

Malawi Livelihood Profile

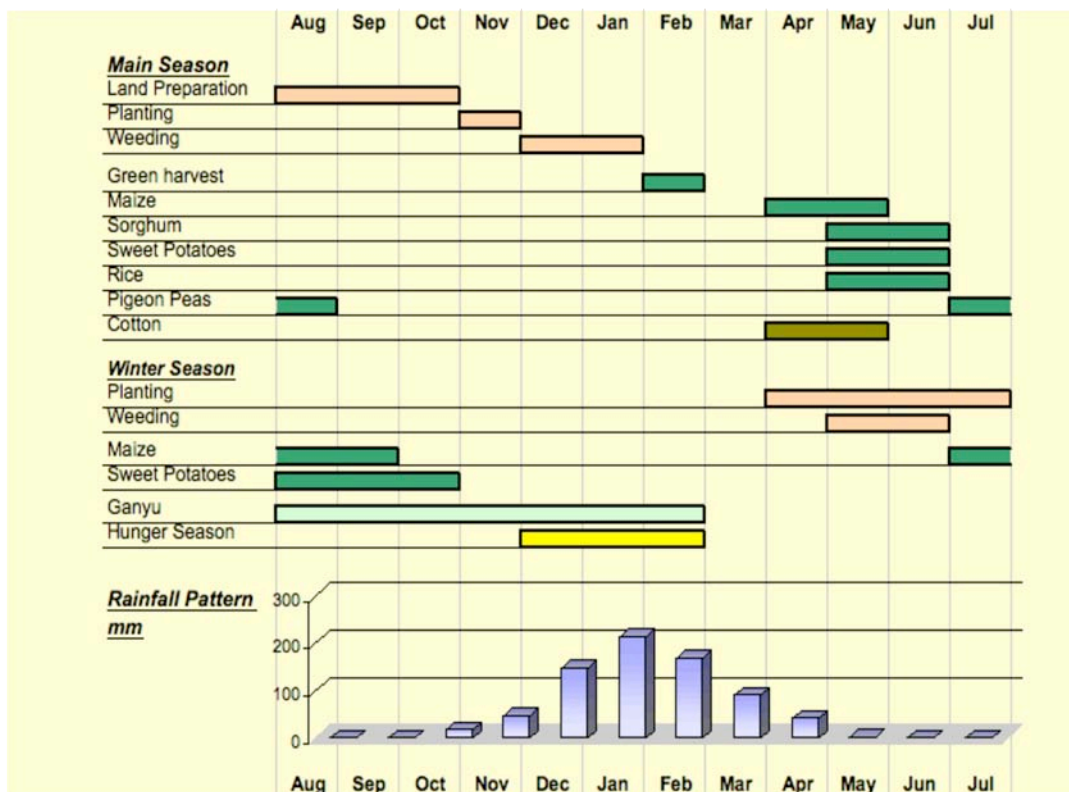
MIDDLE SHIRE

Zone Description

The Middle Shire zone includes parts of Mwanza, Balaka, Blantyre, Machinga, and Zomba districts and extends from the Mpatamanga gorge in the south to the southern end of Lake Malombe in the north. The zone has a relatively dry climate with mean annual precipitation ranging from 200-1000 millimetres. The zone is characterised by near-subsistence farming, with fishing on a small scale amongst those living close to the river Shire. This being a dry area, crop production is relatively low and those along the river rely on winter cropping. People in the area have no problems accessing markets for their produce, although farmers in remote parts of the zone sometimes have to walk long distances to market. Prices of the main cash crop in the zone (cotton) tend to fluctuate and many farmers have over the years stopped growing the crop.

Seasonal Calendar

The main agricultural activities in the zone start in early August with land preparation followed by planting and weeding. Access to different sources of food and income is seasonal. The 'poor' and some 'middle' households earn income through *ganyu* during the main agricultural period. All wealth groups access food and income from own crop production and crop sales, with the amount varying according to wealth group. Market prices of staple food vary seasonally. Prices are lowest during the harvesting period and highest during the 'hunger' season, which is between December and February.



Markets

Most local markets are managed by private traders (i.e. following liberalisation) while others are ADMARC markets. In general ADMARC takes the lead in setting the average price at which buyers can buy crops from farmers and the selling price of most food crops. The main crops sold are cotton, maize, rice, and sweet potatoes. The main marketing problems in the zone are: fluctuations in food crop prices, lack of farmers associations to stabilise selling prices, no formal established livestock markets (which results in farmers sell livestock at very low prices), poor road/rail infrastructure, and long distances to markets. In most areas in this zone, there is what is called “shift” markets, which are held on specific market days each week.

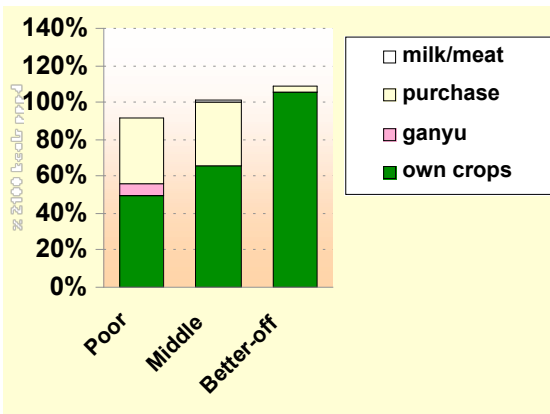
Wealth Breakdown

		Wealth Group Information		
		HH size	Area planted	Livestock
Poor	53%	5-6 members	1-1.5 acres	0-3 goats, chickens
Middle	33%	5-6 members	2-3 acres	3-6 goats, chickens
Better-off	14%	5-6 members	3-4 acres	4-5 cattle, 5-8 goats and chickens

0% 20% 40% 60%
% of population

The ‘poor’ own and cultivate less land than the ‘better-off’, and therefore produce less food crops. They therefore have to rely on purchases or *ganyu* to make up the difference. The ‘middle’ and ‘better-off’ grow cotton as a cash crop. The ‘poor’ and ‘middle’ own a few goats and chickens while the ‘better-off’ own cattle as well. The ‘poor’ have small land holdings but are unable to cultivate all they own because they spend a disproportionate amount of time doing *ganyu* for others in order to buy food instead of working on their own land. They also lack the money with which to buy fertiliser and other inputs and as a result their yields are lower than those of the ‘better-off’ group.

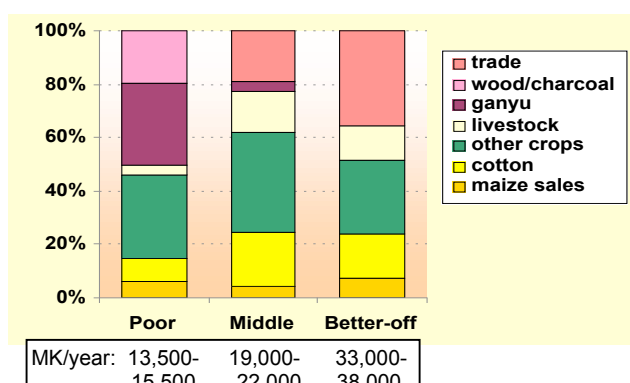
Sources of Food



The ‘better-off’ can cover their entire minimum food requirements from own crop production, whereas the ‘poor’ can only cover about half and the ‘middle’ two-thirds. Maize accounts for 50-60% of own crop consumption for all three groups, while rice is important only for the middle and rich at 12-24%. All three groups round out own crop consumption with a combination of sweet potatoes, groundnuts and cassava, and pulses. Both the ‘poor’ and ‘middle’ rely on purchases to meet much of their food needs. The ‘poor’ often purchase food using money earned from cash paid *ganyu*, as well as supplement purchases with *ganyu* traded for food. This high reliance on *ganyu* increases the vulnerability of the ‘poor’ since in a ‘bad’ year they may not be able to get enough work to meet their food needs.

Sources of Cash

Crop sales are the largest single source of cash income for all three groups. Almost half the cash income of the ‘poor’ (46%) is from crop sales, of which 37 is from vegetables, 19% cotton, 13% each of maize and velvet beans, plus cassava and sweet potatoes. The ‘poor’ are also rely heavily on agricultural *ganyu* for cash, as well as firewood and charcoal sales. The ‘middle’ and ‘better-off’ on the other hand, supplement their crop sales with livestock sales (e.g. goats) and petty trade (e.g. livestock trading, small goods). Of the crop sales, cotton generates the most cash for the ‘middle’ and ‘better-off’ (33%), followed by vegetables (23-27%), rice (15-18%), and maize (7-14%).



Hazards

Chronic/frequent hazards- Dry spells, particularly when maize is at cobbing and tasseling stages, cause a lot of damage to the crop. Crop pests and flooding along the river Shire and its tributaries also pose a threat to crops in the zone almost every year.

Periodic hazards- Livestock diseases are a threat to the production of meat and milk as well as income flow into the households in some years.

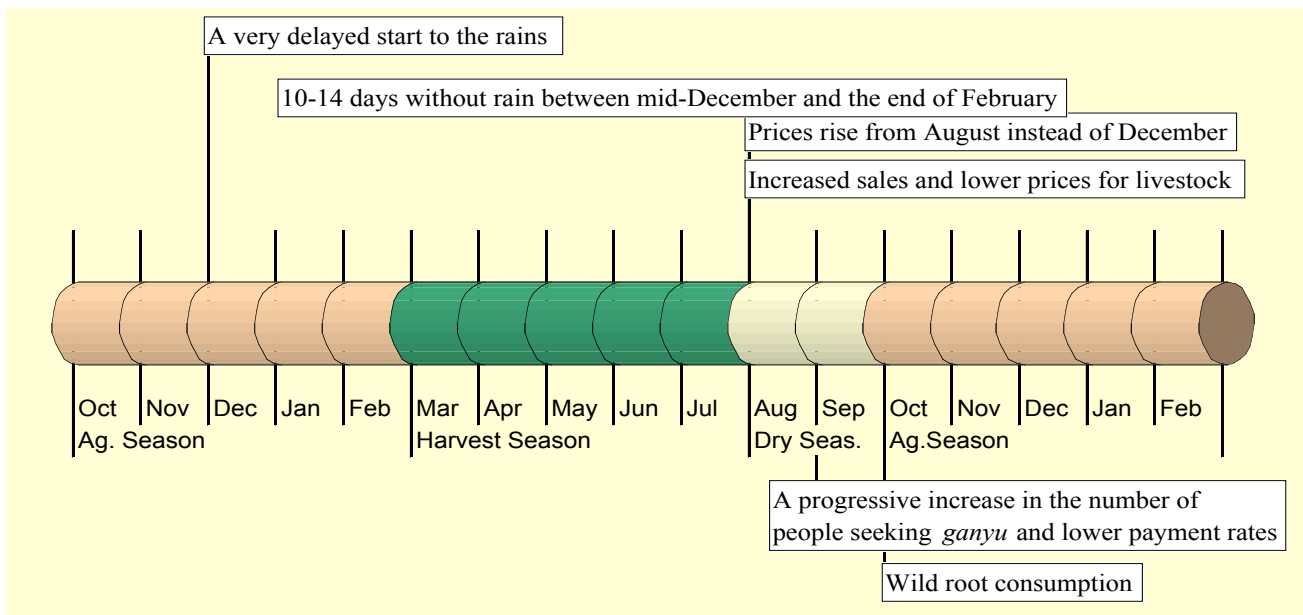
Response Strategies

The ‘poor’ and ‘middle’ groups are the ones most affected during a crisis. The response strategies undertaken by the ‘poor’ include; consumption of vegetables as a main meal; consumption of maize bran; consumption of wild roots known as *nyika*; preparation of flour from wild okra; consumption of premature food crops such as bananas and sugarcane; sale of household items; increased *ganyu* activities at a reduced wage rate and selling of livestock at reduced prices. The ‘middle’ mainly increases the sale of livestock (at reduced prices) and do more *ganyu* than usual. The ‘better-off’ are in most cases able to cope with crop failure given their relatively high levels of production.

