

**PLAN OF ACTION  
FOR MALAWI  
2012-2016**





# PLAN OF ACTION FOR MALAWI 2012 - 2016

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## ACRONYMS

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<b>ASWAp</b>	<i>Agriculture Sector Wide Approach</i>
<b>CA</b>	<i>Conservation agriculture</i>
<b>CBO</b>	<i>Community-based organization</i>
<b>CGIAR</b>	<i>Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research</i>
<b>CISANET</b>	<i>Civil Society Agriculture Network</i>
<b>DFID</b>	<i>Department for International Development (United Kingdom)</i>
<b>DoDMA</b>	<i>Department of Disaster Management Affairs</i>
<b>DRM</b>	<i>Disaster risk management</i>
<b>DRR</b>	<i>Disaster risk reduction</i>
<b>EMPRES</b>	<i>Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases</i>
<b>ERCU</b>	<i>Emergency Rehabilitation and Coordination Unit</i>
<b>EU</b>	<i>European Union</i>
<b>FANR</b>	<i>Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources</i>
<b>FANRPAN</b>	<i>Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network</i>
<b>FAO</b>	<i>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</i>
<b>FBO</b>	<i>Faith-based organization</i>
<b>FEWS NET</b>	<i>Famine Early Warning Systems Network</i>
<b>FISP</b>	<i>Farm Input Subsidy Programme</i>
<b>FUM</b>	<i>Farmers' Union of Malawi</i>
<b>GAP</b>	<i>Good agricultural practices</i>
<b>GDP</b>	<i>Gross domestic product</i>

## ACRONYMS

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<b>GPS</b>	<i>Geographic Positioning System</i>
<b>IPPM</b>	<i>Integrated production and pest management</i>
<b>JFFLS</b>	<i>Junior Farmer Field and Life School</i>
<b>JICA</b>	<i>Japanese International Cooperation Agency</i>
<b>KAP</b>	<i>Knowledge, Attitude and Practice</i>
<b>LoA</b>	<i>Letter of Agreement</i>
<b>MDG</b>	<i>Millennium Development Goal</i>
<b>MGDS</b>	<i>Malawi Growth and Development Strategy</i>
<b>MOAIWD</b>	<i>Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development</i>
<b>MoU</b>	<i>Memorandum of Understanding</i>
<b>MRCs</b>	<i>Malawi Red Cross Society</i>
<b>MVAC</b>	<i>Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee</i>
<b>NAC</b>	<i>National AIDS Commission</i>
<b>'NCATF</b>	<i>National Conservation Agriculture Task Force</i>
<b>NCP</b>	<i>National Contingency Plan</i>
<b>NDRM</b>	<i>National Disaster Risk Management</i>
<b>NGO</b>	<i>Non-governmental Organization</i>
<b>NMTPF</b>	<i>National Medium-Term Priority Framework (FAO)</i>
<b>NSO</b>	<i>National Statistics Office</i>
<b>OFDA</b>	<i>Office of United States Foreign Disaster Assistance</i>
<b>OVC</b>	<i>Orphans and vulnerable children</i>

## ACRONYMS

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<b>PoA</b>	<i>Plan of Action</i>
<b>REOA</b>	<i>FAO Regional Emergency Office for Central and Eastern Africa</i>
<b>REOSA</b>	<i>FAO Regional Emergency Office for Southern Africa</i>
<b>RP</b>	<i>Regular Programme</i>
<b>TCE</b>	<i>Emergency Operations and Rehabilitation Division</i>
<b>ToT</b>	<i>Trainers of Trainers</i>
<b>UN</b>	<i>United Nations</i>
<b>UNAIDS</b>	<i>Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS</i>
<b>UNCT</b>	<i>United Nations Country Team</i>
<b>UNDAF</b>	<i>United Nations Development Assistance Framework</i>
<b>UNDP</b>	<i>United Nations Development Programme</i>
<b>UNFPA</b>	<i>United Nations Population Fund</i>
<b>UNICEF</b>	<i>United Nations Children's Fund</i>
<b>UNOCHA</b>	<i>United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs</i>
<b>UNRCO</b>	<i>United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office</i>
<b>USAID</b>	<i>United States Agency for International Development</i>
<b>WFP</b>	<i>World Food Programme</i>



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The Republic of Malawi is among the poorest countries in the world. The country is frequently hit by disasters, with many people affected by shocks such as dry spells, flooding, crop and livestock diseases, high input prices, and unstable markets. These often result in the loss of lives, assets and support systems.

