rest T/As because 90% of adults are busy in estates as such they don't have time to attend adult literacy classes.

5.4.1.5 Multi Sector collaboration

Most sectors such as Public Works, Education, Water, Agriculture, Health collaborate with the sector in implementing activities.

5.4.1.6 Human Resource Capacity in community Development

Table below shows establishment versus available staff.

Table 5.34 Establishment versus available staff

Position	Establishment	Available Staff
District Community Development officer (DCDO)	1	1
Senior Assistant Community Development Officers (SACDO)	2	0
Assistant Community Development Assistants (ACDO)	7	3
Senior Community Development Assistants (SCDAs)	5	0
Community Development Assistants (CDAs)	14	6
Support staff (Copy typist and cleaners)	1	0
Total	31	10

Source: Community Development (Office 2017)

Table 5.35 Distribution of CDAs by Traditional Authority against population

T/A	Number of CDAs	2018 population	CDA population staff
Mavwere	2	102,309	2:51,1545
Mlonyeni	2	57,408	2:28,704
Zulu	0	69,069	0:69,069
Kapondo	1	10,626	1:10,626
Mduwa	1	66,854	1:66,854
Dambe	1	62,248	1:62,248
Simphasi	0	50,571	0:50,571
Nyoka	1	41,416	1:41,416
Mkanda	1	75,328	1:75,328
Sub Gumba	0	16,953	0:16,953
Sub Pitala	0	41,736	0:41,736
Sub Kapuntula	0	9,726	0:9,736
Sub Kazyozyo	0	6,971	0:6,971

Source: Community Development (Office 2017)

The table above shows an acute shortage of frontline staff as compared to the population per T/A. According to the establishment, the office was supposed to have 14 frontline staff with each CDA serving 10,000

population. The present situation is hindering the council to offer effective extension services hence there is need to fill the existing gaps so that extension services are not compromised

5.4.2 Social Welfare Services

The National Social Welfare policy launched in 2019 mandates the Social Welfare Sector to operate under the five key priority areas which include coordination of Social Welfare Services; Regulation of stakeholders and ensuring minimum standards in the implementation of Social Welfare Services; resource mobilization for the most vulnerable individuals, families, groups or communities; information, communication and advocacy for social welfare delivery; and building capacity for proper management of Social Welfare Services. The sector is guided by MGDS III chapter 7 on Gender, Youth Development, and Persons with disabilities and Social Welfare services. Social Welfare Sector encompasses the services of Family and Child Welfare, Probation and After Care, Children support services, Generic Services, Coordination and collaboration of Non -Governmental Organizations.

5.4.2.1 District Human Resource Capacity

STAFF FOR SOCIAL WELFARE ACTIVITIES

The delivery of Social Welfare services at council level are delivered through district and community level officers. At district level, the services are delivered through Social Welfare officers (SWOs) and at community level through Child Protection Officers and community members who work as volunteers. Tables below provides data for SWOs.

Table 5.36 Staff Status for Mchinji District Social Welfare Office.

Position	Establishment	Filled
District Social Welfare Officer/	1	1
Social Welfare Officer	1	0
Assistant Social Welfare Officers	4	4
Social Welfare Assistants	6	3
Social Services Support Officers	2	2
Accountant Officers	1	1
Drivers		3
Messengers	1	1
Copy typist	1	1
Cleaner	1	0
Watchmen	1	0

Source: Mchinji Social Welfare Office 2017

From Table above, there are shortfalls of Social Welfare Officers and Social Welfare Assistants in the district. The absence of the cleaner and the watchmen also pose a threat to the office environment and security. There is need for the council to fill these gaps.

STATUS OF COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION WORKERS

At community level, Mchinji Social Welfare services are managed by Child Protection Workers. They are based at Traditional Authority level as indicated in the table below.

Table 5.37 Distribution of Child Protection Workers by Traditional Authority

Traditional Authority	Required	Available	Working as Volunteers
Dambe	4	1	1
Mkanda	4	1	2
Mavwere	4	0	2
Chimwala	2	0	0
Mlonyeni	4	1	0
Zulu	4	1	0
Simphasi	4	0	1
Nyoka	4	0	1
Kapondo	4	1	1
Mduwa	4	1	1
Pitala	2	0	1
Kapunula	2	0	0
Gumba	2	0	0
Kazyozyo	2		0
Totals	46	6	10

Source: Mchinji Social Welfare Office 2018

As per the table above, there are big gaps of Child Protection Workers to promote child protection issues in the district. The district only has six recruited Child Protection Workers out of the required 46. It also has 10 that are working as volunteers but were fully trained as child protection workers; hence the Council needs to recruit them then get introduced on the payroll. There is also need to recruit even more officers to meet the high demand on child protection services. The gaps result in having inadequate information on children issues.

5.4.2.2 Services Provided by Social Welfare Office

The department of Social Welfare offers numerous services to the public that take on board both adults and children. Instances of these are services for the welfare of family and Children; care for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children; those with disability; and Social Cash Transfers. Besides, the office handles cases of diversified nature.

HANDLING DIVERSIFIED CASES

Social welfare office endeavors to handle cases that take the form of matrimonial disputes, child marriages, human trafficking and destitution. It also implements initiatives for child reformation, education support, supporting people with disability, foster care and institutional care. Table 5:19 below provides data for the aforementioned initiatives.

Table 5.38 Summary of Nature of Cases handled from 2014 to 2018 and their trends.

NATURE OF CASE	No. OF CASES REPORTED AND RESOLVED									
	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Reported	Re-solved	Reported	Re-solved	Reported	Re-solved	Reported	Re-solved	Reported	Resolved
Matrimonial Disputes	62	62	77	77	58	58	34	34	33	33
Child Marriages	44	44	88	80	102	99	121	87	119	104
Foster Care and institutional care	14	14	11	11	8	8	5	5	14	12
Child reformation	8	8	10	10	15	15	25	25	14	13
Destitution	23	23	19	19	14	14	22	19	51	35
Educational Support	62	41	87	22	88	14	99	14	137	14
Human Trafficking	6	6	8	8	12	12	16	16	55	55
Support to people with disability	6	6	11	11	9	9	4	4	18	14

Source: Social Welfare Office-2017

As depicted in Table above, child marriage cases are on the rise. Some of the contributing factors include poverty, peer pressure and early teenage pregnancies which makes parents resort in forcing the children into early marriages as one way of resolving the case.

Destitution is also on the rise due to migration of people looking for employment and tracing of relatives. Most people go to Zambia seeking for employment but without proper travelling documents. This results into deportation. Others become destitute when they fail to trace their relatives and would wish to go back home. Similarly, human trafficking is on the rise. Most cases are labour related cases where people are trafficked into Zambia without proper documents and where minors are victims that do various jobs such as working in farms, herding cattle, molding bricks and working in bars (in the case of girls). On educational support, most learners are not assisted due to limited funding which does not meet the increasing number of applicants.

FAMILY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

Mchinji Council has Community Victim Support Units in all of its 11 Traditional Authorities. These VSU do provide services such as guidance and counseling of couples in matrimonial disputes, child support services for most vulnerable children such as orphans, child headed households, female headed household, elderly headed households etc. Apart from handling these cases in the traditional authorities where these have occurred, the services are also handled at the council's Social Welfare Office.

Care for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children

The number of Children below the age of 18 years is 331,659 of which 165,199 are males and 166,460 are females. The district has 33,055 orphans of which 7,355 have lost both parents, 15,255 have lost their fathers and 10,445 have lost mothers while 6,590 have their one or both of their parents diagnosed with HIV (Ref. Social Welfare-2016 updates). Table below provides data for distribution of orphans across TAs.

Table 5.39 Status of Orphans per Traditional Authority

Traditional Authority	No of Orphans by sex		
	Males	Females	Total
Dambe	1,189	1,940	3,129
Mkanda	1,340	1,861	3,201
Mavwere	1,434	1,755	3,189
Chimwala	594	1,217	1,811
Mlonyeni	1,234	1,765	2,999
Zulu	1,951	1,990	3,941
Simphasi	738	1,417	2,155
Nyoka	749	1,298	2,047
Kapondo	1,025	1,341	2,366
Mduwa	1,339	1,840	3,179
Pitala	302	610	912
Kapunula	204	665	869
Gumba	331	715	1,046
Kazyozyo	926	1,285	2,211
Totals	13,356	19,699	33,055

Source: Mchinji Social Welfare Office 2016

Community Child Care Alternatives

The department of Social Welfare is responsible for Coordination and collaboration of Community-Based Organizations, Faith-Based Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations. This involves consultation and networking with various NGOs, CSOs, FBOs and CBOs to provide support services to vulnerable individuals and groups in the district following the minimum standards and guidelines as stipulated by the Social Protection Policies like the Social Welfare Policies and other legal instruments at both national and international levels. At community level, these are supplemented by social norms which are also known as by-laws at district level. Community-Based Organizations are community driven. NGOs and Government sectors just facilitate and monitor progress. Table 5:21 below provide details for registered organizations per TA.

Table 5.40 Distribution of Registered Organizations as per Traditional Authority

TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY	CBOs	FBOs	NGOs
Dambe	16	1	5
Zulu	12	6	5
Mduwa	15	0	7
Kapondo	11	2	1
Mkanda	23	1	0
Mavwere	12	0	1
Mlonyeni	12	0	1
Simphasi	22	0	1
Nyoka	2	0	0
Totals	125	10	21

Source: District Social Welfare Office, 2017

The table above shows that Kapondo, Mkanda, Mavwere, Mlonyeni, Simphasi and Nyoka have a few NGOs operating in their areas while Dambe, Zulu and Mduwa enjoy the support of several organizations. The vulnerability assessment shows Nyoka is better off than the rest of the Traditional Authorities.

CHILDREN SERVICES

There are different services which look into the issues of children in order to achieve the holistic development of the child. Pre- schools and community based childhood care falls under Early Childhood development. It is normally falling within children services. Children social welfare services are those services responsible for children welfare which among others include pre-schools or early childhood development, community-based childcare centers and children corner services.

Community-based Child Care Centres

These are designated places for early childhood development where children are mentored in readiness for enrolment into schools. Their services are provided by care givers supported by parent committees. These are distributed across all Traditional Authorities as shown in Table 5:22 below.

Table 5.41 Distribution of Community-Based Child Care Centres by Traditional Authority

No	Traditional Authority	2014	2015	2016
1	Mkanda	49	49	48
2	Mavwere	45	46	44
3	Dambe	31	35	39
4	Mlonyeni	19	37	40
5	Zulu	33	35	35
6	Simphasi	32	32	30
7	Nyoka	29	34	29
8	Kapondo	28	28	30
9	Mduwa	43	43	43
	Totals	309	339	338

Source: Mchinji Social Welfare 2017.

From Table above, the number of CBCCs increased due to sensitization on the establishment of early childhood development centres. There is also community political will after the Government and stakeholders appealed for the services of ECD. Communities also witnessed the benefits to children who go to primary school, after graduating from pre-schools.

Distribution of CBCC care givers in the district

The distribution in the table below provides the data as from 2014 to 2017 by Traditional Authority. It shows the total number of care givers, their Sex, Distribution, Trained and Untrained.

Table 5.42 Distribution of Caregivers pe Traditional Authority, Trained and Untrained.

Traditional Authority	No. of Care Givers	No. of Trained			No. of Untrained		
		M	F	T	M	F	T
Mkanda	273	34	146	180	32	61	93
Mavwere	255	54	156	210	11	34	45
Dambe	190	47	73	120	22	48	70
Mlonyenio	180	28	62	90	26	64	90
Zulu	165	26	99	125	13	27	40
Simphasi	180	29	82	111	18	51	69
Nyoka	160	18	72	90	26	44	70
Kapondo	155	21	69	90	17	48	65
Mduwa	362	33	94	127	93	142	235
Totals	1,920	290	835	1,143	258	519	777

Source: Social Welfare- 2017

According to Table above, there have been more female volunteers than male volunteers in all the Traditional Authorities (about 29.5% for males and 70.5% for females). Such is the case because culturally, women are regarded responsible for care and protection especially of ages between 3 and 5 years. There is also high drop-out of caregivers which compromises sustainability of the ECD centres hence affecting the quality of the service.

Enrolment of children in Community-based Child Care Centres

Each year, each community-based child care centre registers children that have met the required age to benefit from services offered at each centre. Table below provides data for enrolment per TA and by sex. Table 5:1 Enrolment for Children in CBCCs per TA, by gender from 2014 to 2016.

Table 5.43 Enrolment for Children in CBCCs per TA, by gender from 2014 to 2016

T.A	2014			2015			2016		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Mkanda	1,329	1,312	2,641	1,336	1,375	2,711	1,356	1400	2756
Mavwere	1,489	2,316	3,805	1,399	2,400	3,799	1,421	2431	3852
Dambe	1,055	998	2,053	1,121	1,023	2,144	1,209	1103	2312
Mlonyeni	1,198	1,114	2,312	1,201	1,034	2,235	1,222	1120	2342
Zulu	1,700	1,645	3,345	1,671	1,702	3,373	1,681	1689	3370
Simphasi	3,269	3,187	6,456	3,310	3,321	6,631	3,412	3498	6910
Nyoka	999	963	1,962	986	1,029	2,015	998	1191	2189
Kapondo	981	1,186	2,167	1,002	910	1,912	1,141	1166	2307
Mduwa	1,477	1,409	2,886	1,467	1,475	2,942	1,496	1488	2984
Total	13,497	14,130	27,627	13,493	14,269	27,762	13,936	15086	29022

Source: Social Welfare Office; 2016

The Table above shows that the number of the enrolled children increases because of school feeding program which some CBCCs provide.

Children Corner Services

Children Corner Services target children from 6-18 years with a purpose of providing psychosocial support to most vulnerable children who develop mental disturbances from circumstances beyond their capacity which include orphanhood, child headed households, children leaving in households whose parents are vulnerable etc.

Table 5 provides data for number of Children Centres in each Traditional Authority (TA), enrolment, children attending, and number of trained and untrained facilitators at each centre.

Table 5.44 Children Corner Centres per TA

TA	No of Centres	No of Children Attending CC			No of Care Givers			No Trained			No Untrained		
		M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Mkanda	13	350	396	746	21	27	48	6	9	15	15	18	33
Mavwere	31	4859	4356	9215	56	99	155	21	33	54	35	66	101
Dambe	19	800	771	1571	21	51	72	12	24	36	9	27	36
Mlonyeni	16	837	877	1714	33	47	80	6	9	15	27	38	65
Zulu	12	1168	1256	2424	24	36	60	9	9	18	15	27	42
Simphasi	22	2049	2099	4148	48	62	110	9	18	27	39	44	83
Nyoka	31	2485	2545	5030	67	88	155	21	24	45	46	64	110
Kapondo	34	1262	1342	2604	71	99	170	27	30	57	44	69	113
Mduwa	29	904	1143	2047	62	83	145	18	21	39	44	62	106
Total	207	14,714	14,785	29,499	403	592	995	129	177	306	274	415	689

Source: Social Welfare, 2017

Table above shows that there is good participation of children in most of the centres. Both boys and girls attend in children corner centres. However, the capacity of facilitators poses a threat because most of them are untrained. This compromises quality of services. The main reason for this is inadequate financial resources to train them on how to manage the centres.

Probation and After Care Services

Probation service deals with child reformation and development of children in conflict with the law. Children, due to different situations, fall in conflict with the law through unlawful behaviors such as theft, deviation from normal society norms, substance and drug abuse, instigations by adult offenders just to mention but a few. Table 5:26 below provides data that portrays trends in cases and gender of child offenders.

Table 5.45 Probation Cases from 2014 to 2016.

Nature of Case	2014			2015			2016		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Prostitution	2	4	6	0	3	3	5	3	8
Theft	5	1	6	7	0	7	8	1	9
Substance and drug abuse	4	3	7	3	0	3	15	9	24
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Child marriages	12	34	46	13	65	78	9	113	122
Defilement	1	6	7	3	12	15	1	14	15

Source: Social Welfare Office 2017

The table above shows an increase of prostitution and child marriages due to various reasons which include poverty, peer pressure, orphanhood and misunderstanding of children's rights. Another contributing factor is that there is increased awareness which has broken the silence in hiding child rights violations hence increase in reporting such cases to relevant platforms.

School Social Work

School Social Work is one of the generic services provided by Social Welfare Sector. This includes counseling of children and parents to ensure a child goes to school. There are several cultural barriers which deny the right to child education. Some of these include poverty, gender imbalances where a boy child is more favored compared to a girl child.

Social Welfare Office also, among others, lobby for support in cases of learners lacking school materials such as school fees and uniforms. Currently, the office is facing very big problems in sourcing school fees soon after National Aids Commission dropped from assisting councils with school fees. The office supports very needy learners with little funds from ORT.

This support is given to orphaned students and other vulnerable children who are in schools. The total amount of funds disbursed in the 2012 -2013 school session was MK 2,909,183.20 of which K59, 583.20 was for operational costs. The number of needy students supported was 55 of which 14 were girls and 41 boys.

In 2016, the office managed to pay for 22 learners; in 2017 only 14 learners and in 2018 managed to pay only for 1 learner and yet the number of vulnerable learners in need of support kept on increasing every year. The District Council needs to solicit more funds to reduce the problem by either looking for more funding or create busary funds within the council. However, the office supports Mua learners with disabilities by providing them with transport to and from school during holidays.

DISABILITY ISSUES

With changing of Ministries where we had separate Ministry responsible for people with disabilities, much of the services for people with disabilities were undermined due to financial resource limitation. As a result, the office did not have the updated data for most areas of disability.

Distribution of people with albinism-2016 updates

The office managed to collect data for people with albinism following interferences with their lives, of recent. Table 5:27 below provides data for distribution of people with albinism by Traditional Authorities. It categorizes adults and children by gender and their distribution.

Table 5.46 People with Albinism by Traditional Authorities.

Traditional Authority	Total	Male Adults	Male children	Total	Female Adults	Female Children	Total
Mkanda	16	3	6	9	1	6	7
Mawwere	14	4	6	10	2	2	4
Dambe	25	5	7	12	5	8	13
Mlonyeni	14	2	1	3	7	4	11
Zulu	6	1	1	2	1	3	4
Simphasi	12	2	4	6	2	4	6
Nyoka	11	0	4	4	2	5	7
Kapondo	3	0	1	1	1	1	2
Mduwa	14	6	4	10	2	2	4
Kazyozyo	4	0	0	0	1	3	4
TOTALS	119	23	34	57	24	38	62

Source: Mchinji Police and Social Welfare, 2017

The situation in table above indicates that there are slightly more women with albinism (62) than men (57), giving the difference of 5. It also shows that there are more children (65) compared to adults (54). Women and children therefore need special care like a secured accommodation. The table below details housing priority for people with albinism in order to help alleviate the security threats that they have been facing.

Table 5.47 People with Albinism in Acute need of Housing, by TA and Sex

Traditional Authority	Males	Females	Total
Mkanda	3	2	5
Mawwere	4	2	6
Dambe	5	5	10
Mlonyeni	1	7	8
Zulu	1	1	2
Simphasi	1	2	3
Nyoka	0	1	1
Kapondo	0	1	1
Mduwa	5	2	7
Kazyozyo	0	1	1
TOTALS	20	24	44

Source: Mchinji Police and Social Welfare, 2017

As per table above, there are many people with albinism with poor housing as far as security is concerned. Further to the data provided, most people with albinisms fall within the inactive age group of just below 65 years. Most of them are local farmers.

SOCIAL CASH TRANSFER

Social Cash Transfer is one of the Malawi Government's Social Protection Programmes run by the Department of Social Welfare with objectives of reducing poverty, hunger and starvation in the ultra poor and labour constrained households. Another objective is to increase enrolment and attendance in schools by chil-

dren from these ultra- poor and labour constrained households. It was piloted in Mchinji in 2006. Currently about 10 thousand households are benefiting from the programme. Beneficiary households are grouped in various categories in tandem with the criteria for the programme. See Table below for details regarding programme beneficiaries.

Table 5.48 Categories of individual beneficiaries in the Beneficiary Households

CATEGORY	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Beneficiary household	2,404	5,558	7,964
Individuals and beneficiary households	13,242	16,750	29,992
Elderly headed	1,524	3,614	5,138
Child headed	4	7	11
Children	7,323	9,127	16,450
Orphans	7,283	6,360	13,643
Persons in Primary Schools	6,325	5,883	12,208
Persons in Secondary Schools	580	266	866
Elders	873	5,597	6,470
Persons with disabilities	265	221	486
Persons who declared themselves living with HIV	232	526	758

Source: *Social Welfare Report, 2017*

Table above shows that persons with disabilities are not benefiting much from the service because of the beneficiary selection criteria which focuses on the households and not individual vulnerability. Child headed beneficiaries are also least beneficiaries because child headed households are not many and these were the only ones reported during the year constituting the report.

Social Cash Transfer Emerging Issues regarding Social Welfare functions in Mchinji

Mchinji Social Welfare is facing a number of emerging issues which undermine the objectives of the sector that include achieving self- reliance by marginalized groups. These emerging issues are as outlined below:

- Child marriages, Pregnancies and prostitution. These challenges fall under Child Care and Protection sub-programme and are attributed to poverty, bad cultural practices and misunderstanding of democracy by the children themselves.
- Knowledge gap with regards to human rights. Most legal instruments, both national and international, are not evenly distributed hence communities are not familiar with and knowledgeable of laws and their rights. Childcare, Protection and Justice Acts are not available in most communities.
- Most Social Welfare Services are run by volunteers. Due to lack of incentives, most volunteers drop out of volunteerism. For instance, caregivers in ECDs do not receive any honoraria as is the case with other volunteers such as those in Adult Literacy.

5.4.2.3 Challenges

- Understaffing which includes Child protection Workers
- Under funding for example allocation of 3 million annual ort
- Office accommodation. No purposefully built office.

5.4.3 Gender Issues

The district Gender Development Office is mandated to spearhead implementation of the National Gender Policy at district level with an aim to eradicate gender based violence, strengthen gender mainstreaming and women empowerment at all levels in order to facilitate the attainment of gender equality and equity in the country. This is one of the ways of promoting the welfare and development of the people of Malawi (National Gender Policy, 2015). The Gender Development Office is implementing developmental issues in line with MGDS III ODA 7.3 on Gender, Youth Development, Persons with Disability and Social Welfare. It also responds to SDG goals such as Goal 1 which is no poverty, Goal 4 being Equal education, Goal 5 on Gender Equality, and Goal 10 which is Reduce Inequality.

In Mchinji district, gender mainstreaming has been placed at the center of the national development process to enhance participation of women and men, girls and boys for sustainable and equitable development for poverty eradication. The Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III which is the overarching strategy for the country, recognizes gender equality to be very important for the attainment of sustainable, social and economic development. The National Gender program has the following sub-programs:

- (a) Social and Economic Empowerment which covers Women Economic Empowerment and Women in Governance and Leadership.
- (b) Gender Mainstreaming
- (c) Gender Based Violence

5.4.3.1 Social and Economic Empowerment

This encompasses women economic empowerment and women in Governance and Leadership. Women and men participate in socio-economic activities in order to contribute fully to development of their families as well as that of the nation at large. Women and Men have the right to control and benefit from the available resource and improve their economic status and wellbeing.

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT ACTIVITIES

The following table shows the number of groups involved in the different business activities and their membership composition by gender and TA. (Economic activities were carried out from 2015 to 2016 by the district council in Mchinji)

Table 5.49 Economic Activities by Groups, Gender and TA

Name of T/A	Number of Groups					Total groups	Membership	
	2013	2014	Male	Female	2017			
			2015	2016				
Mamvwere	26	56	67	79	125	353	540	6,672
Mkanda	8	15	24	36	56	139	208	386
Dambe	6	12	21	38	54	131	80	4,450
Mduwa	8	17	20	23	28	96	297	1,089
Simphasi	4	16	19	25	27	91	546	1,197
Zulu	7	10	16	28	37	98	20	360
Nyoka	6	10	15	25	37	90	50	50
Mlonyeni	4	9	19	23	31	86	40	450
Kapondo	1	3	2	2	10	18	40	450
Total	67	151	183	281	396	1,104	1,796	13,813

Source: Mchinji Community Development Office, 2015 /2016

According to Table above, there are 1,104 business groups engaged in various businesses like Farming, Pig-gery, Bee keeping, Petty Trading and Irrigation which comprises 13,813 women and 1,796 men translating to 71% and 26.5% respectively. This implies that through income generating activities, women and men can improve their living standards.

There is need to continue empowering the communities with knowledge and skills in business management. This has to be carried out in collaboration with all government sectors at MCDC and stakeholders in development. The communities require expertise from Agriculture, Trade, Irrigation and Water, Environment, Health, Education, Community Development, Youth, Transport, Forest and Public Works, to diversify farming as source of income or food hence the need for teamwork in order for the success of MCDC.

5.4.3.2 Gender Based Violence (GBV)

According to the National Gender Policy, GBV is defined as any act perpetrated by a person against another that results in, or is likely to result in physical, sexual abuse or psychological harm or suffering including threats of such acts coercions or arbitrary deprived of liberty whether occurring in public or private life. GBV is one of the factors that impede development at household as well as national level. Therefore, it is the responsibility of everyone to fight against GBV in order to achieve SDG no1 which emphasizes poverty eradication.

Rights of men, women, boys and girls are violated sexually, physically, economically, and psychologically. In particular, rights of women and girls are violated most; while men are usually perpetrators of violence. Although there are several legal documents that are held to protect and punish GBV perpetrators, Mchinji District Social Welfare Office had recorded different types of GBVs from 2014 to 2017 as indicated in Table below.