Expansion of existing strategies	Distress strategies
<p><u>Consumption of maize bran.</u> People in the zone, particularly the poor, eat maize bran even in a normal year, but during the food crisis its consumption is increased.</p> <p><u>Increased livestock sales.</u> The ‘middle’ and the ‘better off’ increase the sale of their livestock during this period and at very low prices</p> <p><u>Increase ganyu.</u> Ganyu during the hungry period is increased by both the poor and the middle but at reduced wage rate.</p>	<p><u>Consumption of wild roots and vegetables with not staple.</u> In the worst-case scenarios, the poor mainly rely on consumption of wild vegetables and roots with no staple. They also make flour out of vegetables and roots.</p> <p><u>Consumption of premature foods.</u> The ‘poor’ also consume foods like bananas and sugarcanes before they mature.</p> <p><u>Sale of assets.</u> The two groups also part with their household assets just to buy themselves some food.</p>

Crisis Warning Indicators

The most important indicators of impending crisis include prolonged dry spells, an early end to the rains - which reduces the availability of residual moisture for winter cropping, and too much water flowing into the Shire River which can cause flooding and/or water-logging. The occurrence of crop pests may also indicate an impending food crisis in the zone.



Main Conclusions and Implications for Programming

This is generally a dry area. Crop production is relatively low and those along the river rely on winter cropping. People in the area have no problems accessing markets for their produce, although farmers in remote parts of the zone sometimes have to walk long distances to market. Prices of the main cash crop in the zone (cotton) tend to fluctuate and many farmers have over the years stopped growing the crop.

The dependence of the 'poor' on *ganyu* is important because this is not a reliable source of income, especially in a 'bad' year. The 'poor' do not have enough capital to engage in small scale trading activities as the other two groups do.

Implications for programming

- Since this is a dry area and very prone to droughts, the people in the area are of the view that small-scale irrigation schemes could boost the agricultural activity due to the low productions from year to year.

Malawi Livelihood Profile

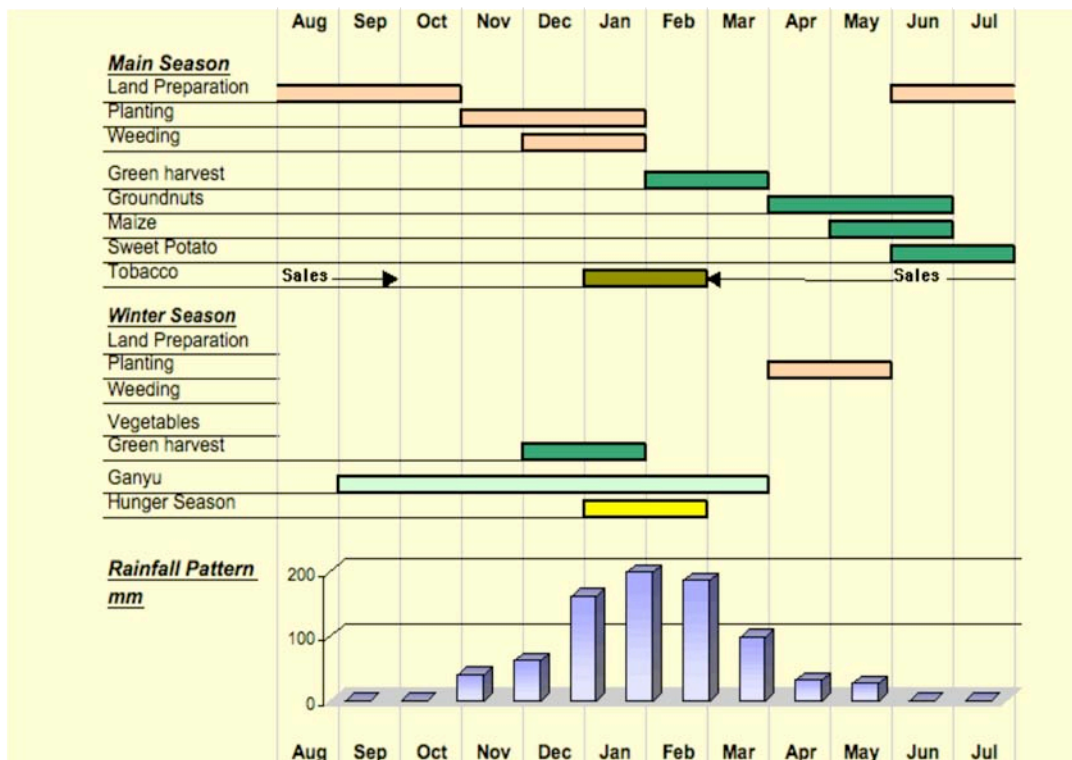
PHALOMBE PLAIN AND LAKE CHILWA BASIN

Zone Description

This zone includes the two previously distinct zones entitled Lake Chilwa Basin and Phalombe Plain. The zone stretches along the area surrounding Lake Chilwa and extends into the highland plain of Phalombe. It covers part of Machinga, Zomba, part of Thyolo, part of Mulanje, Phalombe and part of Chiradzulu districts. The zone stretches from north of Lake Chiuta down to northeast of Thyolo and Mulanje west and northeast. The main features of the zone are Lake Chilwa and the surrounding flat wetlands. Fishing and wetland cropping feature in the zone areas surrounding the lake basin. Fish populations are said to be dwindling due to over-fishing and environmental degradation. It receives an annual rainfall of about 700-1000mm, and crop production is relatively poor, especially on the Lake Chilwa basin because of poor quality sandy soils. The main crops that are grown for food are maize, cassava, sorghum and rice. Generally most of the households in the zone are subsistence farmers who sell part of their produce in order to access other basic needs. Tobacco and sunflower (newly introduced) are some of the main cash crops in the zone but they are grown by a minority of households. Small-scale businesses and fishing are the other economic activities from which people in the zone derive their livelihoods. Livestock (mainly goats and chickens) production is very insignificant as a source of food but it serves as a reliable source of cash during the hard times, mainly for the 'middle' and 'better-off'.

Seasonal Calendar

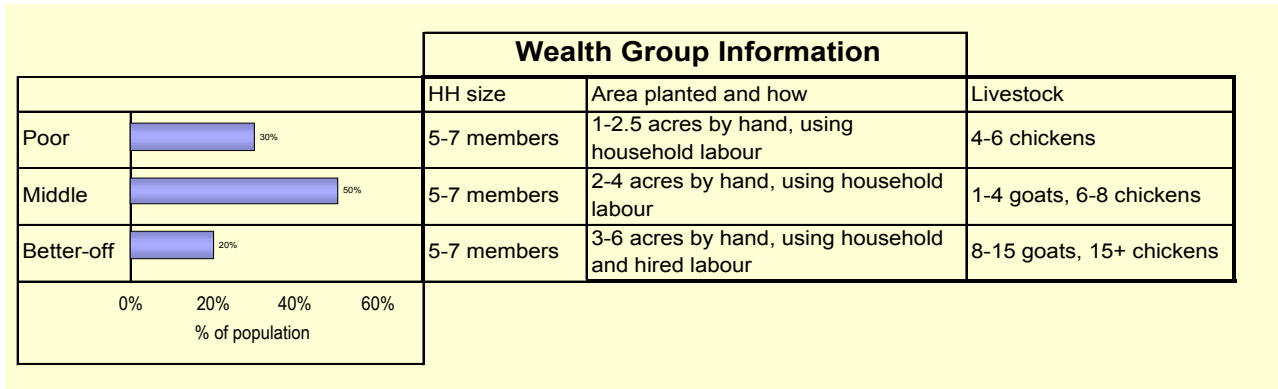
The peak period for agricultural activities is between November and April. This involves planting, weeding, green harvest and harvest of major crops. Weeding is the most critical activity and it comes at a time when food is scarce in most households. This means that 'poor' households have to make a choice between tending to weeding their gardens or to sell their labour for food. The price of grain is normally very high during the food deficit months, making it difficult for the 'poor' to access it with the low wages that they are paid for *ganyu*.



Markets

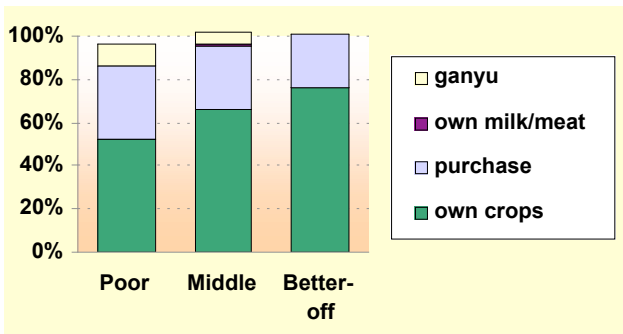
Main markets in this zone include ADMARC, and the main grain markets at Phalombe, Kalinde, Namulenga, Lunchenza, Kamwendo, Ntaja, Mpsupsu, Zomba Songani, and Govala. Price fluctuations caused by seasonal market forces of supply and demand and poor road networks (especially during the rainy season) are some of the problems that make markets inaccessible. Because the zone is a grain deficit area, some grain is also imported from other zones as well as neighbouring Mozambique.

Wealth Breakdown



Wealth differences arise because of differences in size of land cultivated and productive assets. 'Better-off' households own three times more land than the 'poor'. 'Poor' households sell chickens and goats in normal years, and expand sale of chickens in crisis years to generate income. 'Middle' households sell goats and chickens in normal years, expanding both activities to earn income in crisis years. The 'better-off' sell chickens, goats and pigs in normal years, and expand sale of goats and pigs in crisis years. For all groups, the contribution of consumption of their own animals to the diet is insignificant.

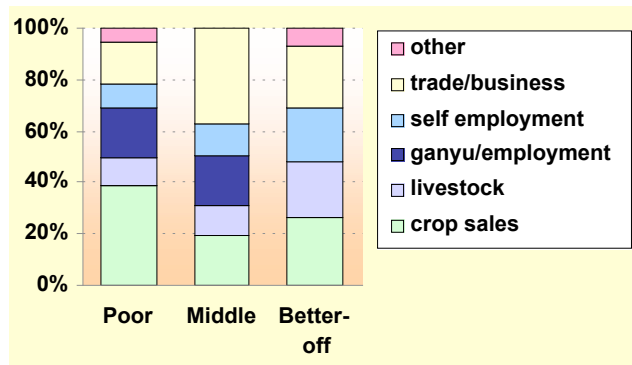
Sources of Food



Maize constitutes one third to one half of all crop consumption for local households, which provides a relatively small percentage of total household food needs in this zone (about half to three quarters). Therefore, the 'poor' must purchase one third of food needs after supplementing their own production with *ganyu* for food. The majority of food purchased is maize, though a considerable increase in dietary diversity is achieved by the 'better-off' through purchase.