According to the Malawi National Disaster Risk Management Policy document, the intensity and frequency of disasters has been increasing, in large part owing to climate change, population growth, urbanization and environmental degradation. The recurrence of rapid and slow-onset disasters in areas such as the Lower Shire makes recovery progressively more difficult for communities whose livelihoods are already weakened by poverty and other underlying socio-economic constraints. Although – for over five years – Malawi has been producing surplus staple food, some communities remain food and nutrition insecure owing to the impacts of various shocks.

In addition, most smallholder farmers are yet to generate meaningful incomes from farming. This is in part due to the narrow range of enterprises they pursue, low productivity levels and poor market access. There is an urgent need to address vulnerability and disaster threats and impacts in Malawi, taking into account the underlying challenges faced by the affected and at-risk communities. A more coordinated and holistic approach is required to help them transition from emergency and relief assistance to longer-term development.

The Government of Malawi, with support from development and other partners, is focusing on socio-economic development through strategies that include supporting the increased performance of the agriculture sector. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is a key partner in Malawi's growth and development objectives. As part of its Strategic Framework 2010–2019, FAO aims to strengthen disaster preparedness and improve linkages and transitions between emergency, rehabilitation and development.

FAO uses the Plan of Action (PoA) as a tool to promote more integrated planning and coordination, and to guide a smooth transition from relief to development in disaster-prone and -affected countries. The current document provides details of the proposed PoA for Malawi. It describes FAO's strategy to “bridge” emergency interventions to more medium- and long-term national development priorities and programmes for the next five years (2012–2016) in support of the Government and in partnership with key stakeholders.

*The goal of the PoA is to reduce risk and impacts of disasters on food and nutrition security through better disaster risk reduction and improved community resilience to shocks in disaster-prone areas.* This goal will be achieved through four major outcomes and outputs:

- OUTCOME 1:** Strengthened food security disaster preparedness and institutional capacity of Government and communities to address agricultural and related threats and disasters.
- OUTCOME 2:** Enhanced cereal productivity, post-harvest management and dietary diversification in disaster response interventions.
- OUTCOME 3:** Household transition from emergency to long-term development strengthened through agricultural diversification, improved natural resource management, adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, and through improved marketing and market linkages.
- OUTCOME 4:** Livelihood-based social protection for vulnerable groups integrated into national agricultural and food security disaster policies, strategies and programmes.

The outcomes are aligned to the objectives of the Malawi Agriculture Sector Wide Approach (ASWAp), the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy, national disaster risk management and contingency planning processes, and key United Nations documents. They are also linked to FAO's corporate Strategic Objectives.

Broadly, the expected outputs and the activities to be implemented through this PoA framework are centred around vulnerability assessments, analysis and mapping; needs identification and prioritization; awareness raising and promotion of more sustainable practices; promoting diversification; promoting local-level value addition, training and other capacity building interventions among stakeholders, including farmers; market-based input access support; market integration; and infrastructure rehabilitation and/or development, where appropriate.

The projected total cost of implementing the PoA is nearly USD 55 million over the five-year period (2012–2016). Almost 50 percent of the overall cost is targeted at supporting households to transition from emergency and relief to rehabilitation and long-term development and sustainable livelihoods. To mobilize the required resources, FAO will work with the Government of Malawi and key stakeholders to develop specific project proposals based on the identified priority areas of the PoA and submit these jointly to bi- and multilateral donors for possible support. Funding mobilized through this PoA framework is expected to contribute to achieving ASWAp objectives and help to meet the funding gap in ASWAp. The PoA will be reviewed and refined in annual programme reviews to continually align and reflect the changing environment and Government priorities.