Table 5.50 Cases of Gender Based Violence Recorded and Handled from 2014 to 2016

TYPES OF CASES	2014			2015			2016		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Physical	6	39	45	9	44	53	7	43	50
Sexual	0	22	22	0	61	61	4	89	93
Emotional	21	33	54	29	41	70	11	91	102
Economic	2	7	9	7	35	42	7	56	63
TOTALS	29	101	130	45	181	226	29	279	308

Social Welfare office 2017

The Table above indicates that women are more vulnerable compared to men as far as Gender-Based violence is concerned. In 2014 about 77.7% are women where as men the percentage is as lower as 22.3%. In 2015 the percentages were 80.1% for women and 19.9% for men, in 2016 it was 90.6% women and 9.4% men; in 2017 men were 3.1% and women were 96.6% and in 2018, 12.6 % are men and 87.4% are women. Cases are even worse on sexual and emotional violence. The increase on sexual violence among others is due to intensified sensitization on child marriages as a form of sexual abuse to mainly girls. So many cases of child abuses were reported where the families have been dissolved and girls encouraged going to school. There are many cases reported by community victim support units this time compared to the past when we had no active community victim support units. Some cases are also reported to One Stop Centers. Many cases on emotional violence are due to multiple partners and deserting of one partner as one ways of solving family hardships mainly because of poverty. The sector works in close collaboration with Social Welfare sector which also works on guidance and counseling in community victim support units and one stop center among other structures and stakeholders.

The sector has the strategies put in place to address Gender based violence. These are active involvement of traditional leaders, promotion of a culture of reporting cases in communities, sensitization meetings on Gender based violence to promote positive parenting skills and using the legal system to bring perpetrators to justice.

5.4.3.3 Human Resources for Gender Mainstreaming

At district level, Gender Department has one officer. However, the officer will work with other sectors since gender is one of the cross cutting issues.

5.4.3.4 Opportunities for Enhanced Gender and Development Functions

The gender and development functions have opportunities for enhancing their contribution to the district's socio-economic growth and development. These include:

- (a) Willingness by all sectors to mainstream gender issues in their programming
- (b) Availability of capacity by different sectors to conduct sensitization meetings on gender in their own programmes.

5.4.3.5 Challenges and Solution to the Gender and Development sector

- (a) Bad cultural practices, traditional beliefs and gender stereotypes are some of the challenges to achievement of gender equality and equity.

- (b) Inadequate financial resources for implementation of gender development activities for 2017/18 financial year. Very few gender activities were budgeted for by Community Development and Social Welfare departments in their 2017/18 budget. The department of gender is new at the district; it was instituted after the budget for the 2017/18 financial year was passed.

5.4.3.6 Possible Solutions to the Gender Mainstreaming Challenges

- (a) Orient DEC members, ADCs, VDC, Councillors, MPs, and the communities (Women, girls, men and boys) on gender.
- (b) Conduct orientation courses for women, men, girls and boys focusing on GBV
- (c) Conduct sensitization meetings
- (d) Conduct campaigns on gender based violence
- (e) Conducting separate seminars for boys and girls encouraging them to continue with school.
- (f) Conduct trainings on economic empowerment

5.5 YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

5.5.1 Youth Services

The National youth policy is a call to provide action to address challenges facing the youth and the strategy of the Department of youth development is to provide an enabling environment for the youth to develop social and employable skills and promote healthy living by significantly including them in various stages of decision making program planning and project development, in line with the MGDS III of other development areas dealing with gender, youth development, persons with disability and social welfare that ensures effective participation of the youth in decision making processes and increased participation in economic activities. The strategies of both the youth development department and the MGDS III are also linked to the SDG Goal 3: good health and wellbeing, & Goal 5: Gender equality.

Youth services in the district are coordinated by the District Youth Office. The Youth Office was established and mandated to offer services which would develop the full potential of the Youth of Malawi and promote their active participation in personal and National development. Youth are all persons from age 10 to 35 years regardless of their sex, race, education, culture, and religion, economic, marital and physical status. The implication is that the proportion of the population being categorized as youths has increased: 2 out of 5 Malawians are youths.

Ideally, this should imply allocation of a bigger proportion of resources to the youth sector both at national and district levels.

5.5.1.1 Youth Population in Mchinji

Mchinji has a population of about 602,305 of which 296,786 are males and 306,519 are females representing 48.3% and 51.7% respectively. The district has over 294,540 youth representing 48.9% of the district population. Table below provides youth population, age ranges, per Traditional Authority

Table 5.51 Youth Population by Traditional Authority (excluding those aged 35)

	10-14	15 – 19	20 – 24	25 – 29	30 – 34	Total
Mchinji	88,404	68,232	56,623	42,471	38,810	294,540
TA Mlonyeni	7,782	6,142	5,710	4,310	3,724	27,668
TA Mavwere	14,842	11,724	9,121	7,029	6,590	49,306
TA Zulu	9,611	7,718	7,000	5,379	4,816	34,524
TA Simphasi	7,610	5,502	4,765	3,495	3,216	24,588
TA Mduwa	10,383	7,756	5,958	4,401	4,095	32,593
TA Nyoka	6,278	4,728	3,868	2,741	2,606	20,221
TA Mkanda	11,156	8,453	6,964	5,183	4,682	36,438
TA Gumba	2,555	1,920	1,435	1,135	1,031	8,082
TA Pitala	681	538	467	346	287	2,319
TA Kapunula	1,515	1,154	818	624	535	4,646
TA Kazyozyo	1,043	809	632	451	402	3,337
TA Dambe	9,499	7,239	5,816	4,107	3,802	30,463
TA Kapondo	1,663	1,293	982	748	601	5,287
Mchinji Boma	3,786	3,256	3,087	2,522	2,423	15,074

Source: NSO 2018

As shown in the Table above, the population of the youth is higher in some TAs like Mavwere and lower in others like TA Pitala. This sometimes limits equal allocation of resources from the youth department due to these population differences.

5.5.1.2 Youth Development

The District Youth office discharges its duties through four programs which are Youth economic empowerment; Youth participation and leadership; Youth literacy and numeracy; Youth health, Guidance and counseling; Youth Policy Guidance and direction; and Research Monitoring and Evaluation.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP

Youth participation and leadership programs ensure that the youth are part of the development process at any level. Structures/activities that support this programme include, Youth clubs, Youth run NGO's (youth NGO's), Youth centers, Youth action committees based at each ADCs, Leadership training for the youth, Youth networks at TA and district level, and Other capacity building activities and mentorship. So far only 5% of the youth clubs had some form of capacity building activities, this is very minimal to trigger the youth to take an active role and stake in development initiatives in their communities

YOUTH ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT (YEE)

According to Malawi Youth Status report 2016, youth aged 15-35 employment rate in Mchinji was 82.1% against national average of 83.1% this indicates that there are a lot of youth who are just loafing in the district. Table 5.5.1.2 below provides data on youth participation in economic empowerment.

Table 5.52 Major initiatives in Youth Economic Empowerment, for 2014 - 2017

Activity	2014	2015	2016	2017
Youth trained in vocational skills by SAVE	67	25	40	0
Youth groups that received YEDEF loans	12	0	0	0
Individual youth that received YEDEF loans	2	0	0	0
Number of youth reached with OIBM youth loan	105	0	0	0
Youth trained in entrepreneurship	66	109	300	50

Source: Mchinji DYU, 2017

As shown in Table above, Vocational skills training are largely supported by SAVE through the Youth in Action project in TAs Mavwere, Zulu, Mkanda and Mduwa. Across the district, CAMFED has trained and supported 98 girls in entrepreneurship training and provided them with start - up capital. The challenges observed so far include poor quality of start-up tools given to the youth trainees, very few youth being targeted, poor monitoring and information sharing by stakeholders, delay in giving out start-up tools, and other youth failing to settle and get self- employed with the skills acquired.

Almost MK 36,000,000.00 was given out to youth groups and individuals as loan to the district through YEDEF. Major challenges of YEDEF in the district include:

- Poor targeting of youth beneficiaries
- Inadequate initial entrepreneurship and skills training given to prospective beneficiaries
- Poor monitoring of beneficiaries as less female youth were targeted in schemes apart from CAMFED program
- Low loan repayment

OIBM has since changed its programme. It is no longer supporting the youth.

The table below provides details for youth that benefited from vocational skills training for each TA.

Table 5.53 Number of Youth benefited from Vocational Skills Training per TA and the Trade

Traditional Authority	Trade	2015 - 2016		
		Male	Female	Total
Gumba	Tailoring	10	7	17
	Shoe repairing	13	3	16
	Agribusiness	2	1	3
Dambe	Tailoring	59	21	80
	Shoe repairing	43	0	43
	Agribusiness	120	73	193
Kapondo	Tailoring	1	0	1
	Shoe repairing	1	0	1
	Agribusiness	0	0	0
Mavwere	Tailoring	7	11	18
	Agribusiness	9	5	14
	Carpentry	12	3	15
Kapunula	Tailoring	10	7	17
	Baking	15	9	24
	Agribusiness	20	3	23
Kazyozyo	Baking	11	5	16
	Agribusiness	7	0	7
	Motor Cycle mechanics	8	3	11
Mduwa	Tailoring	22	3	25
	Carpentry	19	4	23
	Agribusiness	9	5	14
Mlonyeni	Tailoring	15	1	16
	Brick laying	10	9	19
	Carpentry	7	0	7
Mkanda	Tailoring	568	29	597
	Agribusiness	382	422	804
	Tailoring	249	92	341
Zulu	Carpentry	4	1	5
	Welding	7	1	8
	Brick laying	4	0	4
Nyoka	Knitting	0	25	25
	Brick laying	45	0	45
	Carpentry	23	1	24
Simpasi	Carpentry	41	0	41
	Brick laying	37	0	37
	Tailoring	9	7	16
Pitala	Tailoring	22	14	36
	Motor cycle mechanics	18	1	19
	Shoe making repairing	31	3	34

Source: Mchinji DY0 2017.

Vocational Skills trainings enable the youth to be self-reliant economically and making them self-employed and creating employment for their colleagues. Looking at the table above, agri-business is the main eco-

conomic activity that the youth are engaged in, hence there is need to support it. Overall, it is depicted that fewer young people are taking part in economic activities hence as a district we need to engage more young people into economic adventures and enterprises.

LEADERSHIP SKILLS CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE YOUTH

Capacity building enables the youths to be good leaders for their clubs and assist them in carrying out other challenging roles that can be assigned to them in their communities and their own respective clubs. Table 5:35 below provides data on youths trained in leadership skills.

Table 5.54 Number of Youth Trained in Leadership Skills

TA	2014		2015		2016	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Mduwa	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mkanda	0	0	0	0	3	7
Kapondo	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mavwere	18	12	0	0	0	0
Dambe	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zulu	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nyoka	0	0	0	0	0	0
Simphasi	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mlonyeni	37	23	0	0	0	0
Kazyozyo	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kapunula	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pitala	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gumba	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	55	35	0	0	3	7

Source: Mchinji DYU, 2017

As presented in the table above, the office has been unable to do leadership capacity building of the clubs because of insufficient financial resources. WVI had supported these trainings in TAs Mlonyeni and Mavwere. What has been noted over time is that, mostly males participated in the trainings and on average 42% of the participants were females; hence this calls for concerted efforts to ensure that female youth take part in these leadership trainings. Furthermore, in the past years, especially in 2017 and 2018, there was no recorded leadership capacity building trainings for the youth.

5.5.1.3 5.5.1.2.4 Youth Participation Structures

Youth club is the primary participation structure for the youth, in Mchinji currently there are 132 youth clubs. These clubs vary in terms of their activeness; some are less active while others are more active. Youth clubs address a thematic issue in their specific communities but are encouraged to deal with other cross cutting issues revolving around gender and HIV/AIDS. Youth clubs at TA level form a TA based youth network which in turn constitutes the District Youth Network. In places where there are youth centers; the youth have the privilege to patronize these centers for general information purposes that are important for the youth. Some youth centers provide vocational skills training. The youth action committees (YACs) are

designed to support youth development at every area development committee (ADC). Table below provides data for out of school youth clubs.

Table 5.55 Number of Out of School Youth Clubs per T/A

T/A	2014	2015	2016
Mduwa	18	17	14
Mkanda	12	16	17
Kapondo	19	16	11
Mawwere	36	33	32
Dambe	12	13	11
Zulu	14	13	14
Nyoka	11	11	12
Simphasi	12	8	10
Gumba	0	0	0
Kapunula	0	0	0
Kazyozyo	0	0	0
Mlonyeni	12	11	11
TOTAL	146	138	132

Source: Mchinji DY0, 2017

As presented in Table above, youth club is the primary structure in which the youth participate. There are more youth clubs in TA Mawwere because of NGOs like World Vision which has a stake in youth development. Limited funding to the sector contributes to poor standing of most youth clubs. The standard of the department is one youth club per VDC but in other VDCs there could be more than one youth club because of their geographical presentation. The district has 132 youth clubs against 148 VDCs. This indicates that there is need to form more youth clubs in some other places of the district. Total membership in out-of-school clubs is 4,142, out of this 2,089(50.43%) are males and 2,053(49.57%) are females. Relatively, participation of both male and female youth is good. So far what is very critical in these youth clubs is to improve participation of female members who are minimally below 50% considering 50:50 participations of both males and females which is advocated.

YOUTH CENTERS

These youth centers help in coordination of the youth clubs and that's where some activities concerning these youths are done. The district has 5 youth centers at the moment. The figure below depicts one of the youth centers in the district and table below portrays distribution of youth centers in the district by TAs.



Figure 5.11 One of the Youth Center Structures, Tembwe in TA Mlonyeni

Source: Mchinji DY0, 2017

Table 5.56 Distribution of Youth Centers in the District by TA

TA	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mduwa	1	1	1	1
Mkanda	0	0	0	0
Kapondo	0	0	0	0
Mavwere	1	1	1	1
Dambe	0	0	0	0
Zulu	0	0	0	0
Nyoka	0	0	0	0
Simphasi	0	0	0	0
Mlonyeni	4	4	4	4
TOTAL	6	6	6	6

Source: Mchinji DY0, 2017

As shown in the table above, Youth centers provide safe space for the youth and facilitate in provision of youth services as a package. TA Mlonyeni has more centers which were supported by World Vision International (WVI). Special initiative needs to be taken by the council to facilitate construction of such structures, in liaison with youth based non-state actors, to be owned and used by youth groups. The requirement is at least one center per TA. In Mchinji, only 3 of the 13 TAs have youth centers. With this type of distribution of the youth centers, there are problems associated with provision of youth services as a package hence reducing the ability of youths to access safe spaces and youth services. It is also important to note that the available youth centers are being managed by very decorative structures without proper capacity to manage them, hence they are poorly managed.

YOUTH ACTION COMMITTEES, YACS

YACs are subcommittees of ADCs. The YACs represent the voice of the youth in each ADC. It advocates for youth issues at ADCs, in other words meaning lobbying for initiatives, projects and resources to support youth programs. Table below provides data for distribution of YACs in the ADCs.

Table 5.57 Distribution of YACs in the ADCs

TA	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mduwa	0	0	0	0
Mkanda	1	1	1	0
Kapondo	0	0	0	0
Mavwere	1	1	1	0
Dambe	1	0	0	0
Zulu	0	0	0	0
Nyoka	0	0	0	0
Simphasi	1	1	0	0
Mlonyeni	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	4	3	2	0

Source: Mchinji DYO, 2017

Table above indicate that the number of functional YACs has been decreasing over time. This implies that communities are unable to initiate youth programs on their own. Since 2012 to 2017, the YACs have died a natural death and no YAC is functional. This trend is due to lack of resources that can help these YACs to remain functional.

YOUTH NETWORKS

Youth networks are the hubs that lender the youth office with effective and easy monitoring of the youth clubs per TA. The figure below provides pictorial presentation of one of the District youth network meetings, held at Mchinji Boma TDC while table below provides data for TA based Youth Networks.



Figure 5.12 One of the District Youth Network Meetings, Mchinji Boma TDC

Source: Mchinji DYU, 2017

Table 5.58 TA Based Youth Networks

TA	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mduwa	1	1	1	1
Mkanda	1	1	1	1
Kapondo	1	1	1	1
Mavwere	1	1	1	1
Dambe	1	1	1	1
Zulu	0	0	1	1
Nyoka	1	1	1	1
Simphasi	0	0	1	1
Mlonyeni	1	1	1	1
Kapunula	0	0	0	1
Pitala	0	0	0	1
Kazyozyo	0	0	0	1
Gumba	0	0	0	1
Mchinji District youth Network	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	8	8	10	15

Source: Mchinji DYU, 2018

As shown in table 5:39, Youth networks are there in all the TAs including the newly established TAs of Kapunula, Kazyozyo, Gumba and Pitala. A District youth network is also functional too. Ineffective monitoring by the office and non-functional YACs make most youth networks lack the necessary capacity for their effective functionality. Current leadership of youth networks depicts that out of 14 TA based youth networks, only 2 chairpersons are females; that represents low participation of female youths in leadership positions in these youth formations. The TA based youth networks lack basic leadership and management skills for their effective functionality.

5.5.1.4 Youth Led NGOs

Only 3 Youth led NGOs exists in the district.

5.5.1.5 Youth Health, Guidance and Counseling

This program addresses sexual reproductive health (SRH) issues for the young people including HIV/ AIDS. Very little has been done in peer education training, over the years only 161 peer educators were trained by SAVE in TA Mduwa, Mlonyeni, Mavwere and UNFPA in TA Zulu. This entails that the district has inadequate youth who can effectively communicate to their peers on issues of HIV/AIDS including SRH and other topical issues that are a concern to the youth. The district has high incidence of teenage pregnancies and marriages whereby 49% of the girls get married by the age of 18 in Mchinji (Youth Status Report, 2016). Table below gives data for out of school youth trained in life skills.

Table 5.59 Out Of-School Youth Trained in Life Skills

TA	2014	2015	2016
Mduwa	0	0	0
Mkanda	0	0	0
Kapondo	0	0	0
Mavwere	60	65	0
Dambe	0	0	30
Zulu	28	0	0
Nyoka	0	0	0
Simphasi	0	0	0
Mlonyeni	58	0	0
Kapunula	0	0	0
Gumba	0	0	0
Kazyozyo	0	0	0
Pitala	0	0	0
TOTAL	146	65	30

Source: Mchinji DY0, 2017

Life skills are a big requirement to the youth in as far as HIV//AIDS and SRH issues affect them. Life skills are also important to individual youth for their own development. A big wish is that all the youth have Life Skills, but in the case of the district very few youth have been reached. Wherever SRH/ life training is being conducted, 50:50 representations of the youth is always observed.

YOUTH FRIENDLY HEALTH SERVICES

These services are there to help these youth access the reproductive health services in spaces that are conducive to them. In Mchinji as a whole we have multiple health facilities and well trained health personnel's that offer these services to the youth, of which these youths are accessing.

Table 5.60 Youth Friendly Health Services (YFHS)

Indicator	2016	2017
Number of youth accessing youth friendly health services	44,568	12622
Number of service providers trained in YFHS	31	23
Number of YFHS accredited sites in the district	10	8
Number of youth trained in HTC counseling	0	3
Number of youth trained in YFHS	0	1

Source: Mchinji DY0, 2017

As illustrated in the table above, out of the 14 facilities of the district only 12 are accredited to provide YFHS therefore there is a need to hasten up effort so that the remaining 2 are also accredited. There is still need to train more service providers in YFHS and the youth themselves. Access to YFHS increased in 2016 shows that the more the service providers are trained the more the youth access the services. Postings of trained service providers affect delivery of YFHS to the youth.

YOUTH LITERACY AND NUMERACY

In Mchinji school drop-out rate is relatively high hence; there are many illiterate and semi illiterate youths among out-of-school youths. These youths are not yet well trained hence may not benefit from other programs because of their literacy levels. From 2012 to 2016 Save the Children Fund trained over 1009 out of school youth aged between 12 and 18 in numeracy and literacy. There is a big need of well established program to assist these out of school youth.

5.5.2 Sports Development

The Department of Sports is under the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture development. The department is mandated to provide leadership and oversight in sports development to have healthy and productive citizens. Initiatives implemented by Mchinji District Sports Office are in tandem with the National sports policy which advocates for both high performance sport and mass sport.

The National Sports Policy corresponds to and feeds into the MGDS III. It also complements other developmental areas on gender, youth development, persons with disability and social welfare. The National Sports Strategy enhances 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 well being.

The department of sports, in Mchinji, ensures that sports is accessible to all the people regardless of age, sex, language, religion, nationality, disability, or status in all the 13 T/As in the district. The total population for the district is 602,305 and out of this population at least 49% participate in sporting activities.

5.5.2.1 Sports Disciplines

The Sports department promotes various sports disciplines such as Volleyball, Netball, Football, Basketball, Pool/Poker, Athletics, Bawo, Chess, Phada, Nguli, Ndido, Jingo, Acrobatics, Taekwondo etc. Out of all the sports disciplines, the most popular sport discipline is men's football, followed by Netball, Volleyball, Basketball, Pool and Bawo.

Although Sports development is not a panacea to solve all issues of a society nor a priority compared to life-substance needs of most disadvantaged communities, it generates many positive effects and is a valuable tool for development as it fosters social integration and identity-building of minority and marginalized groups such as those living with disability and those living with HIV/AIDS. It supports local economic development and creates jobs through the numerous income generating activities that are linked to its practice.

Sports fights discrimination and raises awareness of different issues as well as enabling communities at odds with each other to build bridges between them. It helps the healing process in populations overcoming trauma, and brings joy and fun to brighten up people's lives.

As an integral part of basic Education, sports supports mental and physical health and instills in people the discipline of physical activity. It is also a useful platform for preventative and peer education against major illnesses affecting populations and high risk health groups. It reaches to young people of all social groups. Thus sports is of so much significance to individuals and communities at large. For proper programming, operationalization of plans and programs, the office facilitated zoning of the district. Table below provides data on sports structures/zones per T/A.

Table 5.61 Sports Structures per T/A in the district

Traditional Authority	Sports Zones				
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Mkanda	1	1	1	3	3
Mlonyeni	1	1	1	1	1
Dambe	1	1	1	1	1
Mavwere	1	1	1	2	2
Kapondo	1	1	1	1	1
Simphasi	1	1	1	1	1
Zulu	2	2	2	2	2
Mduwa	1	1	1	1	1
Kazyozyo	1	1	1	1	1

Source: District Sports Office, 2017

As presented in the table above, it is apparent that some Traditional Authorities increased number of zones over time while others maintained over the duration under analysis. Besides, some TAs have more zones than others and this is, to a certain extent, attributed to the size of population in the TAs.

The Sports Office in collaboration with district Sports Associations and other stakeholders are also responsible for planning and organizing trainings in all the sports disciplines. The training courses include Refereeing, Umpiring and Coaching. The trainings mostly target Sports teachers, Referees and Community Sports Club Coaches. Qualified Coaches from the coaches' association are the ones who facilitate these trainings. These are being done to strengthen capacity at grass root levels.

5.5.2.2 Mass participation in sports

This is one of the activities which encompasses all the sporting activities regardless of the discipline and these activities are conducted at one place. During this, athletes display their talent through competitions

organized by the district office, taking the form of festival. Table 5:43 below shows number of such sports festivals conducted per TA.

Table 5.62 Data on Sports Festivals Conducted per TA, from 2013 to 2017

Traditional Authority	Year/ No. of Sporting Festivals				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mkanda	0	0	0	1	0
Mlonyeni	0	0	2	0	0
Mawwere	0	0	1	1	0
Dambe	0	0	1	1	0
Kapondo	0	0	0	0	1
Zulu	0	0	2	1	0
Simphasi	0	0	0	0	1
Kazyozyo	0	0	0	0	1
Pitala	0	0	0	0	0
Mduwa	0	0	0	1	2

Source: Mchinji DSO 2017

As depicted in Table above, TA Zulu and TA Mduwa conducted more sporting festivals than others. The situation is like that because of the presence of other partners in those zones besides Department of Education through the PEAs Office for Boma Zone in TA Zulu and Mikundi Zone in TA Mduwa who sponsored some of the festivals.

5.5.2.3 Behavioral Change Sessions to Young Athletes

This is a process of counseling the youth athletes in different aspects of life for example Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) issues as the youth lack such information. Table 5.5.2.3 below shows behavioral change sessions to young athletes conducted in the district.

Table 5.63 Data on Behavioural Change Sessions per TA

Traditional Authority	Year/ No. of Behavioural Change Sessions				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mkanda	0	0	0	0	1
Mlonyeni	0	0	0	1	0
Mawwere	0	0	1	0	1
Dambe	0	0	0	1	0
Kapondo	0	0	0	0	0
Zulu	0	0	2	0	1
Simphasi	0	0	0	1	0
Kazyozyo	0	0	0	0	1
Pitala	0	0	0	0	0
Mduwa	0	0	0	1	1

Source: Mchinji 2017

From the Table above, it can be seen that in most of the TAs, behavioral change secessions were not conducted. This is because of lack of adequate resources.

5.5.2.4 Reinforcing Physical Education in Schools

This is a process of giving more information, especially, to sports teachers on the importance of enforcing sports in schools in accordance with the education curriculum. Table 5.5.2.4 below provides data for meetings aimed at reinforcing physical education in schools.

Table 5.64 Meetings Conducted to Reinforce Physical Education in Schools per TAs

Traditional Authority	Year/ No. of Meetings to Reinforce Physical Education				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mkanda	0	0	0	1	1
Mlonyeni	0	0	0	1	1
Mavwere	0	0	0	1	2
Dambe	0	0	1	0	2
Kapondo	0	0	1	0	0
Zulu	0	0	1	0	2
simphasi	0	0	0	1	1
Kazyozyo	0	0	0	1	0
Pitala	0	0	0	0	0
Mduwa	0	0	0	1	2

Source: Mchinji DSO 2017

As presented in the table above, the enforcement meetings were conducted in some of the TAs and in the others they were not. This is so due to inadequate financial resources which affected the office as to be unable to move and facilitate such meetings in all the TAs

5.5.2.5 Establishment of Sports Structures

These structures are facilities which are used for sporting activities. In Mchinji district, there are a number of community facilities which are used for sporting activities. Table below provides data for sporting structures in the district per TA.