Sources of Cash

'Better-off' households earn three times more than the 'poor' in this zone. Crop sale is the largest source of income for all groups. The principal crops sold include maize, rice, pigeon peas, groundnuts, cassava, sweet potatoes, sorghum, cowpeas and sugar cane. Other income sources for the 'poor' include skilled work (e.g., brickmaking), thatching, firewood sale, and income from fishing in areas adjacent to Lake Chilwa.



Hazards

Chronic Hazards: Infertile poor sandy soils constitute the main factor limiting agricultural production in the zone. This is particularly serious for the poor households who have difficulty purchasing fertilizer or improved seed.

Periodic Hazards: Dry spells are a periodic hazard in this zone because the area lies in the rain shadow area. Dry spells affect production of main crops like maize and rice, which are very vulnerable to weather changes. Low food production entails that people have to migrate to other zones and even Mozambique in search of food.

Floods are a potential hazard in the area due to the poor sticky soils and flatness of the area. Flooding makes the roads impassable, making it difficult to bring in staple foods from other areas, resulting in high grain prices.

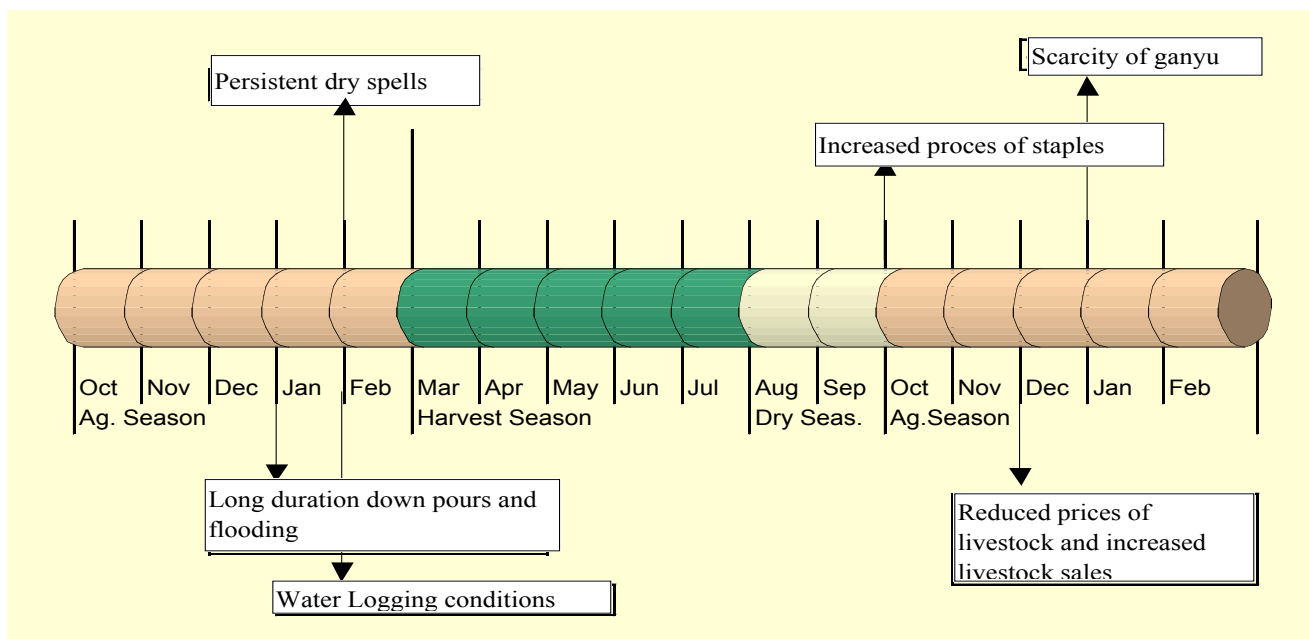
Response Strategies

Since production of the main staples is usually relatively poor for the greater part of the zone, (especially the lake Chirwa basin), most households have developed a number of coping mechanisms to deal with the situation. When the food security situation is a bit out of the normal, the existing response strategies are expanded to fill up the gap. However, if the situation gets out of hand, more stressful strategies are employed.

<u>Existing Strategies that can be expanded</u>	<u>Distress Strategies</u>
<p><u>Winter Cropping</u> This is done by all the wealth groups and is expanded when there are indications of crop failure in the main season.</p>	<p><u>Migration:</u> Most poor and middle households migrate to Mozambique to do ganyu when faced with a food crisis situation.</p>
<p><u>Crop Diversification:</u> Since most of the soils in the zone are poor, over the years the households have been expanding area under root, tubers and sorghum to cope up with the situation.</p>	<p><u>Unusual Sale of Livestock and other Household Assets:</u> This is done by all wealth groups but is usually a big blow for the poor households who sometimes sell their only productive asset at very low prices just to survive.</p>
<p><u>Ganyu:</u> This is mostly done by the poor and they expand time spent on ganyu when there is a deficit.</p>	

Crisis Warning Indicators

Crisis early warning indicators for the zone include persistent dry spells, long duration down pours, water logging conditions in crop fields, increased prices of staples such as maize, a fall in price the paid for *ganyu*, scarcity of *ganyu*, and reduced prices of livestock and elevated animal sales.



Main Conclusions and Implications for Programming

Dry spells are the main hazard for all the wealth groups in this zone. The poor are particularly vulnerable as compared to the middle and well off who may sell their assets. People in the zone heavily depend on the market for staple grain and trading in other commodities. The poor roads become impassable during the rain season causing prices to soar.

Implications for Programming

Due to the erratic nature of the rains in the zone the following things need to be done:

- ❑ *Government needs to consider promoting small-scale irrigation in the area;*
- ❑ *Consider developing the informal sector so that it is able to generate enough income for people to access food.*
- ❑ *Need to promote drought resistant crops;*
- ❑ *Need to promote mixed cropping to maximise use of land since people in the area have small land holdings.*

Malawi Livelihood Profile

Thyolo-Mulanje Tea Estates

Zone Description

The zone only covers two districts of Mulanje and Thyolo and is characterised by small landholding sizes (<1 acre on average), high rainfall (900-2000mm) and poor soils. Due to the small landholdings, the 'poor' and 'middle' wealth groups are not able to produce enough to feed themselves throughout the year. They depend mainly on labour/employment on the tea estates, casual agricultural labour and other income generating activities to earn money to buy food.

Almost all households have one or more members working on the tea estates. The 'middle' and 'better-off' groups typically have someone employed on the estates throughout the year, while the 'poor' mainly find casual work picking tea from November to January.

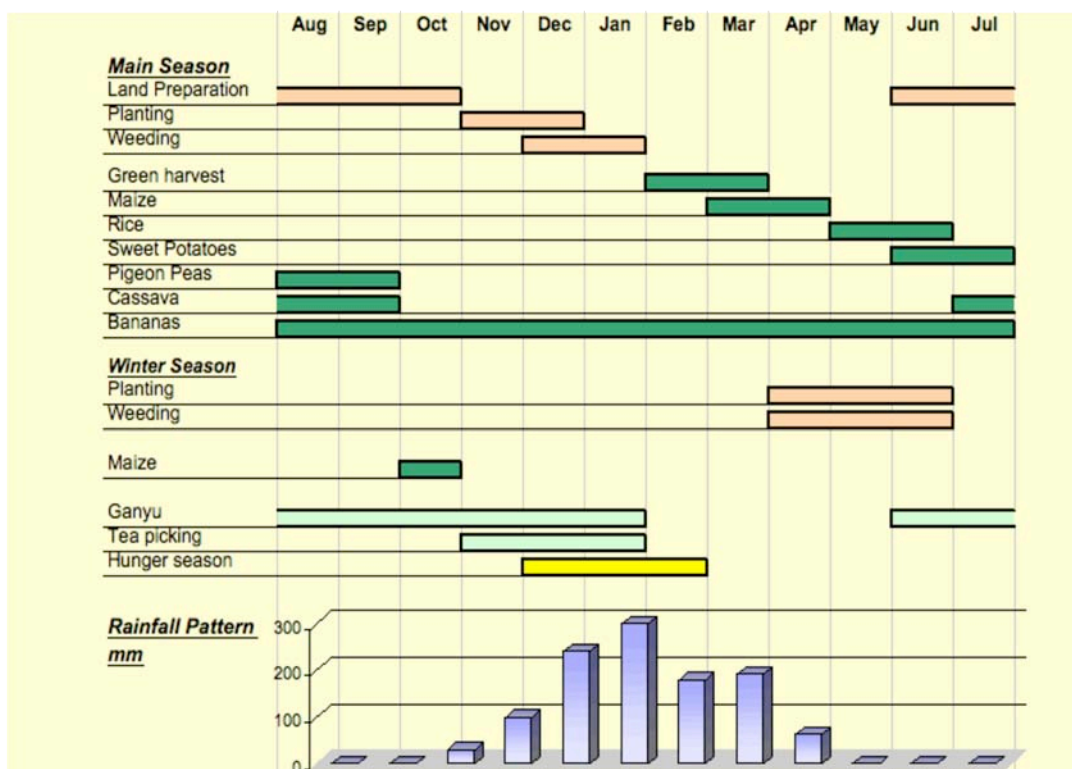
Livestock rearing is difficult in this zone because most of the land is under tea cultivation and grazing land is therefore very restricted.

Seasonal Calendar

The rainy season lasts from November to March and the main agricultural activities start in June with land preparation followed by weeding. The zone has both summer and winter cultivation seasons, with summer the more important of the two.

Availability of casual labour or *ganyu* in the zone is highly seasonal. The peak period for picking tea (the main form of casual labour on the tea estates) is from November to January. This does not fully match with the months of the 'hunger' season, and many people are laid off as the hunger period reaches its peak in January-February. The wage rate in the tea estates is about MK662 per fortnight.

Market prices for staple food varies from one period to another and prices are generally lowest during the harvesting period and highest during the 'hunger' season, from December to February.

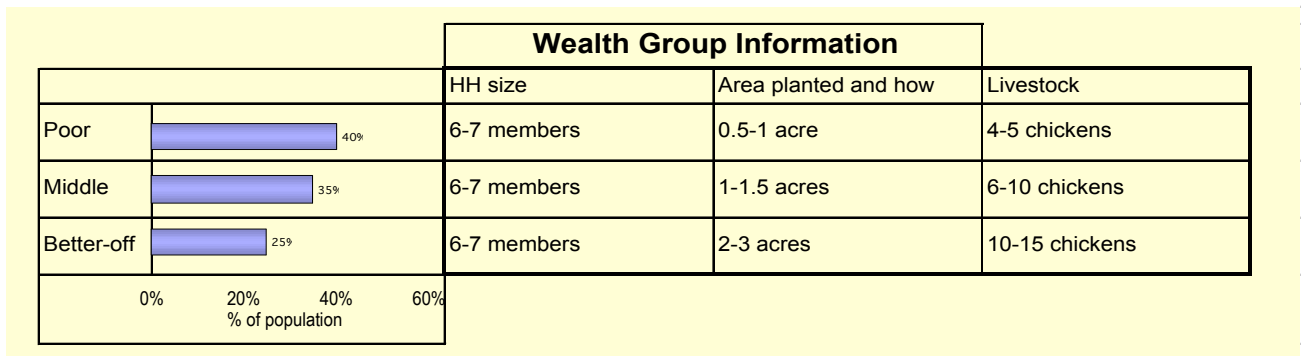


Markets

There is an active cross-border trade and much of the zone's maize supply comes from Mozambique. In certain parts of the zone, however, such as Masambanjati and Thekerani, availability of maize is a problem because they are far from the Mozambican border. The main marketing problems faced by farmers in the zone are; the lack of organised markets, the very low prices of food crops and the difficulty of accessing markets in major cities particularly for bananas. The main cash crops in the zone are bananas, sugarcane, tea, and avocado pears.

Wealth Breakdown

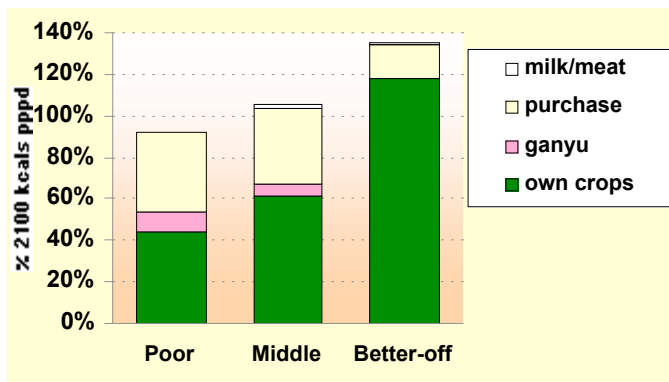
Landholdings in the zone are very small. The poor have on average 1 to 1.5 acres, the middle 1.5 to 2 acres, and the



well-off 2 to 3 acres. All groups grow the same crops, with total production increasing from 'poor' to 'middle' to 'better-off'. Very few livestock are kept in the zone, due to scarcity of grazing land. All wealth groups keep some poultry.

Sources of Food

All wealth groups grow the same types of food crops but the quantities vary from one wealth group to another in line with differences in landholding size. The 'poor' produce barely enough to cover 4-5 months consumption, the 'middle' can cover roughly 6 months, while the 'better-off' produce more than enough to cover their minimum requirements. Both 'poor' and 'middle' groups rely on purchases and in-kind payment for agricultural labour (*ganyu*) to supplement their own crop production. The consumption of livestock products is insignificant in the zone.



Sources of Cash

The 'poor' rely on crop sales and casual labour/*ganyu* for income while the 'middle' and 'better-off' rely on crop sales, small scale trading and employment on the tea estates. The established wage rate for *ganyu* on the tea estates is MK55 per day (in 2003), although remuneration for certain tasks is paid on a piece-rate basis.

Differences in cash income between the different wealth groups are relatively small in this zone. This reflects the generally small landholdings in the zone, the low levels of livestock ownership and the fact that all groups obtain a high proportion of their income from casual labour/employment on the tea estates.



Hazards

No chronic hazards were mentioned in this zone

The main periodic hazards in the zone are crop pests (particularly elegant grass hoppers), crop diseases (such as cassava mosaic disease) and dry spells. These hazards contribute significantly to the low levels of crop production in the zone.

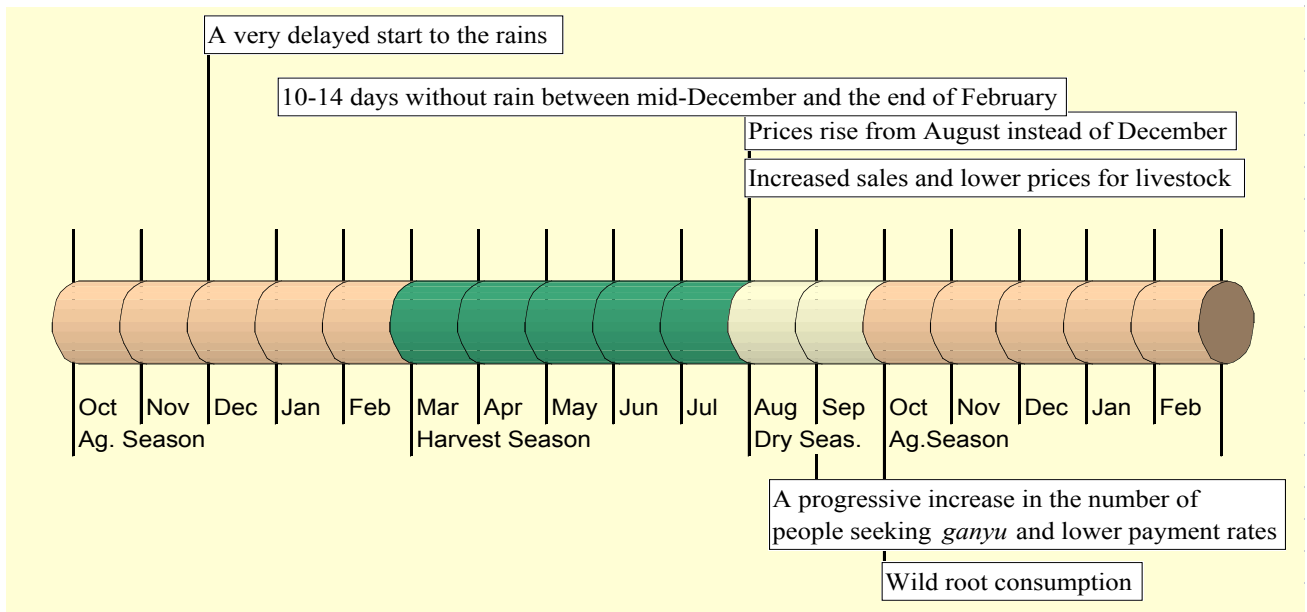
Response Strategies

During a crisis the response strategies of the 'poor' and the 'middle' are more or less the same. Some of the strategies undertaken include: consumption of vegetables only, consumption of cooked premature bananas, skipping some days without eating, sale of household items at low prices, increased *ganyu* for food and increased land encroachment. The 'better-off' reduce the number of meals taken per day and increase food purchases.

<p>Expansion of existing strategies</p> <p>Ganyu- Both the poor and the middle groups increase on Ganyu during a food crisis to find food or money to buy themselves some food.</p> <p>Land Encroachment- The two groups also increase land encroachment to increase on own production.</p> <p>Meal frequency- the better off cope by reducing the number of meals in day</p> <p>Food purchase- The better off again purchase more food</p>	<p>Distress strategies</p> <p>Consumption of "abnormal" foods- The poor and the middle groups consume cooked premature bananas or sometimes just eat vegetables only.</p> <p>No food- In some days, both the middle and the poor groups go without food</p> <p>Assets- In hard times, the two groups resort to selling their household assets</p>
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Crisis Warning Indicators

The main indicators of an impending crisis include low rainfall for both summer and winter production and overselling of food crops soon after the harvest.



Main Conclusions/implications

People in this zone do not rely so much on farming due to land shortage. Most of the land in this zone is under tea cultivation and most farmers have very little land i.e. <1 acre. People here rely on employment in the tea estates and other income generating activities. Livestock rearing is difficult due to limited grazing land.

Implications for Programming

- ❑ All the three groups expressed a need to access more land, as the present one is not enough across the wealth groups.
- ❑ They are also appealing to credit organisations to go into their area to provide input loans so that they can intensify their agricultural activities.
- ❑ Small-scale irrigation schemes would also be necessary in order to maximise production from the little land that they have.

Malawi Livelihood Profile

LOWER SHIRE

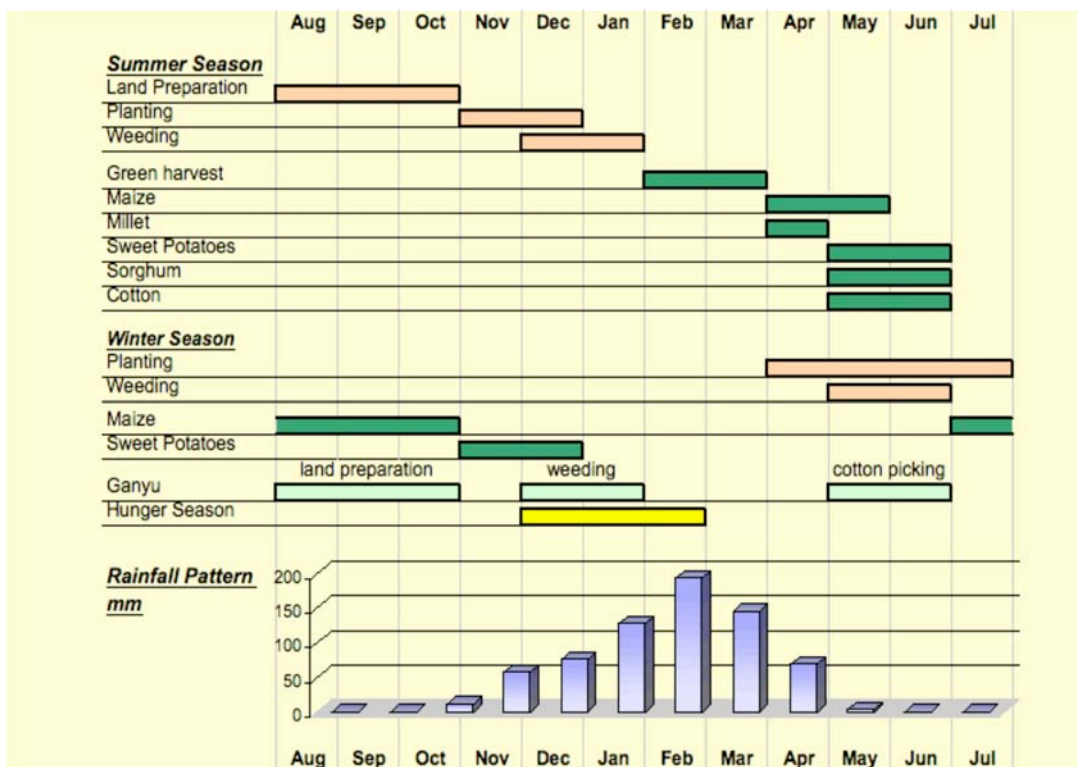
Zone Description

The zone is comprised of Chikwawa and Nsanje districts. It is located at the southern-most end of Malawi and borders Mozambique. The most important components of the food economy are food crops, *ganyu* labour, cash crops and livestock. Cross-border trade between the two countries is quite common and the zone relies on maize imports from Mozambique. The average rainfall ranges from 900mm to 1,200mm and rain falls mainly from November to March. The zone has two types of cultivatable land: upland and wetland (*dimba* land) mainly along the Shire River. There is substantial winter production in the *dimba* lands bordering the Shire River. The main food crops grown in upland fields are maize, sorghum, and millet, while in *dimba* lands maize; rice, tomatoes, vegetables, cowpeas and pigeon peas are grown. Crops sold include maize, cotton, rice, sugarcane and sweet potatoes. Livestock sales are the largest source of income for the 'better-off'. In this food economy *ganyu* is the most significant source of income among the 'poor'.