Table 5.65 Sports Facilities per T/A in the District

TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY	COMMUNITY SPORT FACILITIES				STADIUM
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	
Mkanda	16	16	14	14	0
Mlonyeni	16	16	12	12	0
Dambe	8	8	14	14	0
Mavwere	9	9	16	16	0
Kapomdo	6	6	12	12	0
Simphasi	4	5	12	12	0
Zulu	8	9	15	15	0
Mduwa	10	11	95	95	0

Source: District Sports Office 2017

As illustrated in Table above, Mchinji district lacks standardized sports facilities which can help in the promotion and development of sports in Malawi. If the district will have community stadiums and standardized sports facilities at all levels, sports will be promoted.

5.5.2.6 5.5.2.6 Talent Identification and Development

TALENT IDENTIFICATION

This is a process of identifying the athletes with skills, recording their details and using that information accordingly so that the talent should be used at all levels. Talent is identified in both formal and informal institutions. Table 5:67 below provides data for athletes identified in all TAs in the district.

Table 5.66 Data for Athletes across Disciplines Identified in TAs

Traditional Authority	Sporting Disciplines and No. of Athletes Identified					
	Football	Netball	Volleyball	Basketball	Taekwondo	Boxing
Mkanda	20	21	10	0	0	0
Mlonyeni	18	0	0	0	0	0
Mavwere	30	15	14	0	0	0
Dambe	25	17	0	0	0	0
Kapondo	13	0	0	0	0	0
Zulu	70	35	27	10	14	24
Mduwa	27	15	10	0	0	0

Source: Mchinji DSO 2016

The table above shows that, generally, there is talent across the sampled sporting disciplines that is yet to be exploited due to inadequate financial resources that constrains the district office to move around as to mentor the identified and explore more for the disciplines with gaps across TAs. From the table, TA Zulu is leading in a number of sports disciplines since most of the sporting are done in the area, being at the hub of the district.

TALENT DEVELOPMENT

In quest for development of the identified talents/athletes, the district office in liaison with other stakeholders facilitate formation of sporting clubs and teams; organize trophies, cups, tournaments, and leagues so that the talent outcrops.

Formation of Sporting Clubs/ Teams

These are done to enhance mass participation, instill sense of ownership, oneness and sustainability of sporting disciplines in the communities. Table below provides data on number of sporting clubs and teams for each sporting discipline and in each TA.

Table 5.67 Sporting Clubs/ Teams by TA

T/A's	Football	Netball	Pool	Volley ball	Basket ball	Others eg Taekwondo, Bawo, Chess, etc
Mkanda	15	10	2	1	0	6
Mlonyeni	15	14	4	4	3	11
Dambe	10	16	6	1	1	4
Kapondo	7	6	3	0	0	4
Zulu	20	20	0	2	1	7
Mavwere	20	16	3	1	0	7
Simphasi	12	7	1	4	2	5
Kazyozyo	9	1	7	2	1	4
Pitala	5	7	1	0	2	7
Mduwa	9	7	1	0	0	7

Source: Mchinji DSO 2017

According to Table above, number of sporting clubs were more in T/A Zulu followed by T/A Mavwere. Pitala has the lowest proportion of sporting clubs which is good for mass participation. However, there is need to invest adequately in sports facilities like construction of modern sports infrastructures and sport equipment provision so as to keep young athletes engaged; and promote good, health and wellbeing in line with SGD III by 2030.

Trophies, Cups, Tournaments and Leagues

These are organized to help in promoting sports in the district and they are sponsored by different stakeholders in different sporting disciplines and with different targeted areas. Most of these were done across TAs for the district. Table 5:49 below provides data on sports associations, trophy/league sponsors, sporting discipline and TAs involved.

Table 5.68 Sports Associations and Trophies/ Leagues operational in the district

Sport Association	Sport Discipline	Traditional Authority	Trophy/League 2013/14	Trophy/League 2015/16
Malawi School Sports Association (MASSA)	Football, Netball	All T/A s	Airtell Rising Stars, Coca-Cola Trophy	Coca-Cola Tournament, Trophy, Cross Country, Track & Field Events
MC District Netball Association	Netball	All T/A s	Airtell money netball tournament, Presidential Cup	Mpico (Gate Way Mall Netball Trophy), Presidential Cup
Athletics Association	Athletics	All T/A s		
MC District Football Association	Football	All T/As	Chipiku and LL District Football League, Presidential Cup, first capital bank cup	MC District Football League and Under 15 FIFA/FAM League, Presidential Cup,
MC District Women Football committee	Women football	All T/A s		

Source: Mchinji DSO 2018

Under 16 FIFA/ FAM Regional Football League

FIFA/FAM under 16 league is a youth development plan which FAM came up with in order to develop and nurture young talent in football players. These are under 16 football athletes drawn from all T/As constituting Mchinji district. These youthful sporting athletes came up with a team of 22 players and two young referees registered with football association of Malawi to participate in this regional league. Table below provides data on sports discipline based personnel trainings conducted from 2015 to 2017.

Table 5.69 Sports Disciplines based Personnel Training between 2015 – 2017

Year	Sports Discipline training	Beneficiaries (Youths)		TA	Funding Partners
		Male	Females		
2015	Football coaches	32	6	ALL T/AS	ORT
2015	Umpires Refresher	30	20	ALL T/AS	ORT
2016	Netball Coaching and Umpiring	7	4	All T/AS	ORT
2017	Referees	40	3	All T/AS	ORT
2017	Coaches in Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH)		40	Zulu, Mduwa	YONECO and Concern Worldwide

Source: Mchinji DSO 2017

The Table above illustrates that more technical officials and administrators have undergone various trainings which has increased the number of people participating in sports hence translating into increased number of teams taking part in various sporting act. There is low turn up of women in the other sports discipline; this is because it was observed that these other sport discipline are generalized to be for men hence low participation of women.

Sports equipment distribution

Sports office distributes sports equipment in all traditional authorities constituting the district through community sports clubs and in schools. Table below provides data on distribution of sports equipment for the year 2017 and their sources.

Table 5.70 Equipment Distributed in the District

Sport discipline	Equipment	Quantity	Source	Remarks
Football	Uniforms	526	Yoneco, unicef, italiain federation, dalitso oil company	Some of these were received to football teams in Zulu and Mavwere
	Ball	216	Yoneco, Italian federation, unicef, ORT	Teams from Zulu and Mkanda received the balls
	Corns	140	Yoneco and Italian federation	These most benefited are the girls clubs and district under 15
Netball	Balls	20	ORT, UNFPA	The active 20 teams in the district benefited
Volleyball	Balls	15	ORT, UNICEF	These were distributed to 8 teams and other ones for volleyball tournament.
Basket ball	Balls	5	UNICEF	Only Mchinji district basket ball team.

Source: Mchinji DSO 2017

5.5.2.7 Human Resource Capacity for Sports Development

According to the current staff establishment, the sports and recreation division has three (3) posts namely senior sports development officer, sports development officer and assistant sports development officer. Out of these, only one post is filled which is sports development officer. This leaves two (2) posts being vacant that require to be filled. This translates to 33% of established posts filled and 67% vacant. This, clearly, portrays that the division has limited human resource capacity for coordinating sports activities. This is also shown in general performance of the division, indicated in earlier tables.

5.5.2.8 Challenges/ Issues

- Lack of community stadium and standardized sports facilities in all TAs
- Inadequate qualified personnel
- Inadequate financial resources
- Lack of partners that implement sports programs
- Decline in the enforcement of physical education and sports programs in learning institutions

5.5.2.9 Opportunities in sports

- 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
- 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.
- Availability of trained sports personnel in the district and other technical officials is an opportunity for sports in the district to flourish.
- The availability of trophies which creates a good platform for mass participation and Talent identification.

5.6

HIV AND AIDS

HIV and AIDS section response strictly follows the National HIV and AIDS Policy whose main aim is to sustain response by targeting Key Drivers of the Epidemic, addressing the existing and emerging national and district Issues and achieve zero new infection, zero related deaths and zero discrimination. This will

lead to ending of AIDS by 2030 and Efforts to stop the spread of HIV and totally combating it by 2030 are underway in Mchinji just like any other district in Malawi. Being a crosscutting problem in nature, Multi sectorial and Human rights approaches are used as interventions are being carried out. This wholesome management of HIV and AIDS is linked to Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III 's key priority area 7, HIV and AIDS Management whose main aim is to reduce new infections, HIV and AIDS related deaths and Stigma and Discrimination. The office of HIV and AIDS which works through the DACC at district level has a core business of guiding the district level response by coordinating multi sectorial interventions at district and community level. The whole purpose is to combat it by the year 2030 thus contributing to Sustainable Development Goal 3: thus achieving Good health and well being of the people.

5.6.1 HIV and AIDS Coordination Structures

The complexity of this problem calls for multifaceted nature of interventions hence multiple implementers on the ground. This therefore led to the establishment of District AIDS Coordinating Committee (DACC) to mainly oversee, coordinate and enforce modalities of implementation of HIV and AIDS Interventions. The DACC has representation from the grassroots. This committee operates through the guidance of National HIV and AIDS policy which now is aimed at achieving 3 Zeros namely Zero New Infections, Zero related deaths and zero discrimination.

At community level, we have Community Aids Coordinating Committees (CACC). This is a technical arm of Area Executive Committee. At Group Village level, we have Village Aids Coordination Committee (VACC) being a technical arm of Village Development Committee. All these community level structures represent DACC in their respective jurisdiction areas in a principle of 3 one as advocated by National HIV and AIDS policy. At Group Village there is VACC, at T/A level there is CACC, and at District Level there is DACC. All interventions are guided by National HIV and AIDS Strategic plan and reported to National Aids Commission through one M&E Tool called LAHARF. All organisations are supposed to fill this form every month (whether community or district level implementers) and submit to the Council. Then council compiles one report to National AIDS Commission.

District AIDS Coordinating Committee to fulfil its mandate, has a total of 4 HIV and AIDS Technical Working Groups and 2 technical sub groups.

- Prevention, Treatment Care and Support, Gender Human Rights, Culture and Youth and M&E Surveillance and Research Technical working groups
- DIACC, Key Population and Condom Programming subgroups

In 2010 – 2015, NSP set an ambitious target of 90:90:90, (UNAIDS,2014). This target entails that by 2020, Mchinji District should have 90% of people living with HIV knowing their status, 90% of those known to be HIV positive be initiated on treatment and 90% of clients on treatment are retained in care and adhere to Antiretroviral therapy so that their viral load is suppressed. This is to ensure that Mchinji District will be AIDS Free by 2030. According to NSP, therefore, we have to implement a targeted and integrated approach of interventions for highest impact in order to avert new infections and AIDS related deaths. These must be effective HIV Prevention Interventions which must additionally be carefully targeted at those populations most at risk of either becoming infected with HIV or possibly infecting others.

Mchinji District therefore has the following well mapped areas that could be potential hot spots for the spread of HIV:

- Mkanda Trading Centre
- Kamwendo Trading Centre

- Kapiri(Nthema) Trading Centre
- Boma
- Tembwe
- Waliranji.
- Zambia-Malawi Boarder

Places like Chiosya, Guillime turn off, Bua, Chawala, Mikundi, Gumba TC, Chipumi, Kalulu, and Nathyola, small trading centres they maybe, could be potential hot spots as now signs are showing to be very busy trading centres. These are not perennial hot spots they only become hot social economic centres during market days.

5.6.1.1 Drivers of the Epidemic

Mchinji AIDS epidemic will still be escalating if the following social cultural activities are not properly checked.

- Bulangete la Mfumu, mostly practiced by Ngoni Chiefs and their cultural subjects
- Kusasafumbi, still being practiced by Anamkungwi in Yao Cultural Groups, Mkanda
- Cross border trade: Mostly Zambia, Malawi and Mozambican Trders
- Cross Generation sex (Elders having sex with underage)
- Transactional sex
- Traditional Beliefs
- Tobacco Selling Seasons(Kuzipepesa)
- Alcoholism
- Periodic Markets popularly known as Kadaubwandire here in Mchinji

A very serious AIDS Response started in 2004 when Mchinji District HIV Prevalence was at 18.3 %. With global fund supported interventions by different aids structures established on the ground ie, NGOs CBOs FBOs, Youth Organisations, PLWHA Support groups prevalence started going down. Now it is at 5.1 % as indicated in the table below

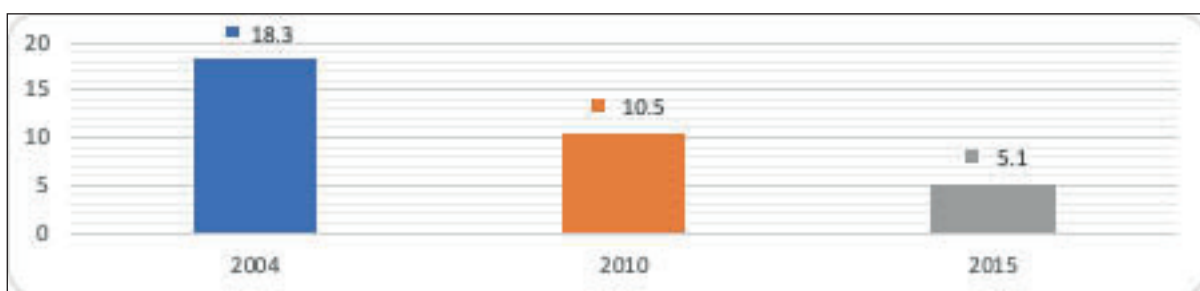


Figure 5.13 HIV Prevalence from 2004 to 2015 in Mchinji

Source: MDHS 2015-16

The situation is not the same now. The resource basket has now dwindled and this has resulted into either organisations changing their area of focus from AIDS as core business to something else or others simply slowed down their operations whilst some completely closing down their offices.

5.6.1.2 HIV and AIDS services, listing of implementers for HIV and AIDS intervention

There are a number of partners that are working with the government to reduce the prevalence of HIV and AIDS. The table below shows the organisations focus area and their coverage

Table 5.71 HIV and AIDS Service Organisations in Mchinji District

NO	ORGANISATION	AREA OF FOCUS	COVERAGE
1	EGPAF	EID, PMTCT, ART	Whole District
2	FPAM	SRH, HTC	Whole District
3	YONECO	HIV Awareness	Whole District
4	Pakachere	HIV Awareness	Whole District
5	ELDS	SRH as it relates to migration of people	T.A.s Zulu, Mavwere and Mlonyeni
6	Save the Children	SRH as it relates to migration of people	T.A.s Zulu, Mavwere and Mlonyeni
7	CHARM Hospitals	Same as done at MDH on HIV	Specific Areas
8	Manet PLUS	ART Adherence and Promtion of Human Rights	Whole District
9	Napham	PLHIV Nutrition assesment and Referrals	Whole District
10	CISE	SRH as it relates to the youth	Whole District
11	BLM	SRH, HTC	Whole District
12	World Vision	Genaral AIDS Awareness	Especially T.A. Mavwere
13	Actionaid(Kacodo)	Support to Tlipo, Yplus, Cowlha, etc	Whole District
14	URC	Viral Loads	Mchinji District Hospital
15	Lighthouse	Support District HDAs	Mchinji District Hospital
16	Nkhoma Synod	VMMC, and HTS	Mkanda, Dambe, and Mavwere
17	Mchinji District Hospital	VMMC, HTS, STI, PMTCT, EID, ART	Whole District

Source: Mchinji DHO, 2017

Most of the above stated organisations are doing biomedical interventions. Few are doing community mobilisation and awareness interventions. This situation coupled with CBOs operation slowdown may result into community relaxation on the existence of HIV and AIDS in their locality. This will definitely result in the surge of HIV prevalence again losing out the gainsmade before.

5.6.1.3 HIV Testing Services

Mass awareness and targeted interventions ie HIV testing, are now having a significant positive impact on prevalence in the district. A good number of people are aware of their HIV status. Efforts like these would contribute towards completely eliminating HIV by 2030. However, these efforts whose results can clearly be seen in the table below will take a reverse turn if partners and CBOs efforts keep on dwindling.

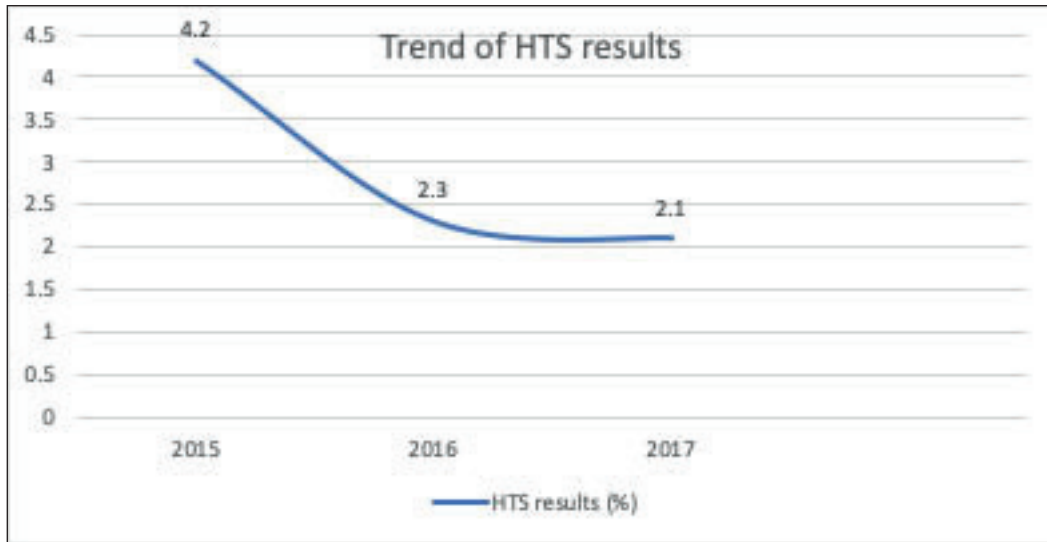


Figure 5.14 District HTS Results from 2015 to 2017

Source: DHO HIMS, 2017

As at development of this SEP, HTS results Data from 2015 to 2017 showed a decline in those that reacted to HIV as new cases from 4.2% in 2015 down to 2.1 in 2017. The decline could be due to combined effort of the government and its partners in service provision.

5.6.1.4 Coverage of HTS in Mchinji District

Almost the whole district is covered with HIV Testing Services through the health facilities as evidenced by data below. However, variations can be noted as some health facilities have more counsellors than others. This is against the standard Mchinji District Hospital requirements

Table 5.72 Status of HIV Testing Counsellors in Mchinji

No	Health Facility	No of Counsellors	
		Males	Females
1	Mchinji District Hospital	11	14
2	Ludzi	4	2
3	Kapiri	8	4
4	Mkanda	6	0
5	Kochilira	3	4
6	Chiosya	3	1
7	Guilleme	5	3
8	Tembwe	7	1
9	Nkhwazi	7	1
10	Mikundi	5	0
11	Chipumi	2	0
12	Kapanga	5	2
13	Namizana	2	0
14	Kazyozyo	1	1
15	Chimwankango	1	0
16	Gumba	1	2
17	Gumulira	1	0
18	Kabuthu	1	0
19	Gumulira 2	1	0
20	BLM	0	0
21	Wellness centre	0	0

Source: Mchinji DHO HMIS 2017

As observed in the table above some facilities are overstaffed with counsellors while others have few to no counsellor at all. In the same connection, some facilities have one counsellor which is against Standards and provisions of Malawi HIV testing services Policy.

PRIORITY AREAS OF HIV AND AIDS INTERVENTIONS

In order to bring the spread of HIV and the devastating effects of AIDS under control, the district is implementing a number of behaviour change, prevention and impact mitigation programmes. These programmes are in line with the National HIV and HIV strategy focusing on the three 90s targets. Provision of HIV testing services, prevention of mother to child transmission of the virus (PMTCT), provision of antiretroviral therapy (ART), support of community home based care. There are also a number of activities done to reduce the impact of HIV/ AIDS programmes by the public, private sectors and civil society. All these interventions aim at strengthening the health and community systems for effective delivery of programmes.

ANTI RETROVIRAL PROGRAMME

Antiretroviral drugs are given to eligible client to boost their immunity as well as to prevent the transmission of HIV to others. The figure below is showing how the ART is managed in the district.

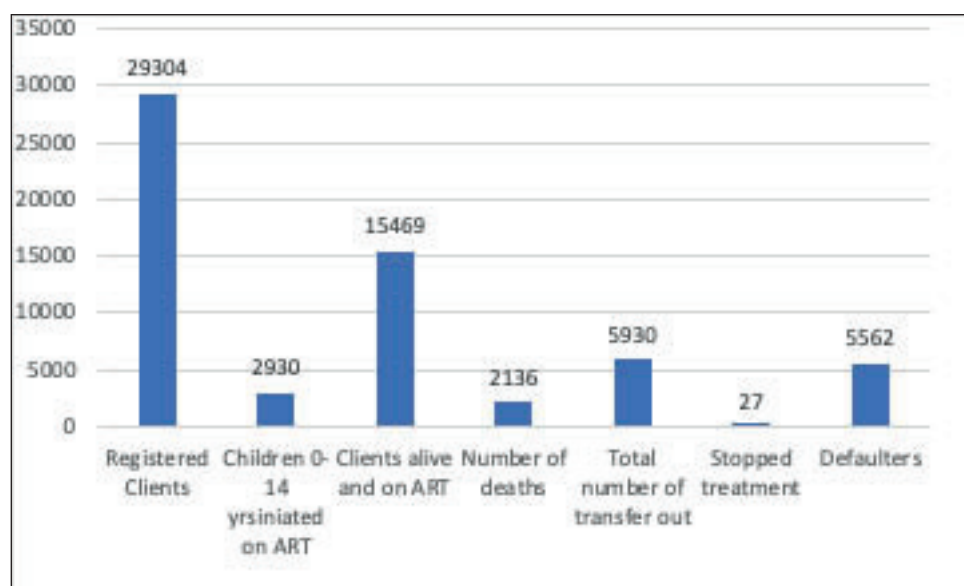


Figure 5.15 ART Status in Mchinji District

Source: DHA 2017

There is increase numbers of ART registrations, comparing 2017 with 2018. The increase in number of defaulters could be due to boarder issues, poor client tracing and partial counselling. Some clients are also stopping taking ARVs due to Miraculous healing in churches. Survival of ART clients is increasing as time interval is increasing, this is due to increased numbers of defaulters, deaths and clients who are stopping ART but comparing 2017 with 2018 there is some improvements.

PREVENTION OF MOTHER TO CHILD TRANSMISSION (PMTCT)

The program is aimed at preventing vertical transmission of HIV from an infected pregnant mother to baby during pregnancy, at delivery and/or during breast feeding. Table below show percentages of women aged 15-49 who have been accessing HIV testing and counselling during antenatal care in Lilongwe district.

Table 5.73 Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission, Mother status in Health Facilities

Number	Determinant	Indicator	Percentage
1	Commodities	Proportion of Health facilities with stock out of ARVS for more than 1 week in last 3 months	0
2	Human resources	Proportion of providers trained and certified in ART/PMTCT/ TB training	75
3	Geographical access	Proportion of population living within 5km radius from health facilities offering PMTCT	No data
4	Utilization	Proportion of HIV positive pregnant women who were initiated on ART during ANC (24 months ago)	99
5	Continuity	Proportion of HIV positive pregnant women who were initiated on ART and are still on ART at 24 months	65
6	Effective coverage	N/A	N/A

Source: DHA 2017

99% of all HIV positive pregnant women were started on ART IN 2017, almost all facilities did not run out of ARVs for more than 1 week in the last quarter.

Table 5.74 Prevention of Mother to Child transmission, Child status in Health facilities

Number	Determinant	Indicator	Percentage
1	Commodities	Proportion health facilities with stock out of paediatric ARVs for more than 1 week in last quarter	0
2	Human Resources	Proportion of health workers trained in ART/PMTCT/TB	75
3	Geographical Access	Proportion of population living within 5km from health facilities offering paediatric HIV care and treatment	No data
4	Utilization	Proportion of exposed infants enrolled into EIDHCC programme at birth	100
5	Continuity	Proportion of exposed infants done DBS at 2 months	87
6	Effective Coverage	Proportion of exposed infants tested for HIV with DBS at 2 months, 12 months and 24 months	82

Source: DHA, 2017

All exposed Infants were registered in HCC after birth and 87% of them were tested at 2 months. A good number of health workers are certified as ART/PMTCT/TB providers.

HIV AND AIDS MAINSTREAMING ISSUES

HIV and AIDS has an impact on different sectors in different ways, the National HIV and AIDS policy provides a policy direction on multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary approach to HIV and AIDS. It also encourages mainstreaming and linkages. All sectors are mandated to mainstream HIV and AIDS activities in their core business. All sectors at Mchinji district council take a leading role in involving the district HIV and AIDS office to mainstream their activities. These sectors are all members of DACC and the HIV and AIDS technical working groups.

5.6.1.5 Challenges

- Operation slow down by HIV and AIDS Organisation
- Insufficient HTS Counsellors
- Insufficient government subventions to support AIDS interventions

5.6.1.6 Issues

- Little to no general Community mobilisation and awareness of AIDS issues and interventions.
- Some people not able to access HTS
- HIV and AIDS Activities are not effectively coordinated as

5.6.2 Nutrition Situation in Mchinji District

Mchinji district is the third highest on levels of stunting in Malawi. In order to reduce the rate of malnutrition it committed to the promotion of nutrition issues in line with MGDSIII particularly on Other Development Area 7.7 on Nutrition and is linked to Goal 2 on Zero hunger. It is implementing a multi-sectoral stunting reduction programmes with main funding coming from the Government of Malawi, UNICEF, WFP, the EU

and USAID. The main government sectors that are implementing nutrition activities are Health, agriculture and education. The programmes are using systems strengthening approach to ensure that key sectors are able to implement nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions aimed at reducing stunting. The programmes target all household with special focus on children 6-23 months, under 5, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women. The Mchinji District Nutrition coordination committee is responsible for program planning, implementation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the program.