Seasonal Calendar

The rains last from November to March. The zone has two cultivation seasons: summer (which coincides with the main rainy season) and winter. Along the Shire River, winter production is more important than summer production, and households with access to arable land in this part of the zone grow different types of crops and have more income from crop sales compared to those who rely only on upland crop production.

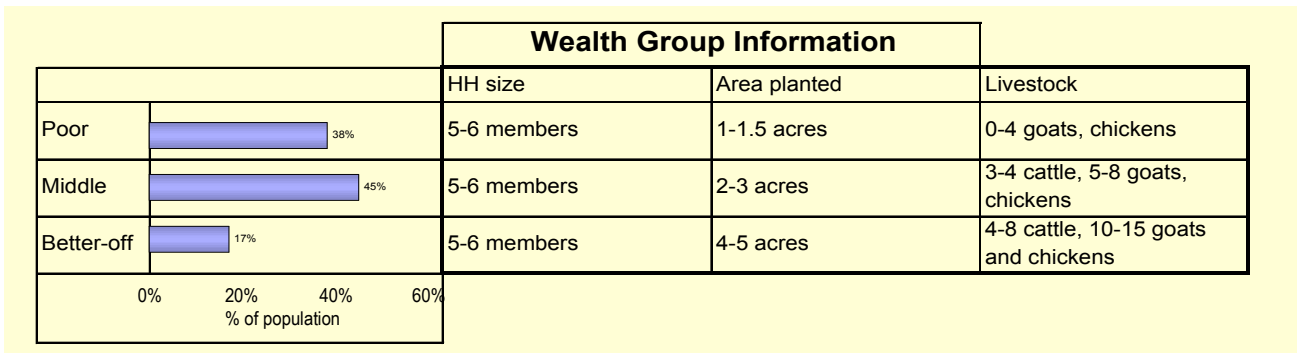
The market price of staple food varies seasonally and within the zone. In general, prices are lowest during the post-harvest period and highest during the hunger season (from December to February). During the winter harvest prices of food crops are also low for areas along the Shire River.



Markets

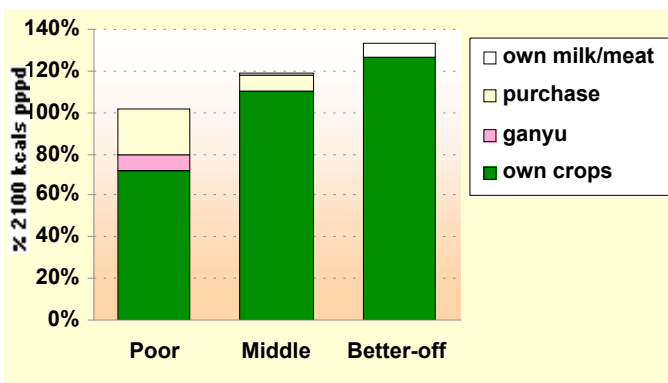
The marketing system in this zone is affected by its relative isolation. Maize, which has in recent years taken over from cotton, as the main sold crop, tends to glut the market for some time after the main harvest; but later in the year maize becomes scarce on the market. From the producer's point of view, cotton sales suffer not only from low farm gate prices, but late opening of the marketing season and late payment from buyers. For livestock, the market is poorly organised especially for small stock. Prices for all stock are lowered by the transportation cost to the trader taking animals to the main consumption centred further north.

Wealth Breakdown



The 'poor' and 'middle' groups own similar areas of land (3-4 acres), but the 'poor' cultivate only 1 to 1.5 acres due to a shortage of labour and a lack of income to buy the necessary agricultural inputs. The 'better-off' cultivate the whole area of land which they own (4-5 acres). All three wealth groups grow the same crops with the 'poor' growing them in smaller quantities as compared to the other groups. The 'poor' do not own cattle while the 'middle' and the 'better-off' have 3-4 and 4-8 cattle respectively.

Sources of Food

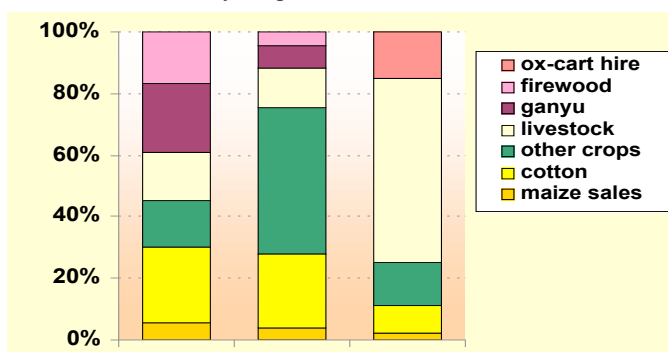


The 'middle' and the 'better-off' can cover all of their minimum food requirements from own crop production whereas the poor only obtain 70-75% of their needs from this source. The 'poor' therefore purchase more food and rely more on in-kind payments for *ganyu* than other groups. The 'better-off' have access to own livestock production (mainly milk), which is insignificant in the case of the other wealth groups.

All groups meet their food requirements despite variations in the sources of food.

Sources of Cash

The 'poor' earn most of their income from crop sales followed by labour (*ganyu*). The 'better-off' earn most of their income from livestock sales followed by crop sales and ox-cart hire. The 'middle' employ the 'poor' and a few of the 'middle' to do they have the small business some 'middle' other activities income per between the



Total annum varies significantly different wealth groups.

Hazards

Chronic/frequent hazards: The main periodic hazards in the zone are dry spells mid-way through the season, floods along the shire banks, and crop pests. Dry spells are common when crops are at cobbing and tasselling stages during the summer/main season. Floods are very common along the Shire River during the main growing season although they increase crop production during the winter season - which is the main crop production period for those living along the Shire River.

Periodic hazards: major infestation of army worm occurring once in every ten years and serious drought.

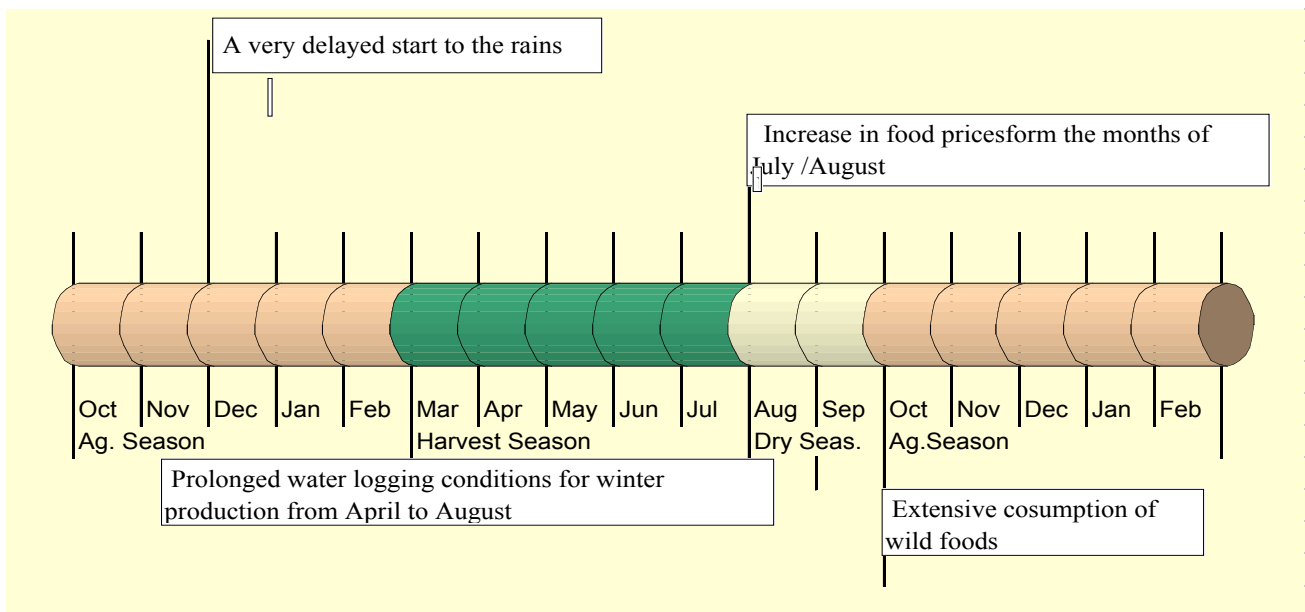
Response Strategies

During a food crisis, the 'poor' and the 'middle' make use of similar response strategies. The main strategies undertaken include: reduced meal quantity and frequency, consumption of vegetables only, consumption of water lily tubers, sale of livestock at low prices, sale of household assets at low prices, increased sales of firewood and consumption of wild grass grains known as *kapepe/mtegerego*. The 'better-off', on the other hand, are able to purchase grain, mainly rice, from Mozambique.

<p><u>Expansion of existing strategies</u></p> <p><u>Eating Habits:</u> In a normal situation, many poor and middle households eat three meals a day and these are: breakfast, lunch and supper but during a food crisis, the same households will only have one meal a day in order to stretch the little food the household has.</p> <p><u>Livestock Sales-</u> Both the poor and the middle groups sale their livestock at low prices during food crises, reducing their ability to access adequate food for the household</p> <p><u>Firewood Sales-</u> Firewood sales tend to increase during a crisis and it is mainly done by the poor and the middle households</p> <p><u>Food Imports:</u> The better off respond differently from the other two groups and rely on food purchases from Mozambique, mainly rice</p>	<p><u>Distress strategies</u></p> <p><u>Consumption of wild tubers and grass-</u> In distress situations, most of the poor and the middle eat foods that they do not eat in a normal situation and these are things like water lily tubers and wild grass grains known as <i>kapepe/mtegerego</i>. This group also tend to rely on vegetables only without any staple to go with it.</p> <p><u>Sale of Household Assets-</u>During food crises, poor and middle households go to the extreme of selling the little assets that they have just to buy some little food.</p>
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Crisis Warning Indicators

The indicators include: prolonged dry spells, excess rainfall, prolonged water-logging conditions for winter production



along the Shire River, increase in food prices and increased numbers of people looking for *ganyu*.

Main Conclusions and Implications for Programming

People in the zone who are very close to the Shire River rely so much on winter cropping than they do the summer crop. The extent of flooding determines how much land is available for winter cropping. However prolonged flooding reduces the cultivable land.

Most farmers own livestock, especially goats, which they sell to earn cash.

Implications for Programming

- ❑ The railway network, which was the easiest means of transport in the area, has been non-functional for so long due to a wash away. This stopped a lot of farmers from selling their produce in further places like Blantyre because it was not only easier for them but also cheaper. To them, rehabilitation of the railway network would be a good starting point to improve their livelihoods.
- ❑ The road network is another problem, especially further down Nsanje, where there is no tarmac road and accessibility during some times of the year becomes very difficult.