5.6.2.1 Under five Nutrition

The nutrition situation in Mchinji is poor as evidenced by the high prevalence of stunting of 44% in 2015 (DHS, 2015/2016). There are several Nutrition Specific and Nutrition Sensitive interventions are being implemented in Mchinji district which include treatment of acute malnutrition, Vitamin A and MNPI (Ndisakanizeni) supplementation, de-worming of children 12-59 months, infant and young child feeding, Integrated Homestead Farming (IHF) including kitchen gardens in homes and schools, counselling and support, SUN-NECS care groups for behaviour change communication. As part of the nutrition emergency response mass nutrition screening and active case finding of children under five are conducted.

5.6.2.2. Prevalence of stunting, wasting and underweight and trends.

Anthropometric indices in Mchinji district indicate that stunting, wasting and underweight are higher than the national averages.

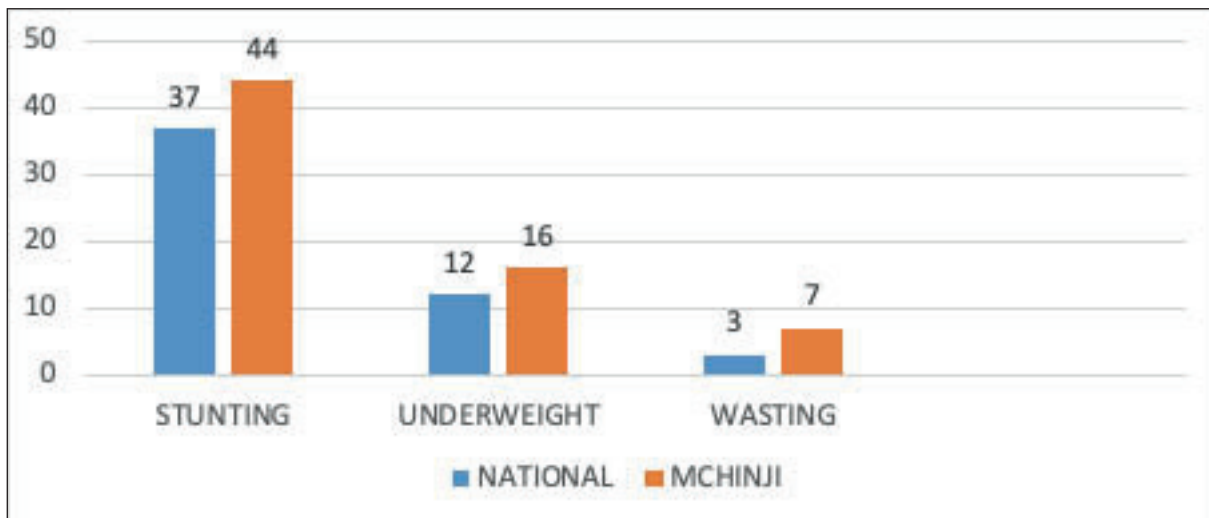


Figure 5.16 Prevalence of stunting, wasting and underweight and trends in Mchinji

Source: Malawi Demographic Health Survey, 2015/16

Mchinji, despite being a food basket for the nation, has higher levels of malnutrition (44%) compared to national (37). Most household sell their produce to meet other basic needs.

PREVALENCE OF ANAEMIA FOR CHILDREN 6-59 MONTHS

According to 2016 DHS, 62.3% of children suffered from some degree of anaemia (haemoglobin levels below 11.0 g/dl) in Mchinji. Thirty-three percent of children were classified with mild anaemia, 33.5% with mod-

1 MNPI- Micronutrient powder (locally known as Ndisakanizeni)

erate anaemia, and 0.0% with severe anaemia. Between 2004 and 2010, the prevalence of anaemia among Malawian children declined from 73% to 63%, and remains at 63% in 2015-16

PERCENT OF LOW BIRTH WEIGHT BABIES

Low birth weight is the percentage of births with a reported birth weight <2.5 kilogrammes regardless of gestational age. Birth weight is an important indicator when assessing a child's health for early exposure to childhood morbidity and mortality. Children who weigh less than 2.5 kilogrammes (kg) at birth are reported to be very small or smaller than average, and are considered to have a higher-than-average risk of early morbidity and mortality. According to MDHS 2016, Mchinji reported 14% of these infants had a low birth weight of less than 2.5 kg. This is higher than the national average which is at 12%

CHILDREN BEING EXCLUSIVELY BREASTFED

Early initiation of breastfeeding is important for both the mother and the child. The first breast milk contains colostrum, which is highly nutritious and has antibodies that protect the newborn from diseases. Early initiation of breastfeeding encourages bonding between the mother and her newborn and facilitates the regular production of breast milk. It is recommended that children be put to the breast immediately or within 1 hour after birth and that prelacteal feeding (feeding newborns anything other than breast milk before breast milk is regularly given) be discouraged. In Mchinji, 76.1% of newborns are initiated to breastfeeding within 1 hour after birth.

In Malawi, 61% of infants under age 6 months are exclusively breastfed. Exclusive breastfeeding declines with age. Only 34% of infants age 4-5 months are exclusively breastfed compared with 80% of infants age 0-1 month and 69% of infants age 2-3 months. Contrary to the recommendation that children under the age of 6 months be exclusively breastfed, many infants consume other liquids, such as plain water (9%), and complementary foods in addition to breast milk (18%).

MATERNAL NUTRITION SITUATION IN THE DISTRICT

NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF WOMEN 15-49 (THOSE WHO ARE THIN AND OBESE)

The nutrition status for women between 15-49 has reduced from 10.6% in 2010 to 8.4% in 2015 for the underweight and increased from 11.2% in 2010 to 13.3% in 2015 for overweight.

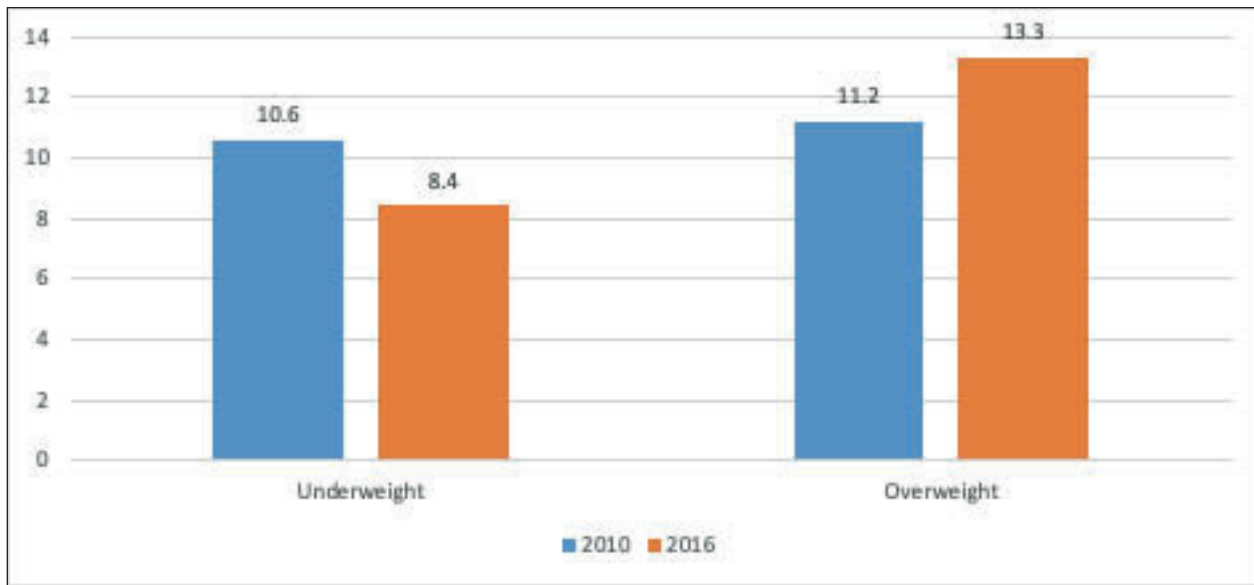


Figure 5.17 Nutrition status of women 14-49

Source: MDHS, 2010, 2015-16

The decrease in the underweight may come about because of the intensification of women nutrition. On the other hand, overweight has increased since the interventions only focused on underweight leaving out overweight.

PREVALENCE OF ANAEMIA FOR WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE (15-49 YEARS)

The MDHS 2015-16 shows that more women (31%) in Mchinji are anaemic compared to MDHS 2010 which reports that 22.5% were anaemic. This would have resulted from poor consumption of iron rich food. Inadequate care for women and high work load could have played a part.

5.6.2.2 Access to health services and performance of the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM).

ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES

Mchinji District has 18 Health Facilities of which 3 are CHAM and 15 are Government facilities. 17 health facilities, except Fanniel which is yet to be established as a CMAM management centre, are providers of nutrition services that is Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). SAM patients are provided with Ready To Use Therapeutic Food (Chiponde) in Out-patient Therapeutic Program (OTP) and MAM clients attend a bi-monthly Supplementary Feeding Program (SFP) where they get a dry ration of Corn Soy Blend (Soya). Mchinji District Hospital, Kochirira Rural Hospital and Kapiri Mission Hospital also provide in-patient services of all clients with Severe Acute Malnutrition with Complication.

Trends for CMAM indicators for a specified period (cure rate, admissions, default rates).

CMAM in Mchinji is supported by UNICEF and WFP. The table below shows the trend in admission and deaths for the under-five in the 17 health facilities that are CMAM centres, from January to December 2018

Table 5.75 Mchinji Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition Admissions (Jan-Dec 2017)

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTALS
SAM ADMIS- SIONS	196	278	238	208	102	128	114	127	118	109	129	99	1846
Cured (SAM)	120	129	207	161	167	132	124	94	99	82	98	81	1494
Died (SAM)	2	3	4	1	2	2	1		1	1	0	3	20
NRU ADMIS- SIONS	23	29	25	19	17	9	23	15	13	12	15	19	219
Stabilised to OTP	24	22	15	17	15	7	16	12	12	12	14	8	174
NRU Deaths	1	4	2	2	3		5	2	1	1	0	2	23
MAM Admis- sions	519	1127	911	493	112	201	222	342	227	287	249	292	4982
Cured MAM	313	243	401	464	259	451	449	284	304	249	291	224	3932
Death MAM		1	2		2	3			1				9
TOTAL DEATHS	2	8	8	3	7	5	6	2	3	2	0	5	51

Source: Mchinji DHO, 2017

The district registered high admission in the months of January to April. This is considered as lean period where families are not food secure. The combination of rainy season (in which there is increased incidences of disease) and lack of food easily leads to high cases of undernourished children. There is need to document gender segregated data in order to see which gender suffers more.

Number of children screened and benefitting from growth monitoring and promotion services.

The district offers routine growth monitoring and promotion for under-five children. The table below shows number of children screened and referred for treatment from February to November 2017

Table 5.76 Number of under-five children screened from February to November 2017

Values	Feb	March	April	May	Nov	Grand Total
Total Screened (U5)	86,582 (78%)	86,876 (72%)	76,440 (69%)	75,713 (68%)	63,356 (57%)	388,967
Referred SAM	169	103	84	61	132	549
Referred MAM	760	597	492	245	501	2,595
Totals	929	700	576	306	633	3140

Source: DHO 2017

Of the children that attend growth monitoring and promotion, more children are moderately malnourished the severe. All in all, the situation is bad in the lean months (January to March) than other months.

Number of households practising integrated homestead farming.

Integrated Homestead Farming approach is the growing of crops and rearing of small animals such as rabbits around the household to support in good nutrition. The District Agriculture office through its 7 EPAs is championing the activities under IHF. There are currently 16,504 households practising integrated homestead farming in Mchinji. Out of these 7,946 are female headed and 8,558 are male headed. There is high

participation in female headed household since there are organisations such as UN Women that encourages female participation.

STATUS OF INFANT FEEDING PRACTICES

Infant and young children should be fed a minimum acceptable diet (MAD) to ensure appropriate growth and development. Without adequate diversity and meal frequency, infants and young children are vulnerable to undernutrition, especially stunting and micronutrient deficiencies, and increased morbidity and mortality

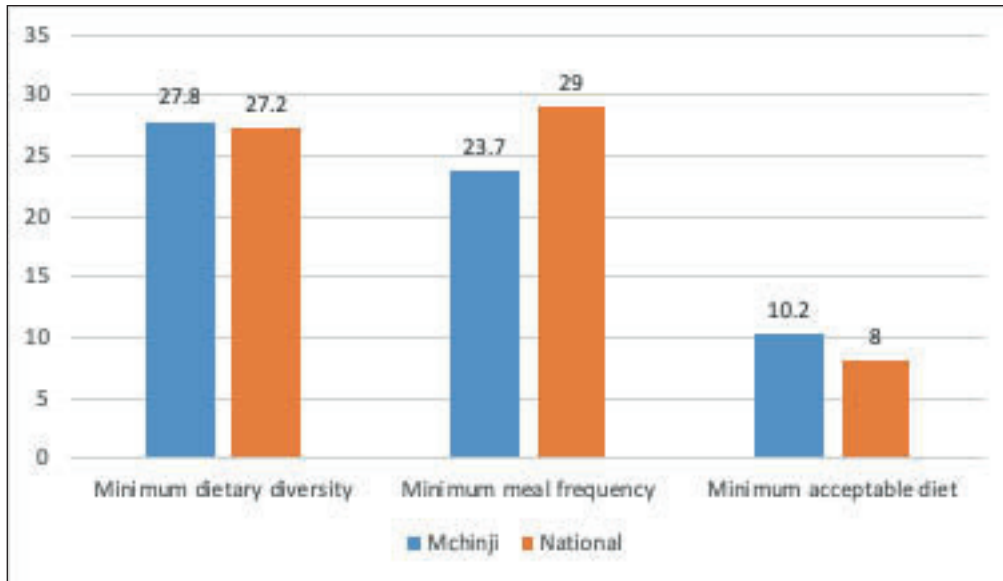


Figure 5.18 Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices for Mchinji

Source: Malawi Demographic Health Survey, 2015/16

Twenty-seven percent of children have an adequately diverse diet and are given foods from the appropriate number of food groups, while 23.7% are fed the minimum number of times appropriate for their age. The feeding practices of only 10.8% of children age 6-23 months meet the minimum standards for all three IYCF feeding practice

SCHOOL HEALTH AND NUTRITION

The District has different forms and models of interventions in School Health and Nutrition, which includes: - Home Grown School Meals Program (HGSMP) and centralised feeding programme where schools are provided with food items for feeding programmes. Out of the total 207 schools, 28 are on home grown school meals program supported by the Government and 13 are provided food items by Mary Meals

At every school, there is a School Health and Nutrition teacher coordinating SHN activities at school level, supervised by the head teacher and the two are monitored by the PEAs who are the Zonal SHN Coordinator.

5.6.2.3 Nutrition coordination and structures

DNCC AVAILABILITY AND FUNCTIONAL

Nutrition activities are coordinated by the District Nutrition Coordinating Committee (DNCC) that is comprised of key government sectors, civil society organisations and private sector agencies implementing food and nutrition activities and food producers in the district. The DNCC is coordinated through the Local Government in collaboration with Department of Nutrition HIV and AIDS (DNHA). The district nutrition priorities are in line with the national vision and goals. Reports are directed to DNHA with copies to Local Government. The DNHA continues to advocate for strengthening of DNCC, District and Community level structures through filling of posts, training, mentoring and supervision. Within the local governance structure, the DNCC is a technical committee of DEC and is chaired by the Director of Planning and Development on behalf of the District Commissioner.

ANCC AND VNCCS AVAILABLE AND FUNCTIONAL

There are 13 ANCCs and only 4 are functional (where feed the children is working); this is equal to number of TAs as ANCCs are at area level and they are a nutrition technical working group of ADC. The same applies to VNCCs which are at Group village headman level and is a technical working group for VDC. As indicated in the table below, there are 78 VNCCs but not all are operational and covers the whole district. VNCCs reports to ANCCs which then later reports to DNCC.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CARE GROUPS AND PROMOTERS

Information on the total number of various care groups and promoters in Mchinji district is presented in the Table below.

Table 5.77 Total number of ANCCs, VNCCs, Promoters, Cluster Leaders and Care Groups in the district

ANCCs	VNCCs	Promoters	Cluster leaders	Care Groups	Number of households benefiting
13	78	234	5,694	1,120	62,634

Source: Mchinji district council: 2017

The district has 1,120 care groups reaching out to 62,634. All there ANCCs, VNCCs and care groups were functional when Support to Nutrition Integration Component (SNIC) was operational. Since the phasing out of the project most caregroups were are not functional since there are no partners to support the activities.

NUTRITION STAKEHOLDERS IN THE DISTRICT

Mchinji district has a number of organizations that are working to assist in improvement of nutrition status of the population. Table below provides details of names of organizations, programmes they are engaged in, and their impact areas within the district.

Table 5.78 Mchinji District Council Nutrition Stakeholders

No	Name of Organisation	Programme	Impact area
1	Feed the Children	Scaling Up Nutrition	Mavwere, Mlonyeni, Kapondo and Dambe
2	Unicef	CMAM	All TAs
3	World Vision	Scaling Up Nutrition	Mavwere
4	WFP	CMAM	All TAs
5	Mary Meals	School feeding	Zulu, Mduwa, Nyoka and Mlonyeni

Source: Mchinji district council 2017

There are 6 stakeholders that are doing nutrition activities. These stakeholders are focused on few villages in the T/A. The large part of Mchinji is not covered.

5.6.2.4 Challenges in Nutrition

- Inadequate financial and material resources for nutrition interventions.
- Inadequate knowledge in nutrition interventions.
- Some TAs are not covered by implementing partners hence difficult for government resources to saturate the whole District.
- Inadequate community outreach on nutrition activities by frontline workers as activities are done at a health facility – this leads to many defaulters in nutrition programs such as OTP, SFP, NRU, IHF, open days, school feeding programmes and cooking demonstrations.
- Natural disasters which affects the production and consumption of nutritious foods especially for children and women, that is. hail storm, drought, strong winds and water lodging

5.6.2.5 Key issues

1. High prevalence of stunting in under 5 children
2. High prevalence of anaemia in women
3. Poor maternal, infant and young child feeding practices as evident by low percentage of children consuming minimum diet
4. High level of non-functional nutrition coordinating structures from Area level to household level
5. Poor food production

CHAPTER 6: INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

Mchinji District Transport activities are in line with the MGDS III KPA on KPA 4: Transport and ICT Infrastructure, and also responds to SDG Goal 9 on industry innovation and infrastructure. The district is committed to provision of Transport services because it realizes that efficient transport systems are essential to moving goods and services, connecting people to economic opportunities and also enabling access to healthcare or education. The 2020 Global Competitiveness report ranks Malawi's transport infrastructure on position 132 out of 141 economies. High costs and poor access to reliable transport infrastructure remain an important threat to faster economic growth. High transport costs, in part, result from the country's land-locked position and poor transport infrastructure.

Population growth on the other hand has continued to undermine the progress that has been made towards infrastructure development. In this regard a conducive environment will be provided for continued investments in maintenance, expansion and modernization of infrastructure with more concentration on Transport as depicted in MGDS III and which Goal are we addressing in SDGs

The Local Government act mandates the district councils to manage the rural road network and transport infrastructure falling under their jurisdiction. The Roads Authority manages the main, secondary, district and tertiary roads. The District councils manage the rural community road network through the secretariat under the directorate of Public Works.

6.1 ROAD NETWORK

Mchinji district has very good road networks though with low accessibility during rainy season as most areas are low lying and water logged. The total road network of the district is about 1600 km. The District is linked with other parts of Malawi through the M012 main road and rail line that run from the Zambia Mwami boarder to the Capital City, Lilongwe. The rail line, however, is sparsely used and lies idle most of the time. The district has five main classes of roads namely Main roads, Secondary roads, Tertiary roads, District roads, and undesignated roads. The table below shows the distribution of roads per TA

Table 6.1 Road distribution by type per Constituency

Area	Type	KM	Bridges	Culverts	Drifts
Mchinji North Constituency	Bitumen	10	4		
	Earth	301.7	21	107	1
Mchinji Northeast Constituency	Bitumen	27			
	Earth	154.7	3	77	
Mchinji Northeast Constituency	Bitumen	7			
	Earth	71		26	
Mchinji East Constituency	Bitumen	12			
	Earth	114	5	71	
Mchinji East Constituency	Bitumen	12	1		
	Earth	154	7	53	

Area	Type	KM	Bridges	Culverts	Drifts
Mchinji South Constituency	Bitumen	23.7	2	37	
	Earth	119	6	123	

Source: Mchinji District Council, 2017

Mchinji North Constituency has the highest number of undefined road network because it's the largest, has higher number of agricultural activities and most populated of all the Constituencies.

6.1.1 Main Roads

There are 2 main roads in the district: - M012 (73.9 km) and M018 (40.26 km) covering a total of 114.18 km representing about 12% of total road network coverage.

Table 6.2 Status of Main Roads

Section Number	Section Start: Description	Section End: Description	Route Number	Designation	Length (km)	Surface Type
10080	M12 International Border	Mchinji Customs	M012	M	11	Paved
10081	Mchinji Customs	Mchinji Centre	M012	M	2.59	Paved
10090	Mchinji Centre	Kamwendo	M012	M	17.82	Paved
10100	Kamwendo	Bua River (M12)	M012	M	14.61	Paved
10110	Bua River (M12)	Msitu	M012	M	15	Paved
10111	Msitu	Namitate River (M12)	M012	M	12.9	Paved
10150	Matutu	Kapiri	M018	M	23.36	Paved
10160	Matutu	Kamwendo	M018	M	16.9	Paved
				Total	114.18	

Source: Mchinji District Council, 2017

The M012 that passes through Mchinji connects the capital city, Lilongwe to the Zambian border. It is mostly used by cross border traders. The M018 connect Mchinji to the northern region through Kasungu

6.1.2 Secondary Roads

Secondary Roads form the smallest percentage, 7% of the road network of the district. There are three secondary roads namely S115 and S116 and S118. The S115 road is 21 km long and starts from Kamuzu School and ends at Matutu. It is an earth road. The S116 is a 33 km-long road that starts at Matutu and ends at the Bua river. It is also an earth road. The S118 runs from the Boma and ends at Mkanda and is about 30 km. It is a paved road and has got several concrete bridges.

Table 6.3 Status of Secondary Roads

Section Number	Section Start: Description	Section End: Description	Route Number	Designation	Length (km)	Surface Type
10040	Mkanda	Plaka Estate	S118	S	5.42	Paved
10041	G.F. Estate 54	Plaka Estate	S118	S	26.41	Paved
10042	G.F. Estate 54	Mavumbi River (S118)	S118	S	10.11	Paved
10060	Kamuzu School	Mchinji Centre	S118	S	0.98	Paved
10061	Mchinji School	Kamuzu School	S118	S	9.3	Paved

Section Number	Section Start: Description	Section End: Description	Route Number	Designation	Length (km)	Surface Type
10062	Chawala	Mchinji School	S118	S	15.67	Paved
10070	Mkanda	Chawala	S118	S	9.41	Paved
10120	Kamuzu School	Matutu	S116	S	21.21	Earth
10130	Matutu	Mung'ona	S115	S	9.93	Earth
10140	Mung'ona	Bua River (S115)	S115	S	23.31	Earth
				Total	131.75	

Source: Mchinji District Council, 2017

As presented in the above table (6.3), the secondary roads are mostly paved or earth and they connect the Boma to the major trading centres. The roads feed to the Main roads and tertiary roads.

6.1.3 District Roads

These roads, also known as feeder roads, connect villages and rural trading centers, schools, health centers, farms, EPAs, fishing grounds and tourist designations. They have total of about 140 kilometers of the district's road network. Most of them are earth roads and some have been spot graveled. However, because a larger percentage of them are earth roads some times they pose a challenge especially during rainy season. The past three years the district has been implementing public works programs funded by different donors and this has helped to improve some of them either by construction of new bridges, culvert installation, or general road rehabilitation of difficult places by spot gravelling. This has helped to improve the roads condition in the district.

Table 6.4 Status of District Roads

Section Number	Section Start: Description	Section End: Description	Route Number	Designation	Length (km)	Surface Type	Length (km)
1	Chipumi T.C.	Kalulu School	D161	D	10	Earth	10
2	Kamara	Nthema	D163	D	19	Earth	19
3	Mkhota R.G.P	Mzama School	D164	D	10	Earth	10
4	Ndawambi	Kholoni School	D165	D	14.4	Earth	14.4
5	Chakhalira Village	Kazira	D167	D	5.5	Earth	5.5
6	Ludzi Hospital	Chimuti	D171	D	6.8	Earth	6.8
7	Cheyadi	Zulu Hqs	D172	D	2.2	Earth	2.2
8	Sitima	Mlonyeni Hqs	D173	D	4	Earth	4
9	Mbachundu	Tembwe	D174	D	11.4	Earth	11.4
10	Bua	Misale	D175	D	8.3	Earth	8.3
11	Nkhwazi Jnctn.	Lekado Farm	D176	D	7.2	Earth	7.2
12	Kapzyala School	Nkhwazi Jnctn.	D177	D	8.3	Earth	8.3
13	Mandala Village	Lakado Farm	D178	D	13.9	Earth	13.9
14	Walilanji	Tamanimwendo	D179	D	4.2	Earth	4.2
15	Silombe Village	Chisitu Stream	D180	D	15.4	Earth	15.4
Total					140.6		140.6

Source: Mchinji District Council 2017

From the table above, the district roads are fairly good during dry season and requires upgrading to gravel road and regular maintenance. These roads are most used road in the rural areas

6.1.4 Feeder roads

6.1.4.1 Tertiary Roads

There are 13 tertiary roads in Mchinji with a total length of 180 Km representing 9.57% of the total road network for the district. Most of these are gravel roads and access is available throughout the year. Most of the bridges are concrete; however, some have either timber bridges or Irish Bridges. Maintenance of these roads is done annually by grading therefore there is need for re-graveling because gravel is removed by the grading or simply washed away by rain in some sections of the roads.