Malawi Livelihood Profile

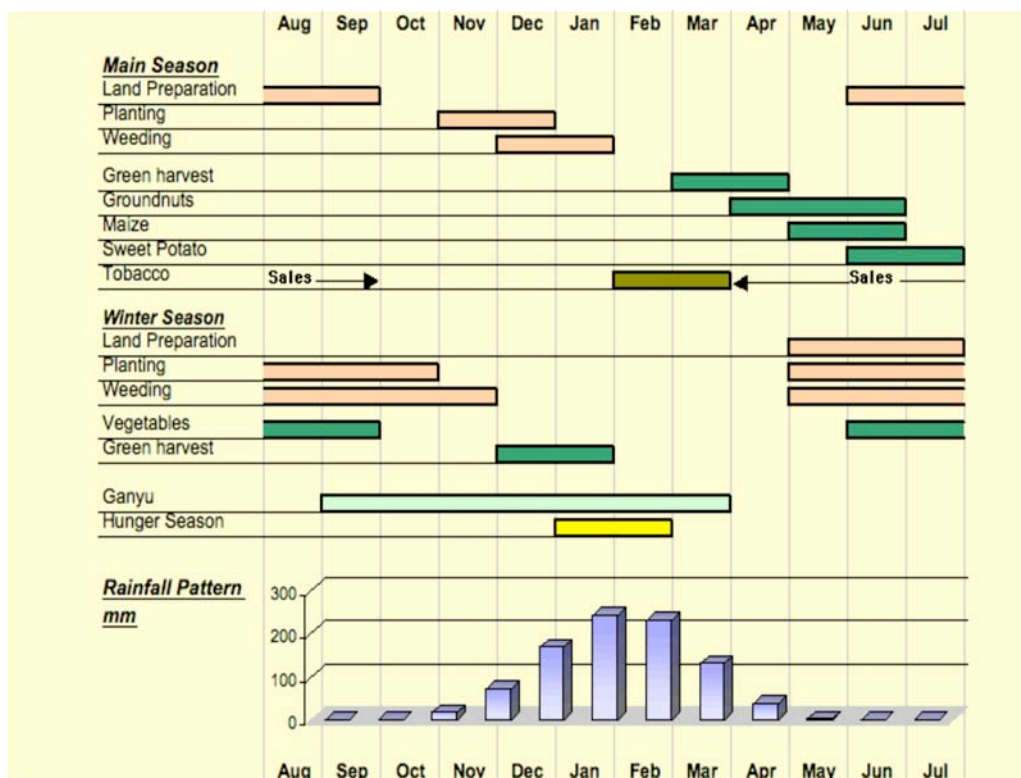
Densely Populated Shire Highlands

Zone Description

This large food economy zone covers the most densely populated portions of the country in these districts Zomba, Phalombe, Machinga, Chiradzulo, Mangochi and Salima. The population density of the zone is as high as 307 people per sq km. The important urban centres of Blantyre and Zomba fall into this zone. It runs from the Thyolo Escarpment in the southwest up to southwest of Mangochi bordering Mozambique. Annual rainfall mean is about 1000 mm. The zone is characterised by average food production with pockets of deficit areas, especially the eastern part bordering the Lake Chilwa and Phalombe Plain zone. The main food crops grown are maize, sorghum and cassava. Cash crops include tobacco, vegetables and cassava. The upper 'poor', 'middle' and 'better-off' households are able to produce enough to feed themselves in a normal year. The 'poor' make up for the food deficit through *ganyu* and purchase in a normal year. The main sources of cash for the 'poor' are *ganyu*, crop sales and small trade (buying and selling agricultural produce). For the 'middle', cash sources include small businesses and crop sales (in order of importance). The 'better-off' households heavily depend on crop sales for cash income in this zone. Livestock holdings are very low in the zone. The 'better-off' and some 'middle' households keep a few goats while chickens are kept by all households.

Seasonal Calendar

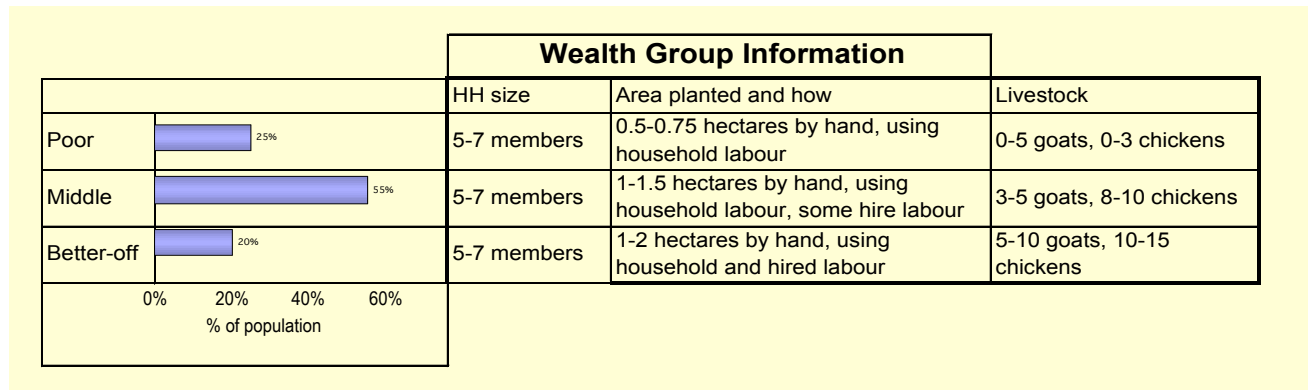
The main agricultural activities reach a peak in the months between October and May. Winter cropping is undertaken soon after the main rain fed agriculture season ends. Food becomes scarce in food lean months of January and February. In February people start harvesting green maize, which for poor households may constitute a main meal when other staple foods cannot be accessed.



Markets

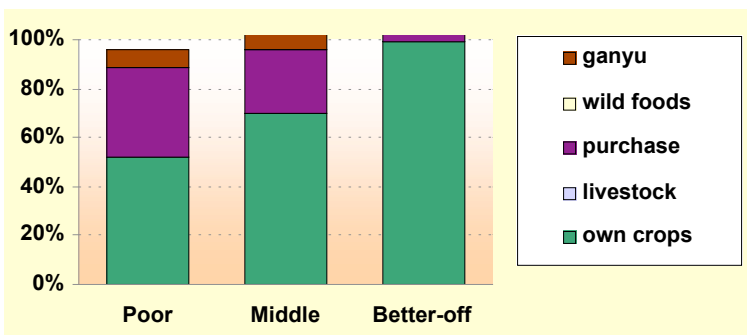
Trade is a very important source of income in this zone. Tobacco is the main cash crop and is mainly sold at Limbe Auction Floors. Other cereals are sold to ADMARC and private traders at the following main markets: Luchenza and Bvumbwe in Thyolo; Limbe, Blantyre and Lunzu in Blantyre; PIM, Kanje, Mbulumbuzi in Chiradzulu; Zomba main market, Govala, Jali and Thondwe in Zomba; Ulongwe in Machinga; and Namwera and Mangochi in Mangochi. Price fluctuations are a common feature at the main markets and smaller markets surrounding the urban centres. This is because private traders always buy grain at very low farm-gate prices and then sell at very high prices at these markets during the hungry season and bad years.

Wealth Breakdown



Land holdings, family size and types of food crops grown seem not to be distinguishing features for different wealth groups. However, wealth groups tend to differ on the amount of land they cultivate, number of livestock owned and productive assets available to them. The 'poor' tend to provide labour (in form of *ganyu*) for the 'middle' and 'better-off' groups. As such they do not have enough time to attend to their own gardens, leading to food insecurity.

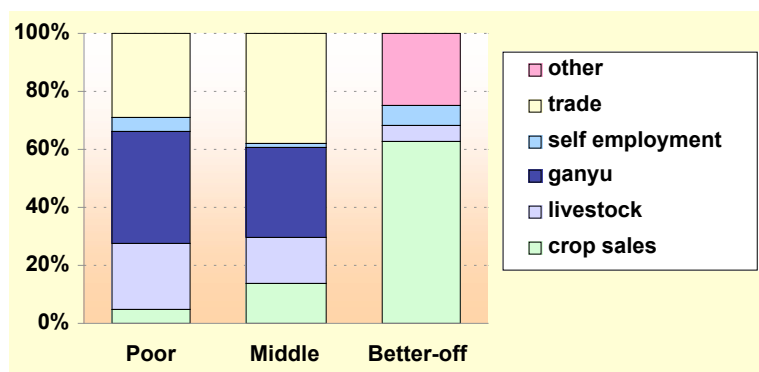
Sources of Food



A typical household sources over half of its food requirements from its own production in a normal year. The second major source of food for the 'poor' is from purchases, which is done after they do *ganyu* from where they acquire cash to buy food. Additionally, the 'middle' and 'poor' supplement their food sources through *ganyu* paid in food. Wild foods and livestock are insignificant sources of food for all the three wealth groups.

Sources of Cash

The main source of income for the 'poor' is *ganyu*, whereas the 'middle' depend on small business while the 'better-off' mostly depend on crop sales and small businesses. Livestock in the area is dominated by poultry and small ruminants especially goats. Thus most households, especially the 'better-off', do not necessarily rely on livestock sales for their income. Cattle are very rare in the area.



Hazards

Erratic rainfall and dry spells are a recurrent hazard in the zone. In addition to the late onset of rains, there is often a dry spell of 2-3 weeks just after germination or when the crops are flowering, resulting in reduced productivity. The rains also tend to end before the crops reach maturity stage, thus denying plants the much needed water to achieve high yields. In terms of crop pests, recent years have seen an annual attack on crops by army worms and elegant grasshoppers. They normally attack leaves of tender crops, which reduces the crops' ability to produce and in certain instances the crop is completely wiped out and need to be replanted. The replanted crop is affected with early cessation of rains and thus productivity is reduced.

HIV/AIDS is a potential threat to agricultural production in the zone. When individuals are infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, their contribution in terms of labour and other productive resources is usually reduced. Families spend high levels of time caring for the sick, and households suffer reduced labour availability for agricultural activities leading to reduced productivity. The increase in orphans may result in increased dependency load in affected households and elevated risk of malnutrition and food security.