Table 6.5 Status of Tertiary Roads

Section Number	Section Start: Description	Section End: Description	Route Number	Designation	Length (km)	Surface Type
10011	G.F. Estate 68	Mkanda	T333	T	17.37	Earth
10012	Kapezi	G.F. Estate 68	T333	T	17.04	Earth
10030	Plaka Estate	Kapiri	T336	T	22	Earth
10170	Kamwendo	Chiwoshya	T342	T	17.73	Earth
10180	??	??	T342	T	8.9	Earth
10190	Mung'ona	Chiwoshya	T343	T	12	Earth
10200	Chiwoshya	Mavwere	T343	T	15	Earth
10210	Mavwere	Msitu	T343	T	8.3	Earth
10221	Mchinji Customs	Chikoka	T351	T	8.6	Earth
10222	Chikoka	Likawe	T351	T	7.73	Earth
10223	Likawe	Mtukwa	T351	T	25	Earth
10224	Kamwendo	Ulele	T351	T	14.6	Earth
10225	Ulele	Mtukwa	T351	T	5.22	Earth
Total					179.49	

Source: Mchinji District Council 2017

The table above shows the tertiary roads that are in the district. These are earth roads which are a problem to access in the rain season.

6.1.4.2 Undesignated Roads

The undesignated roads form the largest percentage, 60% of the road network of the district. They form an estimated total length of over 1082 km. These are newly opened roads, tracks, trails, and footpaths. Some of these newly opened roads were done by LDF conditional cash transfer, EU SPLINT program, Red Cross, and self-help by communities. Most of these roads need attention to improve their drainage systems because most the funding agencies only concentrate much on cash and food transfer other than drainage. Simple means of crossings are available in rivers using logs, rocks, or culverts in other areas. Since these roads do not have structures they pose a challenge during the rainy season.

6.1.5 Situation Analysis

From the information above, it can be seen that out of 1600 km only 140 kilometres are of bitumen standard representing 9% of the total road network. That is all weather roads and 1460 kilometres are earth roads

representing 91% is dry weather roads. These roads become difficult or impassable during wet season and require gravelling because of the plastic soils in Mchinji district. All the community roads with total kilometres of 1082 km representing 75% of the total road network require culvert installations and construction of bridges.

6.1.6 Causes of the poor status of the district road network

The causes of the status of the road network are as follows:

- (a) Inadequate maintenance due to inadequate funding
- (b) High cost of maintenance
- (c) Use of less qualified contractors to carry out maintenance works on the roads that lead to poor workmanship on maintenance works
- (d) Increase in traffic volumes leads to increase in degree of damage of the roads
- (e) Blocking of road side drains, mitre drains and culverts e.g manure making in road side drains, construction and cultivation activities within road reserve etc, by local communities that lead to reduced drainage system of the roads and thereby increasing the degree of damage of the roads
- (f) Sometimes heavy rainfall in some seasons that lead to excessive wash- aways of road sections, culverts and bridges.

6.1.7 Impacts of the poor status of road network

The impacts of these conditions are:

- (a) People of Mchinji (mostly in TAs (Mkanda, Mavwere), have limited access to social services like health, education etc.
- (b) There is limited access to markets for agriculture produce. This negatively affects the social –economic development of the district.
- (c) Increased number of accidents reading to loss of life of citizens
- (d) Increase of number of damaged vehicles
- (e) Increase in travel time between destinations

All these factors affect negatively on economy of the district in particular and the Malawi at large.

6.1.8 Maintenance Interventions of road network

Mchinji District council manages the road maintenance Interventions of all rural feeder and community roads with financial support from funding allocations from the following:

- (a) Locally generated revenue
- (b) The District Development fund
- (c) The Constituency Development fund
- (d) Road fund Administration

The allocation from District Development Fund is usually used for new bridge construction, Bridge upgrading works and Culvert Installation. The constituency Development fund is usually used for maintenance of timber deck bridges. The local Development Fund is used for maintenance of mostly community roads through labor intensive method.

The district is running a community road maintenance programme (CRMP) on roads that were rehabilitated by the Rural Infrastructure Program and the Income Generating Public Works Programme with support from the Road fund. About 139 kilometers is being maintained in on this program.

In all these maintenance interventions, the demand driven approach is used to identify roads, bridges, culverts that need to be maintained which is in line with the Decentralization policy.

6.2 BRIDGES

A road requires access discharge mechanism in order to live its lifespan. Bridges, culverts and drifts are a vital part of this mechanism. Most roads were constructed under the government of Malawi safety net programme that stipulated that at least 70% of the operational funds should be utilised on wages for the workers. The remaining funds were not enough for the construction of crossings like bridges, culverts drifts etc.

The district has the following number of crossings on its roads:

- (a) 20 No timber decked bridges
- (b) 15 No Irish bridges
- (c) 1500 No pipe culvert lines
- (d) 25 No drifts

Table 6.6 Condition, width and deck type of bridges in Mchinji

Name of Road	Bridge Name	Condition	T/A	Length (m)	Width (m)	Deck Type
S118 (Gumba – Mchinji Boma)	Liwelezi	2	Mkanda	55	2.6	T
Gumba - Mchinji	Matizi	3	Mkanda	6.6	3.6	C
T333 Mkanda - Kapezi	Liwelezi	3	Mkanda	6.8	4	T
	Liwelezi	3	Mkanda	21.6	3.8	C
	Chilima	2	Mkanda	10.6	4.5	T
	Puye	1	Mkanda	12.6	3.6	T
	Kapezi	1	Mkanda	8	3.8	T
T336 Mkanda - Kapiri	Rusa	3	Mkanda	14.7	3.3	T
Mkanda - Kalulu	Rusa	1	Mkanda	14.7	3.3	T
Mtengoumodzi - Gumba		3	Mkanda			T
Kazyozyo - Gumba		1	Mkanda			T
Ludzi – Kangwere - Mkanda	Matizi	3	Mkanda		3.8	C
Mpazi - Katutulali		1	Mkanda			T
Kagwa – Kambadekha -Poko	Matizi	3	Mkanda	4.7	3.8	C
	Matizi	3	Mkanda	10.6	3.8	C
Kalulu - Poko	Rusa	3	Mkanda	16	3.8	C
Kazyozyo -Gada	Liwelezi	2	Mkanda	20	3.8	C
Mpazi (Msanama) Katutulala		3	Mkanda	12	3.8	C
T336 Mkanda - Kapiri	Balitse	3	Dambe	10.7	3.8	T
D164 Nzama - Mkhota	Nkaladzi	3	Dambe	8	2.7	T
	Mtombozi	3	Dambe	8	2.5	C
	Nkhono	3	Dambe	4	2.5	C
Nthema off Tsengo		3	Dambe		3.8	C
Kazira - Kapiri	Lunthwe	3	Dambe	4	2.5	C

Name of Road	Bridge Name	Condition	T/A	Length (m)	Width (m)	Deck Type
Kalulu – Jowelo - Pitala	Rusa	3	Kapondo		3.8	C
	Rusa	3	Kapondo		3.8	C
M018 Mkomahalo - Kamwendo	Ludzi	3	Mduwa			C
S115 Matutu - Mzama	Lunthwe	2	Mduwa	8.7	3.8	T
D167 Msasi Mikundi - Chakhalika	Ludzi	3	Mduwa	16.5	3.8	C
Mikundi - Kanyimbo	Ludzi	3	Mduwa	11	3.8	C
Chimuti – Mfuwa - Amози		3			4.5	C
Ludzi – Kangwere - Mkanda	Rusa	3	Nyoka	6.6	3.6	C
	Tsanyale	3	Nyoka	12	3.8	C
Mponda - Kantininya	Rusa	3	Mlonyeni	69.8	7	C
Track Maloya – Saidi - Ludzi	Rusa	3	Nyoka	11.4	3.8	C
M012 Lilongwe - Mwami	Bua	3	Mlonyeni	69.8	7	C
	Bua	3	Zulu	13.8	7	C
	Kachebere	3	Mlonyeni	6.6	7	C
	Kaombe	3	Mlonyeni	10.8	7	C
T351 Kapanila – Old Customs	Bua	3	Mlonyeni	29.7	9.2	C
	Namilolo	3	Mlonyeni	11	8.4	C
D165 Kholoni - Ndawambi	Mwenda	3	Mlonyeni	9.5	3.8	C
	Kamwetsa	3	Mlonyeni	5.8	3.8	C
D172 Cheyadi Sankhani - Tembwe	Nchenachechena	3	Mlonyeni	8.8	2.6	T
	Mkabandiwo	3	Mlonyeni	10	2.7	T
	Champhoyo	3	Mlonyeni	10	4	T
	Mando	3	Mlonyeni	10	3.8	C
	Bua	3	Mlonyeni	11.5	3.8	C
Track Chibonyole Kabango	Mando	2	Mlonyeni			T
Kafulama – Kamwendo - Mlonyeni	Chitapalume	3	Mlonyeni		3.8	C
Tembwe – Guilleme Parish	Bua	3	Mlonyeni		3.8	C
D173 Cheyadi – Mlonyeni - Guilleme	Bua	3	Mlonyeni	7.7	3.8	C
Magawa – Kunjwawa	Lifulezi	3	Mlonyeni		3.8	C
	Namisanjo		Mlonyeni		3.8	C
Mzikaola - Chapanzi	Kachebere	3	Mlonyeni		3.8	C
M012 Joes Motel - Sankhani	Bua	3	Mlonyeni		3.8	C
	Dole	3	Mlonyeni	4	2.5	C
	Malindika	3	Mlonyeni		2.5	C
Mtukwa – Mbachundu - Matimba	Chitinthi	3	Simphasi	7.5	3.8	C
Kathyola - Kanyimbo	Ludzi	3	Simphasi	7.5	3.5	C
Chioko – Puwele - Chiosya	Puwele	3	Simphasi		3.8	C
T342 Kamwendo - Mphanga	Njumbu	3	Simphasi	10	4.5	T
M012 Lilongwe - Mwami	Namitete	3	Mavwere	44.6	4.5	T
	Likasi	3	Mavwere	34	7	T
D176 Nkhwazi - Lekado	Likasi	3	Mavwere	18	3.8	C
D180 Silombe - Mthyolasanu	Chisitu	3	Mavwere		2	C
Silombe - Mthyolasamu	Kagalu	1	Mavwere		2	C
Mkonkhasamu – Kabutu - Nkhomphola	Likasi	1	Mavwere		3	C
	Eziloni	1	Mavwere		3	C
Kankhande - Chandawe	Chandawe	3	Mavwere		3.8	C

Name of Road	Bridge Name	Condition	T/A	Length (m)	Width (m)	Deck Type
Kamuzu School - Matutu	Ludzi	3	Zulu	6.6	3.8	C
Chimuti – Ludzi - Mbwingwa	Ludzi	3	Zulu		3.8	C
Cheyadi – Ludzi - Tembwe	Mwankhwala	3	Zulu	8	3.8	C
Cheyadi Sankhani - Tembwe	Bua	3	Zulu	8	3.8	C
Kamwendo - Mlonyeni	Bua	3	Zulu			

Source: Mchinji District Council, 2017

LEGEND

Condition

Broken Down	1
Functioning	2
Poor	3

Deck Type

Concrete	C
Timber	T

The table above shows that all timber deck bridges require regular maintenance. Because of this, maintenance cost becomes huge over time and therefore need to upgrade all timber bridges to concrete deck.

6.2.1 Transport services

Mchinji has both motorized and non-motorized transport services. These are owned by Individuals, Companies, Government institutions, and NGOs. Examples of motorized type of transport in the district are Heavy goods, Lorry, tractors, pick –ups, Motorcycles, and Minibuses. Examples of non-motorized type of transport are Bicycles, Pushcarts, ox carts, and head –loading. M012, M0148, and S112 have minibuses and pickups referred to as Matola operating on them. In most of the tertiary, district and undesignated roads the most reliable mode of transport is by bicycles commonly locally called Dampa, push carts. Very few areas have motorized transport like Chikombe beach in T/A Msosa and Chilambula in T/A Kambalame because these are fishing grounds with a lot of vendors always moving day and night.

The frequency of the motorized transport in main roads has an average of 12 vehicles per hour. Most of the vehicles operating on main roads are roadworthy. In most parts of the district and undesignated roads the most reliable mode of transport is bicycles. These can be accessed throughout the district offering door delivery and therefore very convenient. In T/A Ndindi donkeys also play an important role in carrying goods.

6.2.1.1 Railways

Mchinji district is served by rail transport along Mwami Boarder (Zambia) -Lilongwe line in. The line run parallel to main road M12. Central East African Railways (CEAR) operates the rail company. Previously goods and passengers used to operate through these lines but now only cargo trains operate along the said lines. Currently the line is mainly lying idle with, on average one train in a year.

PROBLEMS EFFECTING RAIL TRANSPORT

This mode of transport, even though has the carrying capacity of any amount of goods, is underutilized due to limited goods to be transported. The passengers train was discontinued because of the same prob-

lem. Few people used to board the train and the company could not continue to operate. The other reason could be that of stiff competition with other land operators. These are trucks and minibuses that ply their business in the district roads. If there will be significant investment in the district in mining, tourism, agricultural production, and other sectors the rail transport can be revamped. The company has adequate infrastructure in the district which includes terminals, ware houses and staff houses.

6.2.2 Opportunities on the Road Network

Despite the challenges in the road infrastructure challenges in the district, there are opportunities that exist for the sector.

- (a) The road network has the opportunity of revenue generation for the district through road levies and toll fees especially for the main roads.
- (b) Another opportunity is that willingness of communities to work on road maintenance activities through labor intensive methods.
- (c) Development partners' willingness to fund road construction and maintenance activities.
- (d) Public Passenger Transport Services

Only three routes offer regular passenger services throughout the year. This is on:

- Mchinji – Lilongwe route
- Mchinji Mkanda route
- Kamwendo – Chinkhoma route

It is suffice to note that these roads are paved and hence the reason for regular passenger service. There is a rail network that runs parallel to the M12 road but it is not used for passenger transport. Intermediate means of transport are also available and this include: animal operated carts and bicycles popularly known as Kabaza. These tend to operate within their local areas. Taxi services are available, especially at around the Boma.

Table 6.7 Routes, Frequencies and Mode of Transport to and from Mchinji

No	Name of Route	Per Day			Fares (MWK)	
		Buses	Minibuses	Other	From	To
1	Mchinji Boarder - Mwami	0	20	20	200	200
2	Mchinji – Kayesa – Kamwendo	0	20	20	500	500
3	Mchinji – Lilongwe	0	50	50	2000	2000
4	Kamwendo - Chinkhoma	0	10	10	2500	2500
5	Joes Motel - Bua	0	0	10	200	200
6	Mchinji – Mkanda	0	20	20	500	500
7	Mchinji – Kasungu via Kamwendo	0	50	50	2000	2000

Source: Mchinji District Council, 2017

From the table above, minibuses are the most used transport, others include taxis, bicycles and motorbikes. The fares vary depending on the fuel price while the mode of transportation vary depending on the season.

6.2.3 Transport terminals

There are several transport terminals in the rural areas of the district. Minibuses, buses or other means of conventional transport use these. They are found in major trading centres of the district. The following table lists transport terminals:

1. Mchinji Boma M012
2. Kamwendo M012
3. Mkanda S118

6.3 INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY

The district communication system works in line with government's policy on communication guided by the ministry responsible for all communication activities; the Ministry of Information and civic education. The communication sector remains an important part of the Mchinji District Council as it helps the people to connect and share information. The communication sector encompasses radio, television, postal, courier services, mobile and ground telephone and internet services. Radio communication services are available but limited only to the hospital and the police institutions.

6.3.1 Postal Services

The Malawi Postal Corporation is mandated to provide easily accessible, reliable, high quality and affordable postal and financial services to meet people's needs. The district used to have five Post Offices and five Postal Agencies. But presently the Postal agencies which were run by the district council have been closed because of not being effective and the staff has been deployed to other departments within the council. The district now has five post offices in as in the Table 6.8 below;

Table 6.8 List of Post Offices and their location

POST OFFICE	TA
Mchinji	TA Zulu
Magawa	TA Zulu
Mkanda	TA Mkanda
Kapiri	TA Dambe
Chimwamkango	STA Gumba

Source: Mchinji post office, 2017

Postal agencies were Tembwe, Nkhwazi, Mikundi and Kazozyo. They are now closed (not operational) since they are not supported.

6.3.1.1 Services offered in post offices and volume of transactions per month

The Malawi Postal Corporation is mandated to provide easily accessible, reliable, high quality and affordable postal and financial services to meet people's needs. Mchinji Council has five operational Post Offices, Mchinji and Kamwendo.

The Post Office offers services like Fast cash, Mukuru, Western Union and EMS, Parcels Bulk mail through its courier service, Mailboxes, Postage stamps, Private bags and other retail and wholesale services. Table 6-9 below shows the services offered by the post office.

The main challenge 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. Most mailboxes and private bags are not being paid for as a result of people not using letters to communicate.

6.3.1.2 Courier

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 Mchinji.

Table 6.9 Services offered in post offices and volume of transactions per month

Post Office	Fast cash	Express mail	Courier bulk mail	Parcels	Ordinary mail	Mukuru	Paisa	Western union	Money gram
Mchinji	43	39	55	8	510	28	39	5	2
Magawa	25	4	18	2	213	12	8	2	4
Mkanda	22	2			77	19	14		
Kapiri	8		3		11				
Chimwa	3				6				
Mkango									

Source: District Information Office, 2017

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 Mchinji.

6.3.2 Telephone Network

Malawi Telecommunication Limited is the only service provider of ground telephone line. The institutions that benefit are private institutions and the rest are government institutions and homes. It has a digital exchange at the Boma with a capacity of over 184 lines. It offers Prepaid and Post Paid services to its customers. Apart from home and office landlines, it also has five telephone booths working.

Generally, the telecommunication facilities are inadequate. Quality of the services also sometimes leaves a lot to be desired. Usually, subscribers face frequent communication difficulties. Radio communication services are available but limited only to the hospital and the police institutions. MTL also offers mobile phone service through its Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) network.

6.3.3 Cellular Networks

Internet services are available with MTL liberty line, TNM and AIRTEL dongles, and Broadband and Sky band. These have helped in breaking the barriers of internet technology in the district.

Telephone network services are offered by one operator, the Malawi Telecommunications (MTL). It limited has a digital exchange at the Boma with a capacity of over 184 lines. Its services have both prepaid and post-paid billing system. MTL also has five telephone booths working

Generally, the telecommunication facilities are inadequate and quality of the services are poor. Subscribers face frequent communication difficulties. MTL also offers mobile phone service through its Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) network

6.3.4 Internet Networks

The District has several Internet Service Providers (ISPs). These include MTL, Skyband, TNM, Globe Internet, Airtel, Simba Net and ESCOM through E-Government. The ISPs connect individuals and institutions with internet. Internet services are accessed through MTL liberty line, TNM and AIRTEL dongles, and Broadband and Sky band. These have helped in breaking the barriers of internet technology in the district. MTL has improved the cable network within the boma where as those within the area can be able to access internet services through ADSL modems. There are private internet cafes that people use to access internet at a fee. The range MTL has improved the cable network within the boma where as those within the area can be able to access internet services through ADSL modems which MTL is providing,

The District has several ISPs. These include MTL, Skyband, TNM and Airtel. The ISPs connect individuals and institutions with internet. Internet is also easily accessed from ISPs like TNM and Airtel from cell phones and other portable gadgets. There are also private internet cafes that people use to access internet at a fee. The range gives people a choice of using individual gadgets or use the internet cafes.

6.3.5 Radio and Television Networks

The population of Mchinji receives signals for Malawi Broadcasting Corporation Radios 1 and 2, Zodiak Broadcasting Station, Mudziwathu Community Radio, Galaxy and Trans world radio in some areas, and other Radio stations from Zambia like Radio Maria Chipata, and Breeze FM Radio from Chipata. Most radio signals are lost when there is a blackout in Mchinji especially MBC Radio 1 and 2, Zodiak and Mudziwathu.

Table 6.10 Radio stations and their frequencies

Radio station	Frequency (FM)	Signal strength
MBC Radio 1	88.0	Strong
MBC Radio 2	95.7	Strong
Zodiak	87.6	Strong
Trans World	90.7	Poor
Radio Maria	94.0	Poor
Mudziwathu radio	102.6	Strong

Those who access TV stations like MBCTV, Times TV, ZodiakTV and other local TVs use satellite television. Multichoice (DSTV), Zuku, Starsat make it possible for people in the district to access local TVs and other international TV stations. Television access is a problem in the district. No television signal can be caught using ordinary antennas or aerials but only using satellites.

6.3.6 Newspapers

The district is fed daily with information from the two daily national papers the Nation and Daily times. During weekends Sunday times, Weekend Nation, weekend times and Nation on Sunday are sold. There is also a government newspaper "Boma lathu" which comes monthly and is distributed for free by the District Information Office and also Fuko newspaper a product of Nation Publications written in two vernacular

languages is also distributed for free in the district. The District has access to different periodic publications. There are daily publications that hit the market.

There are other publications that the district receives like Fuko. This is fortnightly newspapers written in the vernacular languages. Fuko is bi-lingual with articles in Tumbuka and Chichewa. The other newspaper in Chichewa is Ministry of Information and Communications Technology's Boma Lathu which is a monthly newspaper. This is a free newspaper.

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)
Malawi News	Weekly (Saturdays only)
Nation on Sunday	Weekly (Sundays only)
Sunday Times	Weekly (Sundays only)
Boma Lathu	Monthly
Fuko	Fortnight

Source: District Information Office 2017

Most of the people feel these publications are expensive to buy every edition. Most of the people prefer to read publications that have been bought by others. Mostly people access other publications at National Initiative for Civic Education (NICE) library.

6.4 ENERGY

Malawi Energy Sector is now being guided by the National Energy Policy (NEP) of 2018. The Policy is inspired by the Sustainable Development Goal number 7 and the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) III's priority number 3 which is 'Energy, Industry and Tourism Development. The goal of the NEP 2018 is "To increase access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, efficient and modern energy for every person in the country."

The policy emphasizes on principles of:

- Sustainable Energy Supply and Services
- Energy Efficiency and Conservation
- Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL)
- Equitable and Inclusive Energy Access
- Promotion of Private Sector Participation
- Good Governance in Energy Services

With Electricity Amendment Act of 2016, both the private and public sectors are encouraged to participate in electricity generation so as to boost our generation capacity both at national and district level. NEP 2018 categorizes energy sources as follows: Electricity from Non-Renewable Sources; Electricity from Renewable Sources; Biomass; Petroleum Fuels; Biofuels; Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG); Biogas and Natural Gas (NG); Coal; and Electricity from Nuclear Energy. The role of MCHINJI District council is to implement the interventions listed in the National Energy Policy through its normal funding and collaboration with other development partners.

6.4.1 Power Generating Plants/Minigrids and Sub-Stations

Mchinji district is supplied with electricity from the national grid. The district does not have any power plant but has three substations from which customers get power at distribution voltage levels. There is one 66/11kV sub-station at Mchinji Boma and two 66/33kV substations at Mchinji border and Matutu trading center.

There is currently one mini-grid in the district and is located in Storo village, TA Mlonyeni. The minigrid is powered by Solar PV and its installed capacity is 80 kW. The minigrid is in its final stages of construction and it is expected to power 150 households and other business facilities as well as public institutions. The Minigrid is expected to be commissioned in September; 2019. The district has potential for other solar and wind minigrids at Mzenga trading Centre and Chisambamatidzi area, among other.

6.4.2 Supply and Demand of Electrical Power

About 13 percent of the households in Malawi have electricity. Over half of the households in Blantyre and Lilongwe cities have electricity, (Malawi Energy Survey, 2012), Mchinji only 3.1% households have electricity. Table 6-12 shows estimated energy demand by TA in Mchinji.

Table 6.12 Estimated energy demand

TA Name	Estimated Demand (KW)
Dambe	412
Kapondo	111
Mavwere	250
Mduwa	155
Mkanda	876
Mlonyeni	300
Nyoka	120
Simphasi	50
Zulu	112
Mchinji Total	2386

Source: Mchinji District Council, 2017

This tells that population for Mchinji has increased very much than households' connections to the grid electricity. The low household connectivity has a lot of impact on the environment. Firstly, the low connectivity to the grid means that a lot of households are using dry cells torches which when cells are used up, they end up being thrown everywhere posing a lot of dangers to the environment due to polluting chemical from the used dry cells. Further low connectivity at households' level means that a lot of households are using biomass (firewood, charcoal and crop residuals for meeting their daily energy needs. Heavy use of biomass or solid fuels is associated with emission of greenhouse gas which brings climates change. There is therefore a need to increase and speed up connections of households to the grid electricity.

Like many districts, Mchinji faces a lot of challenges in promoting sustainable energy options to support the energy requirements of its economic and social development goals with minimal adverse effects on the environment. Of late the use of paraffin for lighting has dropped due large scale availability of Chinese lamps powered by solar chargers

Table 6.13 Institutional Structures Connectivity to ESCOM Grid Power in 2017

Sector	Institution Description	No of structures	Connected structures	Unconnected	Connectivity %	Remarks
Health (including CHAM Facilities)	District Hospitals	1	1	0	100	ESCOM
	Health Centres	11	11	0	100	
	Dispensary	-	-	-	-	No dispensaries in the district
Education	Primary schools	207	4	203	2%	
	Secondary	18	6	12	33%	
	TDC	13	7	6	50%	
	Community Colleges	1	1	1	100%	
Judiciary	Courts	4	2	2	50%	
Police	Police Post	1	1	0	100%	
	Police Unit	7	3	4	45%	
	Police Station	1	1	0	100%	
Prison	Prisons	0	0	0	0	
Agriculture	RDP	1	1	0	100	
	EPAs	7	4	3	57	
Communication	Post Office	1	1	0	100	
	Postal Agency					
District Council	Markets	7	7	-	100	
	Trading Centres	21	21	-	100	
	Depots	-	-	-	-	

Source: Mchinji District Council, 2017.