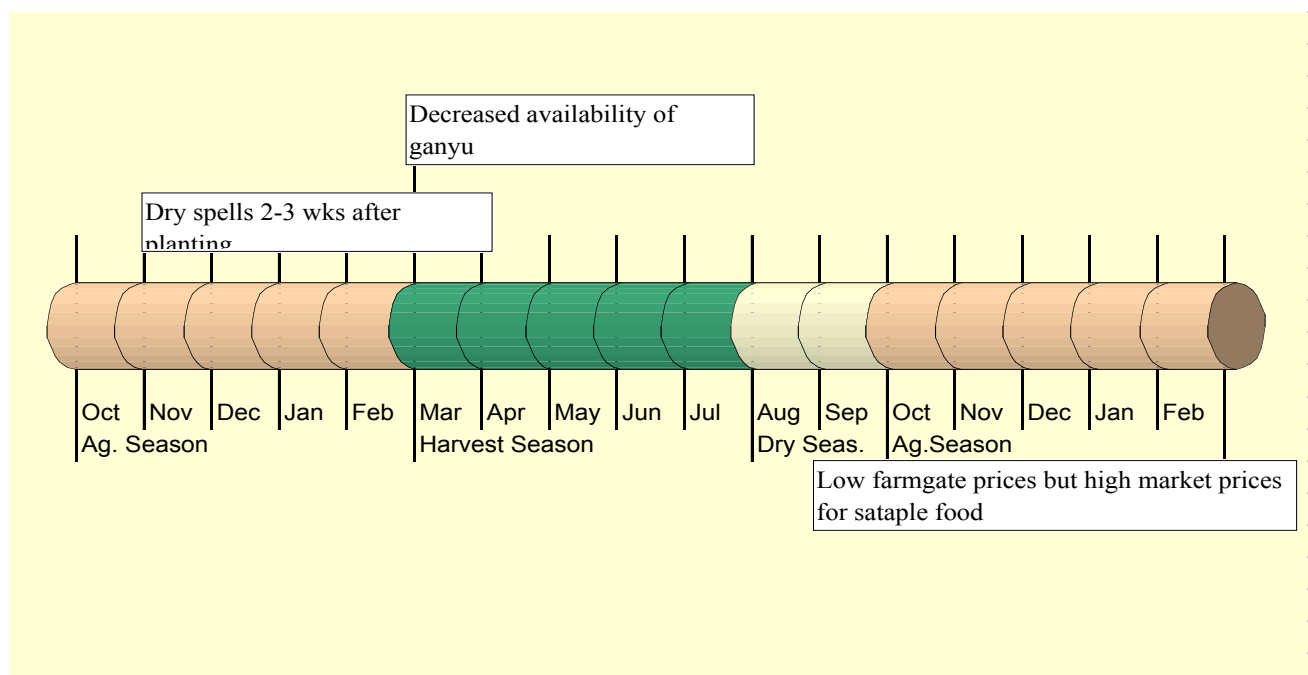
Response Strategies

'Poor' households resort to eating foods that they normally do not eat (e.g., maize husks and wild tubers) as well as reducing meals, or even eating vegetables only in times of deficit. They intensify sale of labour in order to fill the income gap. 'Middle' and 'better-off' households usually sell assets including livestock. For livestock, they would normally sell goats and chickens and rarely cattle.

The 'poor' will sell out most of their productive assets at sharply reduced prices. However, the normal scenario is that they spend most of their time doing *ganyu* so that they get food and money to purchase food. During this time of food deficit, the poor are overstretched and thus it is difficult to concentrate on their own fields. The food acquired from *ganyu* is not even enough to meet their caloric needs. This results in low food production and subsequent low caloric intake.

Crisis Warning Indicators

Erratic rainfall is the main chronic hazard from the zone. The progression of an impending crisis resulting from erratic rainfall would follow this trend: late onset of rains; dry spell of 2-3 weeks just after planting; poor distribution of rainfall (rainfall pattern); poor crop performance; decreased availability of *ganyu*; low production, hence food insecurity; and low farmgate prices but high market prices for staple foods.



Note: The following information was provided for the zone description, though it is unclear if it should be included: ” The zone includes Extension Planning areas of Ntonda, Matapwata, Thundwe, Mombezi, Zaone part of Chingale, Thondwe, Malosa, part of Ntumbwi part of Mbonechera, Masuku, Nyambi, Ntiya Katuli and parts of Malwa and Lungwena. The zone stands at altitudes about 1200 to 1400 m above sea level.”

Main Conclusions and Implications

People in this zone are prone to fluctuations in prices of staple grain, which are caused by the speculative nature of private traders who control the market prices. Poor households would find it difficult to access food when prices go up too high. Small land holdings as a result of high population density in this zone, productivity is dependent on maximising yields per unit area. Most households can achieve this through the use of high breed seeds and high analysis fertilisers whose prices are already too high to be affordable. The poor in this zone largely depend on ganyu and purchase to fill the food gap. They may get ganyu in a normal year but this might not be significantly expandable during a bad year.

Implications for Programming

- ❑ There was a plea from the three groups on introduction of small-scale irrigation schemes since the poor who are the majority of the people depend on ganyu.

APPENDIX I: HEA ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

A brief summary of the HEA analytical framework is presented here. For a more detailed discussion see (The analytical framework of HEA is firmly based within a Livelihoods-Based Vulnerability Approach (LBVA). In the context of food security the conceptual model is formulated as:

Risk = f (Hazard, Vulnerability)

Where:

- **Risk** = Risk of food insecurity (in the context of food security enquiry)
- **Hazard** or Shock = Drought, loss of market, sharp increase/decrease in prices, etc.
- **Vulnerability** = To understand whether people are vulnerable we have to understand how they survive, i.e. their patter of livelihood.
- **Risk** is a function of the interaction and combination of both a Hazard and Vulnerability (e.g. when drought occurs a household is vulnerable to food insecurity only if they are heavily reliant on crop production that is sensitive to drought and for which that have limited options for acquiring food from other sources). Note: risk to food insecurity is only one formulation of the conceptual model; other formulations are possible depending on the objective. For example the model could be formulated as risk to livelihood failure or destitution.

<i>Outcome Analysis: Baseline + Hazard + Response = Outcome</i>		
<p>The baseline picture provides a starting point or context for understanding the likely impact of a shock or hazard on food access at household level. If, for example, 'poor' households are heavily dependent upon crop production, then they may be vulnerable to hazards affecting crops, such as drought or pest attack. Households that rely upon other sources of food and income are, on the other hand, less vulnerable to these hazards.</p>	<p>The first step is to superimpose the hazard on the baseline to assess its effects on food access at household level. This requires that the hazard be expressed in quantitative terms, e.g. a 50% reduction in crop production, a 20% reduction in milk output, etc. In the example below, a 50% reduction in crop production results in a 25% deficit in food access for the 'poor', since crops provide half of baseline food needs for this group.</p>	<p>The second step is to consider the response strategies that can be pursued by households exposed to a hazard, and the amount of food and/or income that can be generated from these. In the example, the 'poor' engage in additional 'ganyu' in a crisis and can exchange labour for 1-2 sacks of grain – enough to cover roughly 10% of annual food needs. This has the effect of reducing the deficit from 25% to roughly 15%.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Baseline</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Hazard</i> e.g. 50% crop failure</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Response</i> e.g. increase ganyu</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>= Outcome</i></p> <p>The outcome represents the final result, expressed in terms of the food intake deficit likely to result from a particular hazard, once household-level responses have been taken into account. In the example, the conclusion is that a 50% crop failure is likely to result in a food intake deficit of 15% for 'poor' households. Similar analyses undertaken for other types of household (e.g. the 'middle' and the 'better-off') will indicate their vulnerability to this particular hazard.</p>		

APPENDIX II: LIVELIHOOD ZONE POPULATION BY EPA

Population by Livelihood Zone and EPA

MVAC Livelihood Zone	DISTRICT	EPANAME	NSO Census	NSO Projection
			Population '98	Population 2003
Central Karonga	KARONGA	KARONGA CENTRAL	37,654	43,254
Central Karonga Total			37,654	43,254
Chitipa Millet and Maize	CHITIPA	CHISENGA	13,338	15,540
Chitipa Millet and Maize	CHITIPA	KAVUKUKU	20,969	24,430
Chitipa Millet and Maize	CHITIPA	LUFITA	28,806	33,561
Chitipa Millet and Maize	CHITIPA	MWAMKUMBWA	33,550	39,089
Chitipa Millet and Maize Total			96,663	112,620
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DEDZA	CHAFUMBA	44,635	51,618
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DEDZA	KABWAZI	44,435	51,387
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DEDZA	KANYAMA	62,365	72,121
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DEDZA	KAPHUKA	51,118	59,115
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DEDZA	LINTHIPE	86,247	99,740
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DEDZA	MAYANI	59,964	69,345
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DEDZA	BEMBEKE	40,200	46,490
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DEDZA	LOBI	55,125	63,749
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DOWA	BOWE	52,013	57,834
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DOWA	CHISEPO	52,471	58,343
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DOWA	CHIVALA	42,786	47,574
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DOWA	MADISI	41,183	45,792
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DOWA	MNDOLERA	68,566	76,240
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DOWA	MPONELA	68,467	76,129
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DOWA	MVERA	7,690	8,550
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	DOWA	NACHISAKA	78,211	86,963
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	KASUNGU	CHAMAMA	92,618	109,752
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	KASUNGU	CHULU	58,356	69,152
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	KASUNGU	KALULUMA	118,645	140,595
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	KASUNGU	KASUNGU CHIPALA	95,423	113,077
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	KASUNGU	LISASADZI	54,982	65,154
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	KASUNGU	SANTHE	60,634	71,852
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	CHILAZA	114,463	89,389
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	DEMELA	55,608	43,427
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	KAMBANIZITHE	57,282	44,734
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	MING'ONGO	87,187	68,088
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	MLOMBA	103,390	80,741
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	M'NGWANGWA	77,572	60,580
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	MPINGU	85,311	66,623
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	NAKACHOKA	72,525	56,638
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	NTHONDO	76,764	59,948
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	SINYALA	79,379	61,990
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	UKWE	81,489	63,638
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	MPENU	89,821	70,145
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	CHIGONTHI	65,545	51,187
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	CHITEKWELE	111,052	86,725
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	CHITSIME	100,408	78,413
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	LILONGWE	CHIWAMBA	88,564	69,163
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	MCHINJI	CHIOSHYA	53,972	63,339
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	MCHINJI	KALULU	43,133	50,619
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	MCHINJI	MIKUNDI	55,049	64,603
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	MCHINJI	MKANDA	73,605	86,379
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	MCHINJI	MLONYENI	37,143	43,590
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	MCHINJI	MSITU	62,039	72,806
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	MZIMBA	EMFENI	81,505	75,042
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	NTCHISI	CHIPUKA	16,850	20,146
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	NTCHISI	KALIRA	110,501	132,112
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	NTCHISI	MALOMO	25,021	29,914
Kasungu Lilongwe Plain	NTCHISI	NTCHISI BOMA	15,508	18,540

Kasungu Lilongwe Plain Total			3,256,821	3,249,092
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	CHIRADZULU	THUMBWE	118,025	101,255
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	MACHINGA	CHIKWEO	60,305	66,779
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	MACHINGA	NAMPEYA	49,036	54,301
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	MACHINGA	NANYUMBU	76,376	84,576
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	MACHINGA	NSANAMA	49,101	54,373
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	MULANJE	MULANJE SOUTH	126,278	144,733
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	MULANJE	MULANJE WEST	175,767	201,454
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	PHALOMBE	KASONGO	15,265	17,797
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	PHALOMBE	MPINDA	26,132	30,466
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	PHALOMBE	NAMINJIWA	19,326	22,532
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	PHALOMBE	TAMANI	16,751	19,529
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	PHALOMBE	KASONGO	15,265	17,797
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	PHALOMBE	NAMINJIWA	19,326	22,532
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	PHALOMBE	NKHULAMBE	59,595	69,480
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	PHALOMBE	TAMANI	16,751	19,529
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	PHALOMBE	WARUMA	43,578	50,806
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	ZOMBA	MPOKWE	129,074	90,544
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	ZOMBA	MSONDOLE	83,529	58,594
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	ZOMBA	NTUBWI	24,466	17,163
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain	ZOMBA	MAYAKA NGWERERO	15,887	11,145
Lake Chilwa - Phalombe Plain Total			1,139,833	1,155,384
Lower Shire	CHIKWAWA	DOLO	59,447	68,800
Lower Shire	CHIKWAWA	KALAMBO	59,447	68,800
Lower Shire	CHIKWAWA	LIVUNZU	59,447	68,800
Lower Shire	CHIKWAWA	MBEWE	59,447	68,800
Lower Shire	CHIKWAWA	MIKALANGO	59,447	68,800
Lower Shire	CHIKWAWA	MITOLE	59,447	68,800
Lower Shire	NSANJE	MAGOTI	28,828	32,253
Lower Shire	NSANJE	MAKHANGA	46,902	52,473
Lower Shire	NSANJE	MPATSA	20,149	22,542
Lower Shire	NSANJE	NSANJE	37,385	41,826
Lower Shire	NSANJE	NYACHILENDA	61,660	68,985
Lower Shire Total			551,606	630,879
Middle Shire Valley	BALAKA	MPILISI	27,015	30,604
Middle Shire Valley	BALAKA	PHALULA	28,913	32,754
Middle Shire Valley	BALAKA	ULONGWE	36,586	41,447
Middle Shire Valley	BLANTYRE	LIRANGWE	242,924	162,442
Middle Shire Valley	MACHINGA	MBONECHERA	41,822	46,312
Middle Shire Valley	MWANZA	LISUNGWI	11,211	12,813
Middle Shire Valley	MWANZA	MWANZA	23,231	26,551
Middle Shire Valley	ZOMBA	NTUBWI	25,178	17,662
Middle Shire Valley	ZOMBA	CHINGALE	49,017	34,384
Middle Shire Valley Total			485,897	404,970
Misuku Hills	CHITIPA	MISUKU	30,136	35,110
Misuku Hills Total			30,136	35,110
Mzimba Self Sufficient	MZIMBA	BULALA	67,768	62,394
Mzimba Self Sufficient	MZIMBA	CHAMPHIRA	56,225	51,766
Mzimba Self Sufficient	MZIMBA	ESWAZINI	92,294	84,975
Mzimba Self Sufficient	MZIMBA	MANYAMULA	91,063	83,841
Mzimba Self Sufficient	MZIMBA	MBAWA	101,617	93,559
Mzimba Self Sufficient	MZIMBA	MJINGE	27,752	25,552
Mzimba Self Sufficient	RUMPHI	BWENGU	20,547	22,848
Mzimba Self Sufficient	RUMPHI	ZOMBWE	26,926	29,942
Mzimba Self Sufficient Total			484,192	454,876
Nkhatabay Cassava	KARONGA	KARONGA SOUTH	62,419	71,699
Nkhatabay Cassava	MZIMBA	KHOSOLO	22,955	21,134
Nkhatabay Cassava	NKHATABAY	CHIKWINA	7,009	7,822
Nkhatabay Cassava	NKHATABAY	CHINTHECHE	19,871	22,178
Nkhatabay Cassava	NKHATABAY	CHITHEKA	4,826	5,387
Nkhatabay Cassava	NKHATABAY	MPAMBA	33,268	37,130

Nkhatabay Cassava	NKHATABAY	NKHATABAY	24,302	27,123
Nkhatabay Cassava	NKHATABAY	CHIKWINA	7,008	7,821
Nkhatabay Cassava	NKHOTAKOTA	NKHUNGA	18,450	21,461
Nkhatabay Cassava	NKHOTAKOTA	ZIDYANA	11,829	13,760
Nkhatabay Cassava	RUMPHI	MPHOMPHA	1,393	1,549
Nkhatabay Cassava	RUMPHI	NTCHENACHENA	4,888	5,435
Nkhatabay Cassava	RUMPHI	MPHOMPHA	1,393	1,549
Nkhatabay Cassava	RUMPHI	NTCHENACHENA	4,888	5,435
Nkhatabay Cassava	RUMPHI	MUHUJU	22,434	24,947
Nkhatabay Cassava Total			246,932	274,429
Northern Karonga	KARONGA	KAPORO NORTH	40,752	46,813
Northern Karonga	KARONGA	KAPORO SOUTH	53,748	61,741
Northern Karonga Total			94,500	108,554
Northern Lakeshore	LIKOMA	LIKOMA CHIZUMULU	8,074	9,482
Northern Lakeshore	NKHATABAY	CHINTHECHE	19,871	22,178
Northern Lakeshore	NKHATABAY	NKHATABAY	48,605	54,247
Northern Lakeshore	NKHOTAKOTA	NKHUNGA	18,450	21,461
Northern Lakeshore	NKHOTAKOTA	LINGA	34,832	40,516
Northern Lakeshore	NKHOTAKOTA	NKHUNGA	18,452	21,464
Northern Lakeshore	NKHOTAKOTA	ZIDYANA	11,829	13,760
Northern Lakeshore Total			160,113	183,108
Phililongwe Hills	MANGOCHI	CHILIPA	41,876	47,393
Phililongwe Hills	MANGOCHI	MBWADZULU	22,900	25,918
Phililongwe Hills	MANGOCHI	MTIRAMANJA	50,346	56,980
Phililongwe Hills	MANGOCHI	NAMKUMBA	20,435	23,127
Phililongwe Hills	MANGOCHI	NASENGA	46,093	52,166
Phililongwe Hills Total			181,650	205,584
Rift Valley Escarpment	BALAKA	BAZALE	68,070	77,114
Rift Valley Escarpment	BALAKA	MPILISI	27,015	30,604
Rift Valley Escarpment	BALAKA	PHALULA	28,913	32,754
Rift Valley Escarpment	BALAKA	ULONGWE	36,586	41,447
Rift Valley Escarpment	DEDZA	MTAKATAKA	21,297	24,629
Rift Valley Escarpment	MWANZA	LISUNGWI	11,211	12,813
Rift Valley Escarpment	MWANZA	MWANZA	23,231	26,551
Rift Valley Escarpment	MWANZA	NENO	22,950	26,230
Rift Valley Escarpment	MWANZA	MWANZA	23,231	26,551
Rift Valley Escarpment	MWANZA	NENO	22,950	26,230
Rift Valley Escarpment	NKHOTAKOTA	LINGA	34,833	40,518
Rift Valley Escarpment	NKHOTAKOTA	MWANSAMBO	38,676	44,988
Rift Valley Escarpment	NKHOTAKOTA	NKHUNGA	18,450	21,461
Rift Valley Escarpment	NKHOTAKOTA	ZIDYANA	23,659	27,520
Rift Valley Escarpment	NTCHEU	BILIRA	45,539	52,617
Rift Valley Escarpment	NTCHEU	GOLOMOTI	14,303	16,526
Rift Valley Escarpment	NTCHEU	KANDEU	12,274	14,181
Rift Valley Escarpment	NTCHEU	MANJAWIRA	70,464	81,417
Rift Valley Escarpment	NTCHEU	NSIPE	77,095	89,078
Rift Valley Escarpment	NTCHEU	SHARPEVALE	54,271	62,707
Rift Valley Escarpment	NTCHEU	NJOLOMOLE	41,790	48,286
Rift Valley Escarpment	NTCHEU	TSANGANO	40,720	47,049
Rift Valley Escarpment	SALIMA	CHINGULUWE	33,758	40,542
Rift Valley Escarpment	SALIMA	CHIPOKA	32,594	39,144
Rift Valley Escarpment	SALIMA	KHOMBEDZA	53,838	64,659
Rift Valley Escarpment	SALIMA	TEMBWE	20,796	24,976
Rift Valley Escarpment Total			898,511	1,040,591
Shire Highlands	BLANTYRE	NTONDA	266,084	177,929
Shire Highlands	CHIRADZULU	THUMBWE	74,017	63,500
Shire Highlands	CHIRADZULU	MOMBEZI	118,025	101,255
Shire Highlands	MACHINGA	MBONECHERA	41,822	46,312
Shire Highlands	MACHINGA	NYAMBI	51,152	56,644
Shire Highlands	MANGOCHI	KATULI	48,659	55,071
Shire Highlands	MANGOCHI	LUNGWENA	28,320	32,051

Appendix III: Baseline Survey Sample

5 MVAC BASELINE SAMPLE

Livelihood zone	District	EPA	Village	District Interviews	Community KI Interviews	Total FGD Interviews
Nkhata Bay Cassava	Nkhata Bay	Mpamba Chintheche	Nthulinga Jaliyanthazi	1	4	Poor- 6 Middle- 4 Rich- 2
	Karonga	Karonga South	Mwausegha Mwakhwawa			
Western Rumphu and Mzimba	Rumphu	Bolero	Makunigondwe Bowoyeke	1	4	Poor- 2 Middle- 3 Rich- 4
	Mzimba	Euthini	Simionichihami Zandieli			
Central Karonga	Karonga	Lupembe	Mwenelupembe Malele	1	4	Poor- 7 Middle- 3 Rich- 2
		Mpata	Mwang'anda Ngenera			
Lower Shire	Nsanje	Mpatsa Nsanje Boma	Nyanthumbi Mbango	2	4	Poor- 6 Middle- 4 Rich- 2
	Chikwawa	Livunzu Mitole	Nkadyamwanu Fombe			
Middle Shire	Mwanza	Lisungwi	Somisomi	1	4	Poor- 5 Middle- 3 Rich- 2
	Blantyre	Lirangwe	Semu			
	Balaka	Ulongwe Utale	Majikuta Bemeyani			
Thyolo/Mulanje Tea Estates	Mulanje	Mulanje south	Mikundi Mtalika	1	4	Poor- 5 Middle- 4 Rich- 2
	Thyolo	Masambanjati Thyolo Central/boma	Tomasi Machuwana			
Phalombe/Lake Chilwa Basin	Phalombe	Mpinda Naminjiwa	Mtcheza Nalingula 2	1	4	Poor- 6 Middle- 4 Rich- 2
	Machinga	Nampeya Nanyumbu	Mchokola Ngunga			
Densely Populated Shire Highlands	Zomba	Malosa Ntubwi	Kapitikusha Mpindo	2	4	Poor- 6 Middle- 4 Rich- 2
	Chiradzulu	Thumbwe Mombezi	Jimusoni Maloya			
Southern Lakeshore	Salima	Tembwe Chipoka	Jumabunguzi Mtika	1	4	Poor- 6 Middle- 4 Rich- 2
	Mangochi	Nankumba Mbwadzulu	Chimphamba Koma			
Mzimba Self sufficient	Mzimba	Mbawa Mbawa Manyamula Manyamula	Mtezi Dakalimale BenjaminZimba Daniel Tembo	1	4	Poor- 4 Middle- 4 Rich- 4
Kasungu/Lilongwe Plain	Mchinji	Kalulu Chioshya	Chibvala Mazawa	2	4	Poor 4 Middle 4 Rich 4
	Kasungu	Chulu Santhe	Kamzimbizeka Kapala			
Total				14	44	126

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