The table above shows that public institutions with low electrification rates are Primary schools, Secondary Schools, TDCs, Courts, and Police Units. This low connectivity in these public institution is mainly attributed to low funding in these institutions. Most of these public institutions are unconnected to national grid electricity despite being located in the areas where the national grid has already reached. Low connectivity in the public institutions is highly impacting on the delivery of social services such as education and health. Going forward, there is a need for the district council to deliberately increase funding for the electrification of existing public institutions and include on public institutions construction bill of quantities, a provision of some form of energy so that each newly built institution is connected to electricity right from commissioning time.

6.4.3 Malawi Rural Electrification Programme

Malawi Rural Electrification Programme (MAREP) started way back in 1980. Activities of MAREP are managed by the Rural Electrification Management Committee (REMAC) and the Department of Energy Affairs as its secretariat as well as implementing entity. The objective of MAREP is to increase access to electricity for people in peri-urban and rural areas as part of Government's effort to reduce poverty, transform rural economies, improve productivity and improve the quality of social services.

The programme is guided by the Rural Electrification Act of 2004. MAREP is executed in Phases. Since MAREP inception, eight phases of the programme have been implemented. Initially, this involved extending power distribution lines to district administration centres, major trading centres, tobacco growing areas

and the development of the 4.5 Mega Watt Wovwe Hydro Power Plant. Selection of sites/centres for electrification in particular phase is done in conjunction with district councils.

Since phase four, about 19 rural sites have been electrified in Mchinji. Table 6-14 below shows the number of trading centres/sites that have been electrified under MAREP from phase four to phase eight proper in Mchinji.

Table 6.14 Trading Centres/Sites Electrified in Mchinji under MAREP Phases 4 to 8

PHASE NO.	SITE/TRADING NO.	NAME OF TRADING CENTRE/SITE	T/A
FOUR	1	Mchinji orphanage	Nyoka
FIVE	1	Chiosya	Simpasi
SIX	1	Mkanda	Mkanda
	2	Mikundi	Mduwa
SEVEN	1	Nkhwazi	Mavwere
	2	Gumba	STA Gumba
	3	Zulu	Zulu
EIGHT PROPER	1	Kabuthu	Mavwere
	2	Kalulu	Kapondo
	3	Kazyozyo	Kazyozyo
	4	Mkonkha	Mavwere
	5	Kalulu II	Kapondo
	6	Chawala	STA Kawere
	7	Masumba	Mkanda
	8	Msampha	Mkanda
	9	Kamphata	Mkanda
	10	Kambuwe	Damambe
	11	Chimwamkango	STA Gumba
	12	Faniwelo	Kapondo
TOTAL			19

Source: MAREP Report 2017

6.4.4 Other Sources of Energy

Besides electricity and Biomass, Candles, paraffin, Crop residues, Solar Home systems, dry cell /solar lanterns, biogas and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) are other alternative sources of energy in use in Mchinji for either cooking or lighting.

6.4.4.1 Energy Source for Cooking

Table 6.15 Proportion of HH by main source of fuel for cooking in Mchinji in 2016/17

Energy Type	Proportion Using Solid Fuels	Firewood	Charcoal	Electricity	Crop Residuals/Saw Dust	Others	Total
Usage Proportion	100	93.3	6.7	-	-	-	100

Source: IHS4 Report, 2017.

From the table above, the most fuel used for cooking is Solid fuels (firewood, charcoal, crop residues, etc), currently at 100% (IHS4 Report 4, 2017). Over use of solid fuels is attributed due to lack of knowledge about availability of reliable and affordable alternatives for cooking energy. This over dependence on solid fuel has got negative implication for Mchinji and the whole Malawi. These include deforestation, high rate of lung related diseases amongst women and children, and climate change due to GHG emissions.

The majority of households are not connected to grid electricity in the district hence it also anticipated that usage of electricity in Mchinji could be low, though it is noted officially reported in current reports. There is therefore a need to increase awareness and promote use of alternative sources of cooking fuel to solid fuels which include LPG, Briquettes, Biogas, and electricity, amongst other sources. These fuel alternatives have an element of lop in men into the task of providing cooking energy thereby freeing up women from the burden and time spent in searching for solid fuels.

6.4.4.2 Energy Source for Lighting

Table 6.16 Table Proportion of Households in Mchinji By Lighting Energy Type In 2016/17

Energy Type	Battery/Dry Cell Torch	Elec- tricity	Can- dles	Par- affin	Fire- wood	Oth- ers	Total %
Proportion of Usage	88.1	3.9	2.9	0.2	0.8	4.1	100

Source: IHS4 Report, 2017

The most used energy sources in Mchinji for lighting are battery/Dry Cell Torches. Low connectivity to the ESCOM grid is still the main cause of increased use of Battery/dry cell torches which is currently at 88.1%. This attributed to lack of reliable and affordable clean alternative for lighting fuels and low connectivity to the national grid electricity. Disposition of these batteries and dry cells has harmful effects to environment. These calls for increased effort in increasing awareness and adoption of clean sources of lighting some of which include: grid electricity, solar home systems, clean mini-grids and solar lanterns.

The actual usage of alternative clean fuels such as LPG, Solar Home systems and solar lanterns in Mchinji is currently not established as the official survey has not yet taken place. However, there is high potential of biogas for its use in boarding secondary schools, district hospital, households, hotels lodges and technical colleges in Mchinji where there are a lot of feed stocks in form of sewage waste. For household use, there is only one fixed dome biogas digester which is currently in use in Stolo village. There is also a huge potential for utilization of biogas at household's level in Mchinji as there are a lot of cattle farming taking place in Mkanda, Msitu and Zulu EPAs which can provide adequate feed stocks for household digesters.

LPG supply in Mchinji is limited as there are no suppliers for LPG in the district. However, there is high promising market from the peri-urban dwellers who can afford. only one institution (Mchinji District Hospital) that uses LPG for sterilization of medical instruments. The Hospital refills the LPG gas with Afrox Limited located in Lilongwe City.

Briquettes production and utilization in Mchinji is almost zero, with no notable groups or company producing them currently.

Solar stand-alone systems and solar lanterns are being used mostly by households and few businesses and institutions in Mchinji. The average solar direct normal irradiation for Mchinji is 1803 Kwh/m² per year. This shows a great potential to use stand-alone solar systems for commercial use either as simple stand-alone systems, minigrid or as hybrid with other technologies just as mini-hydro plants and wind technologies. On

the other hand, Mchinji will soon have the solar energy production plant which will have the potential to produce about 60 megawatts once in operational.

The main challenge hindering adoption of biogas, LPG and Solar systems in Mchinji include lack of awareness on the existence of these alternatives by the people living in Mchinji; lack of adequate technical capacity in installation, operation and maintenance of these alternatives, and lack of adequate financing.6.5.5 Petroleum Fuels

Petroleum fuels commonly used in Mchinji include Paraffin for lighting and, Diesel and Petrol for back up electricity generation and powering machines including maize mills, motorcycles and vehicles.

Currently, Mchinji district has 11 filling stations evenly distributed across the district. These are filling stations are positioned in the following locations, two at Kamwendo, two Waliranji, five Mchinji Boma Centre, and one at Mkanda trading centre one at Kapiri Trading Centre. Nevertheless, there are some trading centres which do not have the filling stations, these include Mchinji border post and Chiosha and these centres have high economic activities taking place in them and there is need to have these filling stations. People in these trading centres have to travel long distances to other closer for refueling. Sometimes people resort into keeping fuel in gallons and drum which makes it easy for the fuel to get contaminated and hence put machines and vehicles at risk. Keeping fuel in such unprotected storage could cause risk of fire and hence lead to mass destruction of property. Thence there is a great need for more fuel service stations in these trading centres.

6.5 ENERGY EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGIES

6.5.1 Energy Saver Bulbs/LED Bulbs and Other Energy Efficient Electric Appliances

Energy saver bulbs and LED bulbs have largely been adopted by households and institutions in Mchinji. These are commonly bought from all reputable shops including ESCOM. In 20... ESCOM started implemented a project of selling LED bulbs at subsidized cost with the aim of saving the power.

Though no official data is available for Mchinji on the utilization of other energy efficient electric appliances, it is important to increase people's awareness of both benefits and existence of this appliance so that their utilization is increased there by reducing pressure on the national grid and save on customers' unnecessary bills. These appliances include modern LED fridges, irons, TVs, etc.6.6.2 Solar Thermal

Solar Thermal technologies include Solar Water Heaters, Solar Air Coolers, solar dryers, Solar Room Heating Technologies. Currently there is not much on information on the use of Solar Thermal technologies in Mchinji, however, there is a very big potential for utilization of Solar water heaters in Mchinji as it has a lot of boarding schools and lodges where clients use electric geysers for bathing water, electric air-conditioners for room cooling which consumes a lot of electric energy thereby putting pressure on the national supply system and increase customers' bills.

6.5.2 Efficient/Improved Cook Stoves

The adoption and utilisation of the improved cook stoves in Mchinji has been very low as compared to the population of the district. However, the trend has been increasing overtime. There is a need for more awareness and action to increase the adoption and utilisation level.

In Mchinji the most used improved cook stoves include Chitetezo Mbaula and fixed rocket stoves. There are 8 organizations producing and selling cook stoves in Mchinji.

6.5.3 Energy Efficient Practices

These include energy efficiency or saving achieved by consumer behavior examples of which include:

- Leaving electric appliances including bulbs on even when not in use.
- Lighting cooking appliance before meals or items to be cooked are prepared

These behaviors need to be instilled in energy consumers and promoted as they have potential to save energy without any extra-cost for the consumers themselves

CHAPTER 7: SECURITY AND GOVERNANCE

The Security and Justice system in the district aims at protection of lives and property. The police receive reports and investigate crimes afterwards. The courts try those suspected to have committed the crime. The courts sentence the offenders to jail. This is in line with MGDS III under Other Development Area number 7.8 on Peace and Security and Sustainable Development Goal number 16 which talks about promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

7.1 POLICE SERVICES

Malawi Police Service is responsible for safety of the citizens and all people living in the country and also maintaining law and order through law enforcement and core areas of crime and traffic management.

The department is responsible for security services in governmental, non-governmental institutions including residential and business premises within the district in order to curb crime and other related incidents.

There are a total of seven police formations across the 15 Traditional Authorities. Criminal cases are being committed in all Traditional Authorities within the district, hence, there is need of establishment of more police formation and deployment of personnel to cover all the Traditional Authorities areas.

Table 7.1 Police facilities per Traditional Authority

Traditional Authority	Number of Police Facilities	Condition
Zulu (Parent Station)	1	Need for renovation
Zulu/ Mlonyeni	1	Good
Dambe/Kapondo	1	Need for renovation
Mkanda	1	Under Construction
Kazyozyo	1	Need for renovation
Gumba	1	Need for renovation
Mduwa	1	Need for renovation

Source: Mchinji Police station 2017

There is a need for establishment of police units in all traditional authorities in order to prevent and reduce the fear of crime. The presence of a good number of police formations makes it easier to combat crime due to visibility and accessibility of police and quick response to all emergency calls for assistance by covering all crime prone areas.

7.1.1 Police Facilities Vs T/A Establishments

Victims of crime tend to walk long distances from one Tradition Authority to lodge their complaints in police facilities which are situated in other Tradition Authorities. As a result, most of the cases remain unreported and offenders resort to committing various crimes hence, increasing crime in the district especially in remote areas.

The table below shows coverage of Police facilities against the number of tradition authorities present in the district.

Table 7.2 Police facilities and TAs covered

Station	T/As Covered
Mchinji Parent Station	T/A Zulu, T/A Mlonyeni & S/T/A Nyoka
Kamwendo Post	T/A Mlonyeni T/A Mavwere & T/A Simpasi
Kapiri Unit	T/A Dambe
Mkanda Unit	Senior Chiefs Mkanda and Pitala
Kzyozyo Unit	T/A Kzyozyo
Chimwamkango Unit	T/A Gumba
Mikundi Unit	T/A Mduwa

Source: Mchinji Police station 2017

7.1.2 Crime Management

Police service intends to promote visible and effective policing in both urban and rural areas as it recognizes that prevention of crime is cost effective and promotes a healthy society by reducing chances of victimization which has long lasting effects.

7.1.2.1 Number of crime committed and reported (2013- 2016)

Table 7-3 below shows the type and number of crimes committed/reported during the years under review. The table indicates that there had been a high frequency of defilement cases committed and reported. This is mainly because of early marriage cases where by many young girls (under sixteen years) have been withdrawn and sometimes this is due to cultural beliefs. The perpetrators were arrested, appeared before court and been convicted. Whereas, cases like armed robbery are not common due to initiatives implemented like enhanced partnership with the community through establishment of informants and anti-crime prevention committees within our policing area.

Crime prone areas in the district are; Mchinji Trading Centre, Kamwendo, Mkanda, Mwase, Kapiri, Mikundi, Waliranji and border areas of Mozambique and Zambia.

There was a total of 5,207 cases from the year 2013 to 2017 which were committed and been reported. Out of these cases 3324 cases were taken to court and 1155 were convictions representing 35% of the solved crime cases. The remaining 65% represents other cases which resulted into acquittals, otherwise disposed of upon escaping of culprits in fear of being apprehended and even cases withdrawn by complainants at the court.

Table 7.3 Number of crimes committed and reported

Type Of Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Homicide					
Murder	14	12	10	8	5
Mob Justice		2			
Robberies					
Armed Robbery	3				1
Robbery With Violence	47	23	13	4	14
Breakings					
Breaking Into A Building And Committing A Felony Therein	51	42	29	17	32
Burglary And Theft	53	77	24	21	48
House Breaking & Theft	39	15	17	19	30
Sexual Cases					
Defilement	22	19	23	12	47
Rape	7	2	1		
Assault					
Unlawful Wounding	86	76	29	20	43
Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm	51	47	18	11	14
Grievous Harm	11	11	7	1	10
Theft Of Motor Vehicle	1				
Theft Of Livestock	47	38	2	6	16
Miscellaneous	661	760	1318	657	463
Total	1093	1124	1491	776	723

Source: Mchinji Police Station Crime Register, 2016

7.1.2.2 Number of Crime Offenders by Sex

Figure below shows that most of crimes were committed by males. Most of criminals are imposters, they express false exhibition to the society with intent to trick for them to commit any kind of practice which amounts to an offence. This tendency is common in a large number of males (career criminals) in order to acquire what they want most in order to maintain their livelihoods.

High number of crime was registered in the year 2014 due to chieftaincy wrangles in some areas and political violence cases as we had tripartite elections. Whereas, due to the high court order suspension of section 184 (1) (c) of laws of Malawi in the year 2017 on loitering and rogue and vagabond, there was a decrease of female sex workers arrested during sweeping exercise/operation hence, there has been a decrease in number of arrested females.

Table below shows that there had been a drastic increase in crime cases during the period between the years 2012 and 2014. However, crime was decreasing since the year 2015 up to the year 2016. This had been an impact of intervention on crime prevention awareness campaigns and intensified day and night patrols.

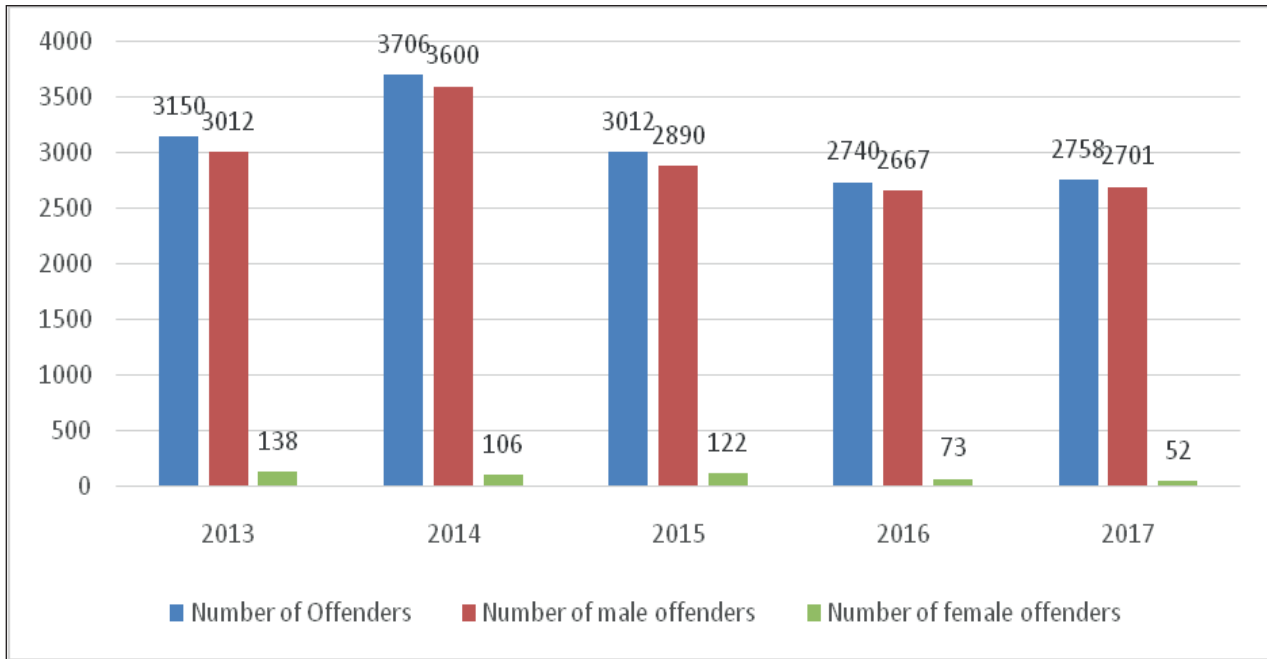


Figure 7.1 Crime Offenders by Sex

Source: Mchinji Police Station, 2017

7.1.2.3 Changes in Crime Rates over the years

The crime rates in the district over the past four years are presented.

Table 7.4 Changes in crime rate (2012 and 2016)

Year	Year	Difference	% age change
2012	2013		
1093	1124	31 more	3% increase
2013	2014		
1124	1491	367 more	33% increase
2014	2015		
1491	776	715 less	49% decrease
2015	2016		
776	723	53 less	7% decrease

Source: Mchinji Police Station, 2016

Table above shows that there had been a drastic increase in crime cases during the period between the years 2012 and 2014. Consequently, crime was decreasing since the year 2015 up to the year 2016. This had been an impact of interventions on crime prevention through awareness campaigns and intensified day and night patrols.

Following are some of the strategies are: -

- Deployment of uniformed and uniformed police officers in all public places such as trading centers in order to maintain police visibility and disrupt imminent criminal activities and crime investigations.
- Arrest and speedy prosecution of offenders.
- Night patrol duties are intensively carried out especially in trading centers and selected locations where there is a high rate of breaking offences in order to crackdown the trend. These deployed officers are also responsible for arrests of criminals, timely rendering of services to victims of crime as well as recovery of stolen properties.
- The station also carries out rural patrols targeting mobile markets in addition to border patrols as the station also shares an international boundary with Zambia and Mozambique.

7.1.3 Security services available in Mchinji

The district has One Police station, a sub-station at Kamwendo and five units at Mkanda, Kazyozyo, Chimwankango, Kapiri, and Mikundi. There are no fire services available. There are five private security companies operating in the district namely; Group 4, Loma, Kamu, MM and KK. There is need for more security services institutions in attempt to discourage the rapidly increasing forms of crimes/violence from occurring within the district.

7.1.4 Coordination between Police and Private Security Companies

The district police office coordinates and collaborates with other private security companies to reduce offences. Private security companies are requested to notify the police to help screen new recruits to avoid employing criminals. Security guards are encouraged to help the police by reporting suspicious people wondering in their respective area during odd hours. Business owners are advised and encouraged to provide necessary items to their watchmen which will be used in a security measure, such as whistles, button sticks just to mention but a few.

Introduction of Home Audit Campaign done by the crime prevention office/community policing that is carried out throughout the years in the whole policing area in which among others, people are advised to properly safeguard their places of business and homes so as to avoid attracting criminals.

7.1.5 Crime Prevention

Below are activities and strategies for crime prevention in the district;

- Police officers are deployed in various public areas, crime prone areas, functions as well as borders so as to prevent criminal activities.
- In the same vein, awareness campaign is carried out to the public on security tips so that security of life and property starts with them.
- Crime investigation and prosecution; this is where police employ different mechanisms in helping victims of crime by arresting criminals, bringing them before court as well as recovery of stolen properties.

In all of the above activities, the community and other stakeholders are involved through community policing initiative in which they are encouraged to render their assistance to police by reporting to Police any criminal activities taking place in their areas as well as provision of material support in order to reduce crime.

The station also is carrying out various activities including radio programs in which the importance of reporting crime and criminals to police is emphasized and also involving the youth in crime prevention efforts by reaching out to them in schools and clubs so that they have a hand in crime prevention in their respective communities.

7.1.6 Traffic Management

Traffic management is another service whereby special trained officers are assigned to check vehicles and other road users in order to control and reduce road accidents in the district. Road safety campaigns are carried out in all trading centers, schools and other public places for all road users to know road safety tips. In time of road accidents, the Police also render its helping hand to the victims by providing first aid and referring them to hospital for medical attention.

In addition, vehicles that are not roadworthy are impounded from the roads and spot fines are paid in order to reduce road accidents in the district.

7.1.7 Major Road accidents

Being a district with a lot of earth roads and covering the best road to Zambia, Mchinji registers more accidents throughout the year and especially during rainy season. In all road accidents registered over the past five years have been dominated by fatalities and passengers. Pedestrians remained the most affected in the group of all road users. Major road accidents within the district ranges from these categories: - Fatal, Serious and Damages while that of Minor and Animal Killed/Injured category are not frequent.

Table 7.5 Major road accidents in Mchinji

Traditional Authority	Major Accident	Remarks
Zulu	Fatal, Serious and Damages	49
Mlonyeni	Fatal, Serious and Damages	5
Nyoka	Fatal and Serious	4
Mkanda	Fatal and Serious	5
Mavwere	Fatal and Serious	14
Dambe	Fatal, Serious	5

Source: Mchinji Police Station, 2017

7.1.7.1 Accidents Hot spot areas

The following are accidents hot spots along Mwami Border- Lilongwe road: - Kadula, Mchinji trading boma, Kayesa, Chimuti, Mikaele, Kamwendo, Guilleme turn off, Bua, Nathyola, Waliranji and Chithumba. Mchinji- Kasungu road has Kapiri trading center and Matutu. Mchinji boma- Mkanda road has Kaigwazanga and Nyoka.

7.1.7.2 Main Causes of Accidents

Main causes of these accidents include:

- Over speeding
- Driving whilst drunk
- Vandalism of regulatory and informative road signs amongst others.

7.1.8 Security Service Personnel

The district has inadequate personnel in all security service facilities. This leads to people travelling long distances in order to access police services and this result into other cases remaining unreported, many cases are on the increase because they are either not reported or are reported late and victims of crime are also not reached in time. If the station had enough officers, additional police formations could have been opened so that this problem is mitigated and additional man power can be deployed in Police formations where there is understaffing.

Table 7.6 Staffing in Security Sector in Mchinji

Year	Male	Female	Total
2013	125	24	149
2014	130	30	160
2015	138	32	170
2016	158	45	203
2017	192	66	258

Source: Mchinji Police Station, 2017

The table above shows that the station has more male workforce than that of female officers. Currently, the male officers' ratio to that of female officers is at 1:3 from 1:5 as of the year 2013 which indicates improvement in gender sensitivity. However, the station has a working strength of 258 personnel against population projection of 602,305 representing police to community ratio of 1:2334 which is higher than the recommended standard ratio which is 1:500.

Table 7.7 Staff establishment

Rank	Establishment	Available	Male	Female
D.C.P		1	1	0
A.C.P		1	0	1
S/SUPT		1	1	0
SUPT		5	5	0
A/SUPT		12	10	2
INSP		14	11	3
S/INSP		143	111	32
SGT		102	74	28
CONST		3	3	0

Source: Mchinji Police Station 2017

7.1.9 Other security service Facilities

There is need for upgrading of some Police units into Police posts particularly in major trading centers and establishment of security service facilities (units) in all Tradition Authorities' levels. This will increase availability of police officers to reduce the fear of crime amongst the community within our policing area.

Table 7.8 Other security facilities

Facility	Requirement	Available
Motor Vehicle	7	2
Motor Cycles	5	9
Base Radios	7	2
Packets	20	3

Source: Mchinji Police Station, 2017

7.1.9.1 Challenges with the provision of security services

- Inadequate office and staff infrastructure
- Inadequate financial support
- Slow response to calls(mobility)
- Unavailability of prison facility in the district
- Inadequate personnel
- Lack of communication equipment
- Unavailability of fire brigade

7.2 PRISON SERVICES IN MCHINJI

The district has no Prison available at present. There is a need for the construction of prison service facility to reduce transportation costs when taking convicted law breakers to Lilongwe where there is the nearest prison.

7.2.1 Number and capacity of jails

There are a total of twelve cells/jails within the district, this is not enough because of congestion of increased number of crime suspects in a limited space of 100 people and there is no prison facility which causes frequent escapes of suspects and it cost much for transport when transferring convicts to Maula prison in the capital city Lilongwe.

7.2.2 Health Services of inmates

All inmates under Police custody are readily provided with health service benefit whenever necessary in respect of their human rights.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

There are regular visits by senior/custody officers and lay visitors to check the health situation of inmates amongst other issues they may need to address.

HIV & AIDS SERVICE

The station has HIV & AIDS Coordinating committee which is responsible for care and support of all infected inmates.

HEALTH ORGANIZATION WORKING WITH THE SECURITY SERVICES

There is a good coordination between the Health and Security sectors when handling issues connected to health and medical attention of inmates/victims of crimes (post mortems, diagnosis of victims of defilement and other violent cases at One Stop Centre).

7.2.3 Potential Areas for commercial undertaking by the Security Services

The Police are mandated to collect revenue on traffic offences spot fines, provision of clearance reports and service charge upon rendering private guard and escort services during various concerts/incidents within the district.

7.3 JUDICIARY

Judiciary policy in Malawi states the key role of the judiciary is to protect, promote and uphold the rule of Law, democracy and human rights as enshrined in the constitution of Malawi. The judiciary also aims at promoting socio economic development and peace attainment and security in collaboration with other stakeholders, is in line with MGDS III on other development areas which is peace and security and further link to SDGs goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institution.

7.3.1 Mchinji Magistrate Court

Mchinji magistrate court covers area of 3356 square kilometers. It lies on the central region western side of Malawi sharing international boundaries with Zambia to the west and Mozambique to the South East. It has 6 satellite court centers but only three are working at present.

It has Jurisdiction over Criminal and Civil cases except Murder, Manslaughter and Treason cases as well as issues pertaining to chieftaincy Wrangles.

The district registers a number of criminal cases and the common ones being Defilement, housebreaking/ burglary, theft and Assaults. These are mostly committed by the youth. This is highly accredited to the rampant substance abuse among the youth. Chieftancy wrangles had had a severe impact on increasing number of assaults, malicious Damages and Land disputes. Divorce rate has also contributed to youth delinquency as most of the youth lack parental care and guidance thereby committing offences.

7.3.1.1 Court Centre Locations

Table 7-9 below shows the distribution of the Court Centers in the Mchinji district.

Table 7.9 Court centers

Court Center	Traditional Authority	Status	Year Established	Remarks
Mchinji Magistrate Court	District court	Functioning	1962	This court is under renovations
Mchemani Magistrate Court	Mkanda	Functioning	1962	requires maintenance
Kapiri Magistrate Court	Dambe	Functioning	1962	requires maintenance
Mikundi Magistrate Court	Mduwa	Functioning	1962	In good condition
Mkoma Magistrate Court	Zulu	Not operating	1962	Requires renovation
Msitu Magistrate Court	Mabvwere	Not operating	1962	No court room hence requires a new court
Kalumbe Magistrate Court	Mlonyeni	Not operating	1962	Need a new Court

Source: Mchinji Magistrate court, 2016.

The table above shows that four courts out of seven courts are operational in the district. Despite being operational, Mikundi magistrate court does not have a prosecutor at the nearest police unit. This leads the court to handle civil matters only. Persons suspected of having committed offences are brought to the district court, which is at a distance of 50 Kilometres. Suspects may end up being kept longer than the prescribed 48 hours as the state has to transfer the accused persons to the nearest Kamwendo Police where there are prosecutors and have to travel another 18 Kilometers to Mchinji magistrate court which is the nearest court.

The distance between the courts have the impact on the delivery of justice in the district by the courts. From Namitete where the district borders with Lilongwe, a Litigant has to travel over 60 kilometers to and from district court in order to access the formal justice. Likewise, from Kapiri a witness has to cover more than 60 kilometers to testify at the district court. This hinders the end of justice to be met as most culprits of grave offences are acquitted or discharged due to lack of evidence as the witnesses fail to meet the travelling costs to the district court where the magistrate with the competent jurisdiction is.

7.3.2 Staffing in the Courts

The table below shows the Judicial Personnel according to their grade, gender and duty station between 2013 and 2017.

Table 7.10 Distribution of the Judicial Officers

Description	Gender	Duty station				Total
		Mchinji	Mchemani	Kapiri	Mikundi	
Traditional Authority	-		Mkanda	Dambe	Mduwa	
First Grade Magistrate	Male	1	-	-	-	1
Second Grade Magistrate	Male	1	-	-	-	1
Third Grade Magistrate	Male	-	1	1	1	3
TOTAL	-	2	1	1	1	5

Source: Mchinji Magistrate court, 2018.

7.3.2.1 Judicial officers’ ratio against District

The district’s estimated population is 602,305. There are five magistrates providing judicial services in the district. Against this background, judicial service delivery is affected due to less number of magistrates in the district than the required ratio as recommended by judicial service. The magistrate population ratio for the district remains at 1:120,461. Therefore, there is need to recruit and deploy more magistrates.

7.3.3 Case Statistics

Mchinji district judiciary experiences several forms of cases. There are both criminal and civil cases being committed. The role of the judiciary is to ensure that all suspects are presented before the courts and tried.

7.3.3.1 Criminal Cases

Common criminal cases being registered in the district include homicide, robbery, breakings, sexual cases and assault cases. The graph below shows the status of criminal cases registered, concluded, pending and backlogged for the period from 2013 to 2016:

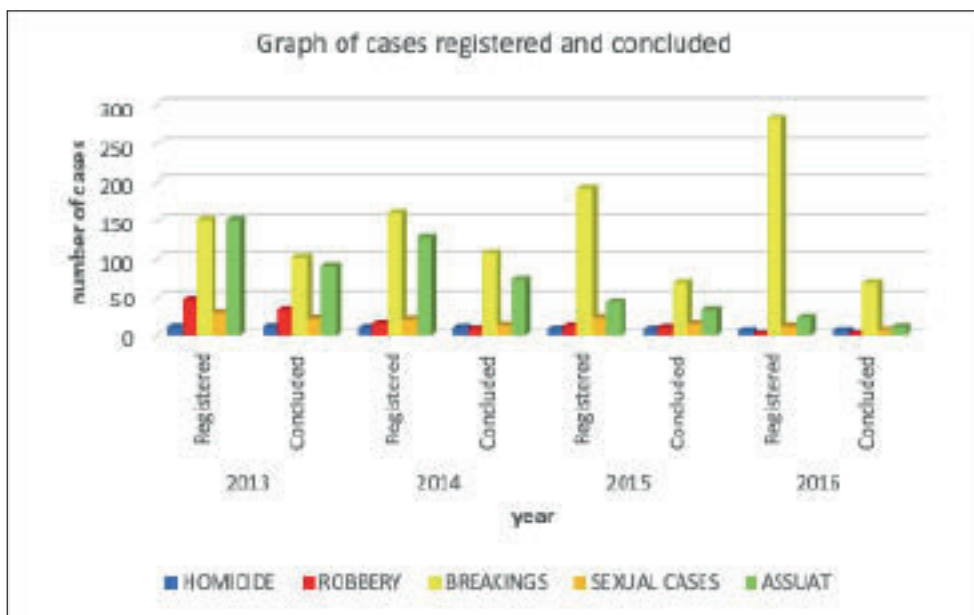


Figure 7.2 Cases registered against cases concluded from 2013 to 2016

Source: Mchinji Judiciary, 2017

The Figure above shows that there more breaking cases in the district. Breakings constitutes 58% of the known registered cases where as Assault represent 24% of the cases. Homicide cases especially murder is shown to be the least of the cases (4%). Zulu area registered more cases than all the Traditional Authorities followed by Dambe and Mkanda respectively. This is because Zulu has two busiest trading centers called Mchinji Boma and Kamwendo and Mchinji boma are regarded as semi -urban areas. The area has four police formations thereby providing a better catchment area for cases. Breakings seems to be in the steady increase (highest in 2016) over the past three years unlike other forms of criminal cases such as assault, robbery and homicide which have a decreasing trend. Despite there are other offenses that are committed by a few people but can not be individually isolated.

The decrease was heavily attributed to the Crime prevention campaigns which police and other stakeholders conducted in the area. Assault cases perpetrated by alcohol and substance abuse and chieftaincy wrangles were also common after the breakings. Sexual assaults such as defilement ranked third in the area as most of children are not protected by authorities who allow the increased opening of unregistered liquor centers within the settlement areas thereby compromising the morality of the children.

The figure also depicts that an average of 66% of all registered cases are concluded. Homicide indicated a 100% conclusion rate for the period under reference. Breakings indicated to be the least in conclusion as most of the cases are pended and others are in the backlog. In 2016 breakings case conclusion rate was 24% and the lowest of all. One of the major reason for this was that huge number of cases under this form against few officers in the judiciary to finalise on the cases. The backlogs are also due to failure by other concerned parties to travel longer distances to access justice at the Boma court as the resident magistrate in other stations have lesser Jurisdiction.

Cases of theft were remarkably recorded in 2016 than other years as the area was devoid of a police formation as the community had vandalized the formation. Dambe used to register more sexual assaults in 2013 and 2014. The trend decreased in the latter years as the introduction of gender equality and women empowerment improved peoples understanding of the Law. The project assisted the stakeholders such as the judiciary and Police with the resources to conduct the mobile prosecution (court circuits) whereby the court had to travel to area where the offence was committed and preside over the case there. By passing out stiffer judgments, the would-be offenders were deterred hence reducing the crimes.

Mduwa has the resident magistrate but lacks the public prosecutor to prosecute those cases. This lead to most cases being disposed at Police as people prefer to settle their issues out of court to escape the costs that would have been incurred. This leads to more cases not being reported thereby affecting the justice, peace and security of the area.

Fewer criminal cases were registered from mabvwere area due to the distance as Mabvwereis located about 60 Kilometres away from the nearest court. Bearing costs in mind, communities prefer to make peace than access justice by compensating themselves. Mabvwere is also the impact area for primary justice project and chiefs handle a lot of cases from the area than the courts. Despite having the land mean for the court building and staff houses in the area, two decades have gone without a resident magistrate nor the court infrastructure hence a need for building the court infrastructure in order to enable the communities access justice

7.3.3.2 Civil Cases

The district also manages civil offenses being committed in the district. Commonly registered ones are debts, divorce, implegination, adultery and land. The figure below shows type of civil cases registered, concluded, pending and backlog for the period from 2013 to 2016 per each Traditional Authority.

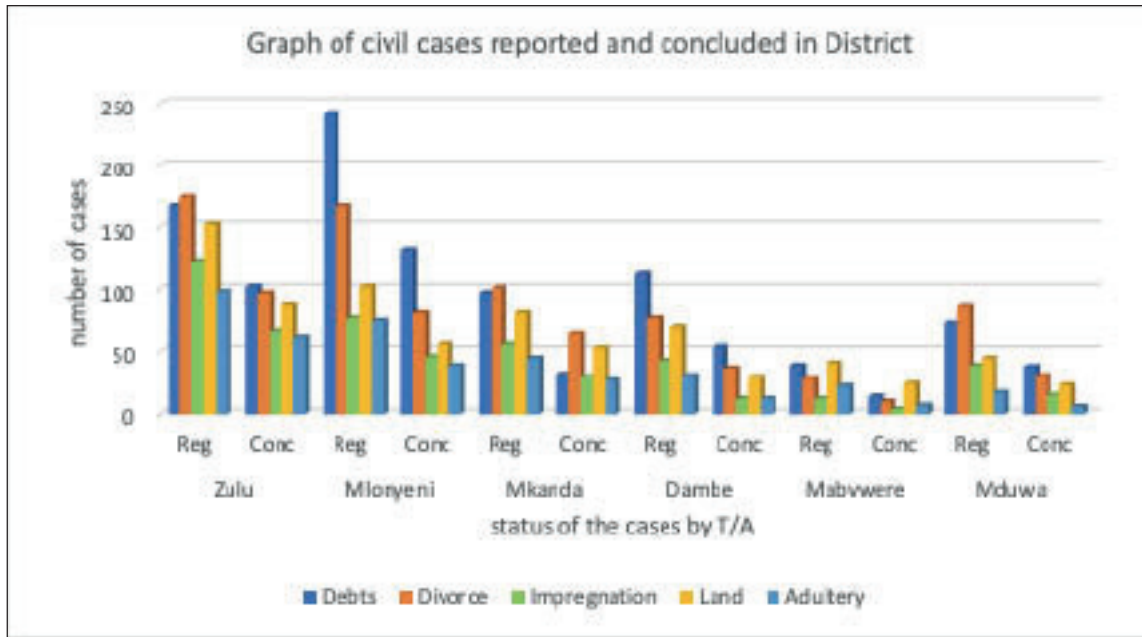


Figure 7.3 Status of cases registered and concluded in mchinji

Source: MchinjiMagistrate court, 2016.

The figure above shows that debts and marriage divorce are the major civil crimes with higher frequency in the district. The least of the offenses is adultery. Out of 4431 of all cases registered the district concluded 2588 cases representing a 53% rate. This shows that the district is unable to complete annual registered offenses. Zulu and Mlonyeni indicate highest number of cases registered where as Mabwere has the least number of cases.

High divorce claims in the period has led to more children being raised by a single parent. Therefore, it has also negatively affected the moral behaviors of the children as most of them suffers from lack of parental care and protection leaving them vulnerable to various exploitation such as child labor, sexual harassment, child traffic as well as early pregnancies and marriages. The problem has affected all the T/As' as interventions to withdraw the children proves futile as the living standards of the divorced women leaves a lot to be desired as far as child care and protection is concerned.

Issues of land are also critical in the district as most of communities had to combine land for several households in order to obtain the license for growing and selling Tobacco. When the parents have died, the descendants differ the views on the land as those belonging to the family which registered the land resorts to chase other involved parties claiming the land belonged to their fathers disregarding the agreement that was there before.

The district also registers more backlogs due to the distances between the courts as people fail to attend and continue with the trial once adjourned due to the costs incurred.

Type and Number of Transport Per Traditional Authority (T/A)

There are three mode of transport that the district's judiciary offices use for mobility. Mainly there are motor vehicles, motorcycles and bicycle located in various stations. The Table 7.11 below shows transport requirements against its availability for Judiciary department in the district.

Table 7.11 Type and number of transport available for the judicial staff

COURT	MOTOR VEHICLE		MOTOR CYCLE		BICYCLE	
	REQUIRED	ACTUAL	REQUIRED	ACTUAL	REQUIRED	ACTUAL
Mchinji	2	0	5	2	7	0
Mchemani	1	0	1	0	1	1
Kapiri	1	0	1	0	1	1
Mikundi	1	0	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	5	0	8	3	10	3

Source: Mchinji Magistrate court, 2016.

Motorcycles and push bikes are the only mode of transport used by the court Officers. Thereby hindering the magistrate with the jurisdiction from conducting the court circuits also known as mobile prosecution where the court presides over cases in area where the case was committed as one way of sensitizing the communities on the dangers of committing such offences thereby hindering the would be offenders.

The district has only five magistrates. Cases such as Defilement, Breakings, trafficking in Persons (a Law that has just been enacted) and child related cases are so frequent. Therefore, piling up of files and high backlog of cases are experienced.

7.3.4 Fire Services

Currently the district does not provide fire extinguishing services. It largely relies from Lilongwe City Council. During the period under analysis the district has encountered several fire events which extremely gutted public and private infrastructure i.e Mchinji District Hospital Kitchen, Mchinji Secondary School Kitchen and houses in mayard area which is around the boma. Ever since the district has not been backed up on the fire extinguishing services. It is therefore imperative that the district and in the line of decentralization has the necessary equipment and personell to provide fire extinguishing services.

7.3.5 Key Issues

The justice delivery in the district is challenged by the long distances between the court centers due to lack of adequate court infrastructures, shortage of judicial officers with competent jurisdictions, inadequate supporting staff, staff houses, and inadequate transport to support court circuits, scene visits and service of legal documents.

There is poor coordination between police and the judiciary has also led to most accused being in incarceration for the period longer than the 48 hours, a period prescribed under section 42 of the Malawian constitution thereby violating the suspect's constitutional right.

This has led to increased backlogs of both criminal and civil cases as well as pending cases as files have been piling up at the district registry which covers cases from all the district areas due to the fact that only two magistrates with a better jurisdiction.

Finally, the ratio between the population and the magistrates has also contributed to in adequate access to justice as most of the cases are adjourned and people as issues of jurisdiction come into play and victims are forced to cover long distances to access the justice therefore incurring costs.

Table 7.12 Types of cases registered concluded and pending in the district

TYPES OF CASES REGISTERED CONCLUDED AND PENDING IN THE DISTRICT																
Type of case	Cases reported															
	2013				2014				2015				2016			
	REG	CONC	PEND	B/LOG	REG	CONC	PEND	B/LOG	REG	CONC	PEND	B/LOG	REG	CONC	PEND	B/LOG
HOMICIDE																
Mduwa	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Damber	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Mkanda	2	2	0	0	4	4	0	0	2	2	0	0	4	4	0	0
Mavwere	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	0
Mlonyeni	3	3	0	0	2	2	0		1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Zulu	6	6	0	0	3	3	0	0	4	4	0	0	1	1	0	0
SUB-TOTAL	13	13	0	0	12	12	0	0	10	10	0	0	8	8	0	0
ROBBERIES																
Mduwa	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Damber	4	3	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0		1	1	0	0
Mkanda	13	7	3	3	4	3	0	1	3	3	0	0	1	1	0	0
Mavwere	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mlonyeni	11	8	1	2	6	3	1	2	5	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
Zulu	15	11	2	2	6	3	1	2	5	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
SUB-TOTAL	48	33	7	8	17	10	2	5	14	12	0	2	2	2	0	0
BREAKINGS																
mduwa	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
dambe	13	12	0	0	33	25	4	2	121	21	2	8	218	23	2	13
Mkanda	31	17	7	7	25	17	5	3	14	8	3	3	23	14	5	4
Mavwere	5	3	1	1	4	4	0	0	6	4	0	2	4	3	1	0
Mlonyeni	23	16	2	5	28	13	9	6	12	8	1	3	12	6	4	2
Zulu	78	51	18	9	70	48	15	7	36	25	6	5	25	22	2	1
SUB-TOTAL	152	101	28	22	160	107	33	18	192	68	13	21	282	68	14	20
SEXUAL CASES																
Mduwa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Damber	10	7	2	1	9	5	2	2	4	3	1	0	3	2	1	0
Mkanda	4	3	1	0	2	1	1	0	6	3	1	2	1	1	0	0
Mavwere	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mlonyeni	5	3	1	1	2	2	0	0	5	4	1	0	2	1	1	0
Zulu	9	9	0	0	7	6	1	0	7	5	2	0	8	5	2	1
SUB-TOTAL	30	23	4	3	21	14	4	2	24	17	5	2	14	9	4	1
ASSAULT																
mduwa	6	3	2	1	12	6	3	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
dame	27	13	7	7	7	6	1	0	9	7	1	1	1	1	0	0
mkanda	40	25	7	8	24	11	4	9	5	4	1	0	7	3	2	2
mavwere	0	0	0	0	13	8	4	2	3	1	2	0	1	1	0	0
mlonyeni	24	16	5	3	14	9	2	3	7	6	1	0	2	2	0	0
Zulu	55	34	7	14	58	33	13	12	20	14	3	3	12	6	4	2
SUB-TOTAL	152	91	28	33	128	73	27	29	45	33	8	4	24	13	6	4

TYPES OF CASES REGISTERED CONCLUDED AND PENDING IN THE DISTRICT																
Type of case	Cases reported															
	2013				2014				2015				2016			
OTHER CASES																
Mduwa	17	10	3	4	32	12	9	11	36	21	7	8	16	4	7	5
Damber	14	6	2	6	29	14	5	10	24	11	4	9	38	18	6	14
Mkanda	44	17	7	20	47	23	13	11	34	11	8	15	62	38	16	8
Mavwere	39	18	9	12	48	14	18	16	21	7	6	8	28	10	6	12
Mlonyeni	34	16	7	11	94	53	16	25	68	42	9	17	84	46	11	27
Zulu	45	21	11	13	111	68	17	29	124	83	15	26	141	94	26	21
SUB-TOTAL	193	88	39	66	361	184	78	102	307	175	49	83	369	210	72	87
GRAND TOTAL	588	349	106	132	699	400	144	156	592	315	75	112	699	310	96	112

Source: Mchinji Judiciary, 2017

Table 7.13 Type of civil cases presided over by the courts according to the T/A

Type of case	Cases reported																							
	Zulu				Mlonyeni				Mkanda				Dambe				Mabvwere				Mduwa			
	Reg	Conc	Pend	B/log	Reg	Conc	Pend	B/log	Reg	Conc	Pend	B/log	Reg	Conc	Pend	B/log	Reg	Conc	Pend	B/log	Reg	Conc	Pend	Backl
Debts	168	102	24	42	241	132	34	75	97	32	28	37	112	54	23	35	39	14	9	16	74	38	12	24
Di- vorce	175	97	31	47	168	82	28	58	101	64	14	23	78	37	14	27	28	10	6	12	87	31	19	37
Im- preg- nation	123	66	18	39	78	46	11	21	56	29	11	16	43	12	11	20	12	4	5	3	39	15	7	17
Land	152	88	40	24	102	56	18	28	82	53	10	19	69	29	18	22	41	24	9	8	45	23	11	11
Adul- tery	98	61	23	14	76	39	11	26	45	27	4	14	31	12	7	12	22	7	8	6	17	6	4	7
OTH- ERS	704	528	71	105	632	341	98	198	324	211	36	77	179	86	33	60	107	58	13	36	166	74	34	58
TO- TAL	1240	942	207	271	1297	696	200	406	705	416	103	186	512	230	106	176	249	117	50	81	428	187	87	154

Source: Mchinji Judiciary, 2017

CHAPTER 8: GLOBAL AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

The development agenda of Mchinji 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 development the country. The past fifteen years (2000-2015) saw Malawi implementing the eight Millenium 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 of 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.

8.1.2 Other International Treaties

- (a) **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.
- (b) **The Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA) 2014 to 2024.**
- (c) **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
- (d) **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.
- (e) **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-re-

liant 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. This 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:

1. 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;
2. Education and Skills Development, with the goal of improving quality and relevant education and skills for all;
3. Energy, Industry and Tourism Development having the main goal of providing sufficient sustainable energy for industrial and socio-economic development;
4. Transport and ICT Infrastructure, with the main goal of developing a safe, affordable, reliable, equitable and sustainable transport and ICT infrastructure;
5. Health and Population, with the goal of improving health and quality of the population for sustainable socio-economic development;
6. 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 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	<p>1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development</p> <p>2. An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance</p> <p>6. An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth</p> <p>7. Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.</p>	
	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		
	4. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls		
	5. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all		
	6. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all		
	7. Make cities and human settlements, inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable		
	8. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts		
Education and Skills Development	4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	<p>1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development</p> <p>2. An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance</p> <p>3. An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law</p> <p>6. An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth</p> <p>7. Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.</p>	
	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		
Transport and ICT infrastructure	1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere	<p>1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development</p> <p>2. An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance</p> <p>6. An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth</p> <p>7. Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.</p>	
	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. End poverty in all its forms everywhere		<p>1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development</p> <p>2. An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance</p> <p>6. An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth</p> <p>7. Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.</p>
	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 and empower women and girls			
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			
Health and Population Management	End poverty in all its forms everywhere	<p>1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development</p> <p>6. An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth</p> <p>7. Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.</p>	
	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		

8.3

DECENTRALISATION 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.

8.3.1 The Decentralization Policy:

- (a) Devolves administrative and political authority to the district level;
- (b) 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.
- (c) Diverts the centre of implementation responsibilities and transfers these to the districts;
- (d) Assigns functions and responsibilities to the various levels of government; and
- (e) Promotes popular participation in the governance of development of districts.

8.3.2 Objectives of the Policy

- (a) 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.
- (b) 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.
- (c) To promote accountability and good governance at the local level in order to help government reduce poverty; and
- (d) 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.

8.3.3 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 Salima 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.

8.3.4 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).

8.4 PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

The analysis of the Socio-Economic Profile (SEP), the review of the past DDP, the consultation with the communities through VAPS, national policies and strategies, and stakeholders' observations, streamlined in Mchinji District Development Issues that affect the district socio-economic development.

The district key priority issues are:

1. Food security due to low agricultural production
2. Environmental and Land degradation
3. Low and un-reliable electricity supply
4. High mortality and morbidity
5. High illiteracy levels
6. High incidences of gender based violences
7. Low participation of the youth in development activities
8. HIV AIDS and prevalence rate
9. High prevalence of Malnutrition undernutrition
10. Poor Access to infrastructure services
11. Inadequate security and lack of access to justice
12. Inadequate access to safe and portable water and poor sanitation services

8.5

DISTRICT POTENTIAL

Mchinji 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. The table below outline the district resources.

Table 8.2 Resources and Potentials for the District

Type of resource	Department	Location	Remarks
Land	Lands		
Water Springs,	Water		
Livestock (dairy cows)	Agriculture	Mlonyeni, Zulu, Msitu, Chioshya and Mikundi EPAs	Available dairy cattle breeds are Friesian, Holsten and Jersey
Rivers	Agriculture, Energy	Across the District	Mainly used for fishing, irrigation and provide source of drinking water for livestock
Hills exposed to Free blowin wind	Energy	Across the District	
Mountains, Forests, Tea plantation Rivers (Water Falls)	Tourism		
Skilled Human Resource	Human Resource		
Capital Assets: Available land and existing infrastructure/buildings.	Public Works, and Rural Housing	District Wide	
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: Mchinji District Council, 2017

CHAPTER 9: DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FRAMEWORK

The following are developmental issues and causes identified in the district as well as the developed objectives and strategies that are linked MGDS III and SGDs

Note: District priority should match in the DDPF (please rearrange them after the council have agreed on the order of priority)

Development Issue 1: Food Security

NNo.	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench & Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
1 2	Food insecurity and poor nutrition due to low agricultural productivity (crop, livestock and fisheries)	Use of low crop yielding varieties	To reduce food insecurity at household level from 10% to 2% by 2022	To improve use of high yielding crop varieties	Promote use of high yielding crop varieties (hybrids and composites), promote seed multiplication groups	KPA 1. Agriculture, water development and Climate Change	Goal 1: Goal 1. End Poverty in All its Forms and Everywhere; Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
		Unreliable rainfall pattern due to climate change		Improve irrigated and dambo farming area from 1841 hectares to 2600 hectares by 2022	Promote water harvesting technologies like Dam construction and use of solar powered pumps for irrigation.		
		Use of local breeds in livestock		To improve cross breeding in livestock	Promote cross breeding in livestock		
		Small land holding size		Improve use of modern methods of farming.	Promote modern methods of farming		
		Land degradation leading to soil erosion		Improve conservation Agriculture	Promote soil and water conservation technologies		
	Lack of knowledge by farming household on best principles and practices of fish farming.	To increase knowledge by farming household on best principles and practices of fish farming from XXX by 2022	Ensure that farmers have knowledge on best principles and practices of fish farming.	Ensure more farmers are trained and adopt fish farming.			

Development Issue 2: Low income among smallholder farmers due to low agricultural productivity and marketing systems

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	\	Inadequate investment in agricultural production	To increase household income level from 40% to 60% by 2022	There no information here	There no information here	Information here???	Information here???
		Low value addition practices		There no information here	There no information here		
		Poor marketing systems (infrastructure, regulatory framework)		There no information here	There no information here		

Development Issue 3: High Prevalence rate of Malnutrition (undernutrition) High Prevalence rate of undernutrition

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	High Prevalence rate of undernutrition	1.1 Poor Maternal, Infant and young child care and feeding practices	To reduce the incidence of undernutrition (stunting) from 44% to 25%, wasting and underweight by 2022	To increase access and affordability of safe , diets and nutrition meals	1.1 Improve intake of minimum acceptable diets among under-five, pregnant and lactating mothers	MGDS III ODA 7.7 on Nutrition	Goal No. 2 End Hunger
					1.1 Integrating and scale up nutrition in the Early Childhood Development programme		
		1.2 Infection and diseases		Reduce incidences of disease	1.1 Promoting male involvement and address gender and social-cultural issues in maternal, infant and young child nutrition, child care and household duties		
		1.3 Poor hygiene and sanitation			1.2 Strengthen CMAM and NCST routine services and emergencies		
		1.4 Poor dietary diversity			1.3 Promoting hygiene, water and sanitation practices at individual and household level for improved nutrition		
					1.4 Promoting consumption of high nutritive value and diversified diets		
		Low protein and micro-nutrient intake.	To reduce malnutrition level from 44% to 20% by 2022	To improve protein and micronutrient intake.	Promote fish production to have required nutrient intake.	KPA 1: Agriculture, water development and climate change management.	L2, zero hunger, goal number 3, good health and well-being and goal number 14, Life below water

Development Issue 4: Environmental and land degradation

NNo.	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
4	High Environmental and land degradation	Poor land use practices	To reduce carbon in the atmosphere and land degradation	To improve and create clean environment for the district	Reafforestation and proper land use	ODA 7: Environmental sustainability	Goal No: 15 Life on Land
5		Poor Waste Management techniques due accumulation Wastes in Trading centre	To reduce Waste accumulation from XXX % to XXX by 60%	To improve sanity	Proper waste management	ODA:7. Environmental sustainability	Goal No: 15 Life on Land
		Reduced forest cover	To increase forest cover from 17 to 25% by 2022	Eviction of all encroachers in the forest reserves,	Local leaders involvement and community sensitization, frequent patrolling Introduction of more afforestation projects	Other development area 7,5, Ensure Environmental Sustainability	
		Encroachment in public protected forest reserves					
		Wanton cutting down of trees		Introduce Youth nurseries	Replant deforested land		
		Population boom /resettlements		Introduce alternative renewable sources of energy			
		Commercial charcoal production		Introduce alternative renewable sources of energy			
		Firewood brick curing		Tree planting	Estates to have on farm forests and plantations		
		Tobacco curing					
		Low forestry staffing level		Improve technician to farmer ratio from 1: 23,300 to 1: 8,000	To lobby for recruiting and train more forestry extension staff		

Development Issue 5: Low Access to energy and power

NNo.	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
8	Low Access to energy and power	Low generation installed capacity		To increase electricity generation and supply in Mchinji	Lobbying for more private participation in energy generation and supply		Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
				To strengthen the Electricity Supply Industry (ESI) and make it more efficient to meet energy needs of about 30% of population in Mchinji	Promote more efficient alternate energy source	MGDS III KPA 3: Energy, Industry and Tourism Development	
		Lack of meaningful Private Participation in Electricity Generation		To improve participation of Private Participation in Electricity Generation	Developing the sites for power generation from Solar, Wind, agricultural waste, forestry waste, and biogas resources, up to commissioning (in form of minigrid systems, grid connected systems and home systems.		
9		High Electrification rates for both Households and Public Institutions		To increase access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, efficient and modern energy for every person in Mchinji : 30% and 70% Off-grid(Small minigrids, Solar home systems,picosolar products)	Increasing number rural centres to be electrified by MAREP Tapping funds for electrifying public institutional buildings, such as schools and hospitals from the Rural Electrification Fund		
		Low coverage of Distribution network		To increase connectivity to electricity and penetration of other clean forms of energy	Including connectivity to some form of electricity in the public buildings bills of quantities		
1		High Usage of Unclean sources (Biomass and Dry cell Torches) of Lighting and Cooking Energy		Increase utilisation of clean alternatives for cooking energy	Promoting use of off-grid renewable energy options in public institutions	MGDS III KPA 3: Energy, Industry and Tourism Development	Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
				To ensure biomass is sustainably used and carbon emissions are reduced through the use of energy efficient and renewable/alternative technologies:			

NNo.	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
		Limited availability of reliable clean alternative sources of lighting and cooking energy	1.	Raise use of renewables in energy mix to 23% by 2030	Increasing public awareness of clean alternative sources for cooking and lighting energy		
		Lack of awareness by mass rural population of the available clean alternative sources of lighting and cooking energy	2.	Reduce utilisation of biomass in the energy mix to 44.8% by 2030	Promoting Renewable Energy products for vulnerable and marginalized groups e.g interventions like DHSP.		
		Lack of technical expertise in installation, operation and maintenance of clean alternative sources of energy.			Conducting technical trainings in Renewable/ Alternative energy technologies for DEC, DEsc and extension workers.		
					Lobbying for the recruitment of District Energy Officers		
11		Low private sector investments in fuel industry (sparsely placed of Fueling stations)		To increase private investment in more fueling stations	Lobbying for more private investments in the petroleum fuels industry	MGDS III KPA 3: Energy ,Industry and Tourism Development	Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
				To ensure adequate production and supply of petroleum and biofuels at affordable prices: At least 8 filling stations spread in all 8 major trading centres in Mchinji	Lobbying for more private investments in the petroleum fuels industry		
12		Lack of awareness of energy efficient technologies and practices		To Increase the utilisation of efficient energy technologies and practices Reduce energy wastage and carbon emissions through the use of energy efficient technologies	Conducting trainings in Energy Efficient Technologies and practices for the DEC, DEsc and extension workers	MGDS III KPA 3: Energy ,Industry and Tourism Development	Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
		Unsustainable and inefficient utilization of energy		To Increase the utilisation of efficient energy technologies and practices	Conducting public awareness campaigns on energy efficient technologies and practices		

Development Issue 6: Low number of people engaged in entrepreneurship

NNo.	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to Sustainable Development Goals		
11	Low number of people engaged in entrepreneurship	Scarcity of land for enterprise development	To Increase number of people engaged in entrepreneurship from XXXX% to XXX % by 2020	To increase land allocation for entrepreneurship activities from 169,969 m2 to 179,917 M2 by 2022	Conducting ADC sensitization meetings on the role of markets in economic growth and development	Key priority 3-Energy , Tourism and Industrial Development	SDGs 8- Decent work and Economic Growth and 9 – Industry , Innovation and Infrastructure		
					To persuade Chiefs to subject land for market development				
		Lack of markets for local products			To increase the number of Cooperatives with products accredited by MBS from 1 to 4 by 2022			Intensifying quality assurance in cooperative and SMEs in value addition	
					To advocate for improvement in infrastructure compliance to certification standards				
		Cooperative registration process is complicated			To ensure that 50% of the groups aiming to get registered as cooperatives are registered			Conducting initial trainings to groups willing to register as cooperatives	
					To inculcate cooperatives management knowledge to the groups to be registered				
								Having decentralized approach to cooperative registration	

Development Issue 7: High mortality and morbidity

No.	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	High mortality and Morbidity	High Mortality due to Malaria	To reduce mortality rate due to malaria by 50% by 2022.	Improve case management of malaria cases	Promote early health seeking behaviour	KPA 3: Population and Health	
					Promote adherence to treatment regimen		
					3. Capacity building to health workers on malaria case management		
		High Morbidity due to Malaria	To reduce the incidences of Malaria from 348/1000 to 174/1000 by 2022	Promote use of LLINS	1. Increase distribution of LLINS to pregnant women and children	MGDS3: Population and Health	
					1. Promote Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS)		
					2. Increase coverage of village clinics by providing enough capacity		
		High incidences of pneumonia in <5	To reduce the incidences amongst the under-fives	Strengthen Integrated Management of childhood illnesses	Improve hygiene, water and sanitation practices	MGDS3: Population and Health	
					Improve case management of pneumonia		

Development Issue 8: High illiteracy levels

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	2.1 High illiteracy levels	Inadequate teachers	To reduce illiteracy levels from 34% to 20% by 2022	Increase the number of teachers	Lobbing for deployment of more teachers	KPA 2. Achieve universal primary education	Goal 1: No poverty Goal 4: Quality education
		Inadequate teachers houses		To increase the number of teachers houses across the district	Lobbing for Construction of more teachers houses across the district (community and development partners)		
		Low pass rate at MSCE especially in CDSS		Enhance the use of teaching, learning and assessment resources	Ensuring the availability of teaching and learning materials (TLM) including for special needs		
		Lack of laboratories in most schools		Increase the number of laboratories	Lobbing for Construction of more laboratories		
		Low transition rate to secondary schools		Increase the transition rate	Establishing and expanding secondary schools		
		Inadequate classrooms		Increase the number of classrooms	Lobbing for Construction of classrooms that are disability and gender sensitive		
		Lack of offices		Increase the number of staff offices	Lobbing for Construction and improvement of offices		
		Inadequate teaching and learning materials in adult literacy schools		2.1.1 To increase availability of both teaching and learning material in the district	2.1.1 Provision of working materials and extension staff		
		Low participation of men in Adult literacy classes			Promote collaboration in working with other stakeholders		

Development Issue 9A: High incidences of Gender based violences

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SGDs
1	High incidences of Gender based violences	High rate of sexual violence against women and girls	To reduce incidences of Gender based violences from XXX % to XXX% by 2020	To intensify awareness on the rights of women and girls.	Capacity building on sexual reproductive health	KPA: 2: Education and skills development 5: Health and population.	Goal: # 3: Good Health and well-being
		Increased cases of emotional violence		To economically empower women through IGAs and VSLs	Distribution of Gender laws		
		Ignorance on the rights of women			Facilitation of legal procedures in GBV cases	ODAs 2: Gender, youth, development, persons with disability and social welfare	Goal 4: Quality education. Goal 10: Reduced inequalities
					Withdrawing of children from child marriages		
					Facilitate formation of VSL groups		
					Couple guidance and counselling		

Development Issue 9B: Increased number of children on prostitution

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	Increased number of children on prostitution and child marriages.	Poverty	To intensify awareness on the children rights and responsibilities.		Advocacy for behavior change	KPA: #2- Education and skills development # 5- Health and population management	Goal: #5-Gender equality, #10-Reduced inequalities, #16-Peace, Justice and strong institution
		Peer pressure	To facilitate formation and enforcement of community bylaws promoting child rights.		Enforcement of legal instruments safeguarding the rights of children		
		Cultural factors					
	Poor ECD services in the district	Increased number of un trained caregivers	To train more ECD caregivers and parent committees by 50% by 2022		Build capacity of care givers on ECD services	KPA 2: Education and skill development.	Goal 4: Quality education.
		Poor infrastructure.	To lobby for LDF and CDF support in infrastructure development.		Construct standard ECD infrastructures.		
		Absence of food during lean periods.	To lobby for more funding to facilitate supervision of ECD services		Intensifying supervision of ECD services		
		Inadequate supervision					
	High number of the Elderly and people with disability not accessing welfare services.	In availability of data...	To update the data for the elderly and people with disabilities.		Data collection and analysis	DAs 2: Gender, youth, development, persons with disability and social welfare.	Goal 10: Reduced inequalities
		Inadequate services targeting the elderly and people with disabilities	To mobilize more resources services of the elderly and people with disabilities		Lobbying for interventions and resource allocation from key stakeholders and the Ministry		
		The department of the elderly and people with disability not yet decentralized	To lobby for decentralization of the department of the elderly and people with disabilities				

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	In-creased number of cases on des-titution and traf-ficked in person includ-ing minors.	Unemploy-ment	To intensify aware-ness meeting on the rights of children. Sub Sec;79)		Community and Stake-holders review meetings	DAs 7: Peace and Security.	Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institu-tions.
		Porous borders with neighboring countries			Promote cross boarder meetings with neigh-boring countries		
		Not aware of travel require-ments when crossing the borders					
	In-creased number of chil-dren in conflict with the law	Drug and sub-stance abuse commonly Indian Herb and alcohol,	To increase aware-ness on children rights and responsi-bilities		Community Awareness meetings	KPA: 2: Educa-tion and skills development 5: Health and population.	Goal: # 3: Good Health and well-being
		Negligence by parents Peer pressure	To promote par-enting education on child care and protection		Capacity building on parenting education		
	High school drop out by orphans and other vul-nerable children	Poverty	To lobby for estab-lishment of bursary scheme by the Coun-cil(Councilors)	Establishment of bursary scheme by the Council	KPA 2: Education and skill development.	Goal 4: Quality education. Goal 10: Reduced inequalities	
		Increased fees	To lobby for separate account for bursary support	Train more CBOs and FBOs on resource mobiliza-tion and Educa-tional Support			
		Lack of sector funding On bursary	To promote IGA by guardians	Ministry interven-tion by forming separate account for bursary sup-port			
	Poor housing in people with albinism	Poverty	To ensure people of albinism live in well protected houses		Lobby for resources to construct houses	DAs 7: Peace and Security. DAs 2: Gender, youth, develop-ment, persons with disability and social welfare	# 3: Good Health and well-being
		Lack of em-ployment					

Development Issue 10: Development Issues 9 A. Low involvement and participation of the youth in Development activities

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	Low involvement and participation of the youths in development activities	Low literacy levels among out of school youth	To increase participation capacity levels from about 5% to 25% by 2022	To promote literacy and numeracy awareness among out-of-school youth	Conduct literacy and numeracy awareness campaigns	ODA:: gender, youth development, persons with disabilities & social welfare	Goal 1; No poverty Goal 3; good health and well-being Goal 4; quality education Goal 5; Gender equality
		Inadequate vocational skills training centers		to support provision of vocational skills for out-of-school youth	Conduct back to school campaigns among out-school-youth		
		Limited financial institutions to support youth microfinancing		To provide start-up capital for out-of-school youth enterprises	Introduce vocational skills trainings in communities		
		Limited access to land extension services		to promote land ownership and provision of extension services to the youth	Promote indigenous trades among out-of-school youth.		
		Smocking, drug and alcohol abuse		to improve law enforcement on abuse of drugs and alcohol among the youth	support youth internship programme		
		1.6 Poor SRH outcomes for out of school youth(early marriages)		To promote Comprehensive sexuality education among out-of-school-youth in all areas	Train out-of-school youth in entrepreneurship and business management skills		
				support business counselling for out-of-school youth			
					monitor all business enterprises for out-of-school youth		

Development Issue 11: Development Issues 9 B. Poor sports development

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGS
	Poor sports development	lack of trained personnel in sports disciplines	To develop sports in the district from XXX % to XXX % by 2022	To improve quality and skills of athletes in sports	Enhancing the development and quality of sports in Mchinji among all ages with special focus on youth	ODA: Gender, youth and social welfare	Goal 1: Goal 3 Good healthy and well being
		Lack of adequate sports equipment		To provide equipment for sports development by 2022 in mchinji	Enhancing the development and quality of sports in Mchinji among all ages with special focus on the youth. To lobby for more support in provision of sport equipment		
		Lack of community stadium		To have access to the standardizes sports facilities	Enhancing the development and quality of sports in Mchinji among all ages with special focus on the youth Lobby for construction of the community stadium		
				Construction of the stadium to develop sports			
		Lack of partner that implement sports programmes		To promote sports and make sports for all	ensure that more sensitization through the line department are done in ensuring that sports is enforced		
				To conduct awareness meeting on sports development			
		Decline in enforcement of physical education in institutions.		To promote sports in institutions and groom talent from the grass root	Enhancing the development and quality of sports in Mchinji among all ages with special focus on the youth To conduct more sensitization on physical education		

Development Issue 12: HIV AIDS and Prevalence Rate

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	Little to no community mobilisation and general public AIDS Awareness programmes	7.6.1.1 Reduced involvement of community Aids structures in the AIDS fight.	To decrease HIV infection from 5.1% to 3% by 2025	7.6.1.1 To reduce New HIV infections by 50%	7.6.1.1 Promote involvement of CBOs and all strategic Council structures in HIV Prevention activities	KPA 7.6 HIV and AIDS Management.	KPA 7.6 HIV and AIDS Management
	Inadequate access HTS	Few to no HTS Counsellors in some health facilities	To decrease HIV infection from 5.1% to 3% by 2025	To reduce New HIV infections by 50%	Promote knowledge of ones HIV cell status	KPA 7.6 HIV and AIDS Management	KPA 7.6 HIV and AIDS Management

Development issue 12: Poor Access to infrastructure services

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	Poor Access to infrastructure services	In adequate road network maintenance	Increase road network on routine maintenance from 150 to 350 kilometers by 2021	Increase funding allocation to road maintenance	MGDS III KPA 4 Transport and ICT Infrastructure	Goal 9: Industry innovation and infrastructure Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities	
		Inadequate to all weather road network	Improve access to socio economic services	Increase all weather road network by 450 kilometers by 2021			
		Inadequate access to improved roads	Increase number of kilometres of rural feeder roads by 350 kilometers by 2021	Construct new improved access roads			
				Upgrade timber deck bridges to concrete			
		Inadequate number of bridges and culverts on rural feeder roads	Increase number of bridges and culverts on rural feeder roads by 50% by 2021	Construct new bridges and culverts on rural feeder roads			

Development Issue 13: Inadequate security and lack of access to justice

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	Inadequate security and Lack of access to justice	Shortage of police units, court houses and staff infrastructures such as houses	To reduce crime rate from 40% to 15% by 2022	To provide sufficient institutional buildings and office space for the smooth functioning of the security and justice sector	constructing and rehabilitating Police, courts and staff houses and related infrastructure]	Improving the responsiveness of all security sectors in national needs by ensuring quick reaction and operations.	-ODA Peace and security s
		Shortage of police officers, magistrates and supporting staff	To increase access to justice from 45% to 75% by 2022	Improve communication and increase access by officers to reliable transport	Increasing ORT funding to cater for maintenance of institutional buildings and houses		
		Shortage of transport, communication radios		To improve sector coordination among the police and judiciary	Scaling up crime prevention and primary justice services to reduce crime and pressure on the security sector		
		Shortage of police units, court houses and staff infrastructures such as houses			Recruiting and deploying more police officers and magistrates with competent jurisdictions		
		Shortage of police officers, magistrates and supporting staff.			Scaling up primary justice services, reducing custodial sentences and Taking measures to motivate all staff in the sector *		
		Shortage of transport, communication radios.			Procuring more vehicles, cycles, radios and working materials for community policing members		
		Shortage of working materials for community policing members		What's the immediate objective to address this	What are some of starteigies to address this		
		Weak coordination between justice and security sector		What's the immediate objective to address this	What are some of starteigies to address this address this		
		Lack of prison facility		What's the immediate objective to address this	What are some of starteigies to address this		

Development Issue 14: Under registration and identification of Malawians in Mchinji

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	Under registration and identification of Malawians in Mchinji	inadequate health personnel	To ensure a permanent and continuous national registration and identification system from 55% to 70% by 2022	To improve registration and identification of Malawians.	Strengthening national vital registration systems.	MGDs III KPA Health and Population	Goal 3. Good health and wellbeing
		2. Inadequate knowledge on the importance of birth and death registration		What's the immediate objective to address this	What are some of strategies to address this		
		3. Improper method of distributing birth certificates		What's the immediate objective to address this	What are some of strategies to address this		
		4. unstable electronic birth registration		What's the immediate objective to address this	What are some of strategies to address this		
		5. Death and marriage registration not yet rolled out in the district.		What's the immediate objective to address this	What are some of strategies to address this		
		6. The myth that IDs are attached to 666			Promoting national registration among the Malawian citizens	ODA Peace and Security	Goal 16. Peace and Justice and strong Institution
		7. Inadequate knowledge on the importance national ID Card					

Development Issue 15: Soil Loss

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	SOIL LOSS	Deforestation.	To reduce soil loss from 48ton/ha/yr to 24ton/ha/yr by 2022	To promote afforestation and natural regeneration.	Afforestation on bare hills.	MGDS III KPA 1. Agriculture and Climate change.	
				Protection of steep slopes and river banks			
				Promotion of agro forestry.			
				Promote controlled bushfire.			
		Cultivation of steep slopes and marginal lands			Sensitization campaigns Construction of physical soil and water conservation structures.		
					Resettlement of people from marginal lands		
		Climate change			Sensitization meetings on effects on uncontrolled bushfire		
		Uncontrolled bushfires		To improve survival rate of planted trees	Build Capacity of local institution on tree management		
		Poor management of planted trees		Promote controlled grazing	Improvement of communal pastures		
				Promote good agriculture practices To reduce	Destocking Stall feeding Expand of communal grazing land.		
					Keep improved breeds. Crop rotation.		
					Promotion of agroforestry technologies		
					Promote use of manure. Promotion of soil and water conservation practices.		
					Promotion of climate smart agriculture technologies		
					Promotion of rain water harvesting technologies		
		Over grazing and overstocking					
		Poor agriculture practices					
		Soil characteristics					

Development Issue 16: Inadequate to access to safe and portable water and poor sanitation services

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	Lack of access to safe and potable water and poor sanitation services	Boreholes not provided in areas in need of water	To improve access to safe and potable water from 79.1% to 86% by 2022	To promote demand responsive and demand driven approaches in rural water supply and sanitation services	Construction of new boreholes, and rehabilitation and maintenance of broken down boreholes	KPA: Agriculture, Water Development and Climate Change Management	SDG 6: Clean water and Sanitation.
		Aging Gravity Fed Schemes			Rehabilitation and expansion of the rural piped water supply schemes		
			To improve sanitation Services (open defecation) from 93.8% to 100%				
		Lack of scheme management system in place		To promote appropriate management arrangements in rural water schemes.	Establishment of Water User Associations in rural piped water supply schemes		
		Inactive water point committees.		To promote community based management in rural water supply and sanitation programmes	Revamp the water committees Conduct Initial and Refresher CBM trainings for the O&M of the water points		
				To promote active participation of youth, women, persons with disabilities and vulnerable persons in planning and implementation of rural water supply and sanitation activities			
		Non-functional boreholes and shallow wells			Ensure that WPCs enter in a contract with the Area Mechanics to ensure timely repair of boreholes once they breakdown.		
		Few spare parts shops that stock spare parts for the Operation and Maintenance of the water facilities.			Identification and establishment of shops in the trading centres so that they stock spare parts for the borehole repairs		

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
		Lack of awareness of the importance of using pit latrines		To promote integrated approaches to rural water supply and sanitation services	Identification of OD communities and schools and conduct CLTS & SLTS		

Development Issue 17: Increased issues on unemployments, labour complaints and Child labour

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	In-creased issues on unem-ployments, labour complaints and Child labour 1.	1.1.1 Increased unemployment rate 1.2 Lack of economic growth	TO reduce unemployment rate by 5%	1.1.1 To increase number of skills centers	1.1.1 To train in entrepreneurship skills	KPA 2: To improve quality and relevant education and skills for all.	GOAL 8: Decent work and economic growth.
	2.1	2.1.1 Lack of knowledge on labour laws 2.1.2 Increase rate of labour complaints		2.1.1 To improve working conditions and safe environment to the employers and employees 2.1.2 To Impart knowledge to employers and employees on the laws relating to employment	2.1.1 To conduct labour inspection visits	Other development area, on gender,	GOAL 8. Decent work and economic growth
	3.	3.1.1 Poverty and lack of adequate parental care or household size 3.1.2. Increase of child labour cases		3.1.1 To form VSL groups 3.1.2 To encourage venerable households to join VSL groups and to lobby development partners to assist startup capital to venerable households	3.1.1 To train VSL group in entrepreneurship skills	Economic growth	GOAL 1: No poverty.

Development Issue 18: Lack of tourist facilities

NNo	Development Issue	Causes	Development Objective/Bench& Target	Immediate Objective	Strategies	Linkage to National Development Agenda	Linkage to SDGs
	2.1 Under-developed Tourism Products (Attractions and Accommodation)	2.1.1 Inadequate knowledge and awareness among the local communities	To developed Tourism Products fromm XXXX% to XXX % by 2020	2.1.1 To introduce cultural centres. To promote cultural tourism	2.1.1 Equip the local communities on how to develop and promote their culture.	KPA 3. Energy, Industry and Tourism development.	Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
		2.2.1. Limited number of skilled workforce		2.2.1 To intensify Spot- checks and inspection 2.2.2 To reach the minimal standard as required by Tourism and Hotels Board by 2020	2.1.1 Provision of shortcourses/capacity buiding trainings		
		Limited tourism mainstreaming across all sectors		To increase stakeholder involvement by 2020 Continue sensitizing stakeholders on their role in tourism development	Conducting regular meetings with all sectors, sharpening them with tourism knowledge		
		Low investment		To identify an ideal place where to have the Hotel	To lobby investors or government to roll out the project.		

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