With nearly 80 percent of the population in Malawi dependent on agriculture for food and livelihoods, addressing vulnerability and limitations to agricultural growth will enhance livelihoods and contribute significantly to immediate and long-term national development objectives.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 GENERAL CONTEXT

The Republic of Malawi has an estimated population of over 15 million people (2010 figures). The country's economy relies heavily on the agriculture sector. However, Malawi is vulnerable to natural disasters – such as floods and drought – which negatively affect food and nutrition security and livelihoods. In recent decades, the number and severity of such disasters has increased. The effects of climate change could worsen these events and lead to a greater need for external humanitarian assistance. As a result, many stakeholders – including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) – continue to proactively support the Government of Malawi in its efforts to strengthen disaster risk management (DRM) and link preparedness, disaster response and the transition to sustainable development across sectors.

FAO seeks to protect livelihoods from shocks and make food production systems more resilient to and better able to recover from disruptive events. Through its Strategic Framework (2010–2019), FAO strives to improve the links between emergency and rehabilitation programmes and longer-term development. This will contribute to protecting development investments in agriculture and food security and, therefore, to the achievement of Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 1: the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger. FAO's Strategic Objective I specifically outlines the Organization's commitment to DRM – ***improved preparedness for, and effective response to, food and agricultural threats and emergencies***. Under Strategic Objective I, FAO is delivering on three organizational results, which are led by its Emergency Operations and Rehabilitation Division (TCE):

- **organizational result 1:** countries' vulnerability to crisis, threats and emergencies is reduced through better preparedness and integration of risk prevention and mitigation into policies, programmes and interventions;
- **organizational result 2:** countries and partners respond more effectively to crises and emergencies with food- and agriculture- related interventions; and
- **organizational result 3:** countries and partners have improved transition and linkages between emergency, rehabilitation and development.

## 1.2 PLAN OF ACTION

The Plan of Action (PoA) is a strategic tool used by FAO to promote more integrated programme planning and coordination of the Organization's activities, as well as facilitating a smooth transition from emergency and rehabilitation to development. The tool is already used by FAO's Emergency Rehabilitation and Coordination Units (ERCUs) throughout Africa – including in Mozambique and Zimbabwe – and the PoA for Malawi was designed in line with the guidelines prepared by the Regional Emergency Office for Central and Eastern Africa (REOA).

FAO has been working with the Government of Malawi, over many years, to address food and nutrition insecurity at the local and national levels and seeks to apply the PoA approach to its emergency and rehabilitation activities in the country.

## 1.3 FAO'S PoA FOR MALAWI

### 1.3.1. Context of the Malawi PoA

Over the past decade, FAO has been supporting the Government of Malawi's efforts to address agricultural and food security threats and emergencies. FAO-Malawi is currently delivering emergency and rehabilitation assistance through its ERCU and providing technical support for development through its Regular Programme (RP) Unit. This PoA (2012–2016) is a strategic tool to promote more integrated planning and coordination, and to facilitate a smooth transition from relief to development. The PoA outlines how FAO can position itself within this transitional context to provide the necessary support and interventions for Malawi.

### 1.3.2. Design of the Malawi PoA

The design of the PoA was informed by the guidelines prepared by FAO-REOA and was guided by the Government of Malawi's national growth and development priorities. A participatory consultative process (see **Annex 1** for a list of organizations consulted) combined with a desk review of key national development policies and strategies, as well as an analysis of the socio-economic and humanitarian situation in Malawi, were used to define the objectives of the PoA and identify key focus areas. Reference was also made to other key documents from development partners. The main components of the PoA are systematically presented in a logical framework approach (see **Annex 2**), which will serve as a planning and management tool for the PoA.

### **1.3.3. Formulating the PoA outcomes and outputs – guiding criteria**

The PoA was developed within the framework of the national development priorities outlined in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS II) and the 2011–2015 Agriculture Sector Wide Approach (ASWAp). The PoA is also aligned with the country’s National Disaster Risk Management (NDRM) Policy (awaiting approval), which prioritizes agriculture and food security, early warning, and response and recovery, among the nine national thematic areas that need to be addressed. In line with the objectives of national disaster management, the PoA also addresses issues identified in the annual Malawi National Disaster Contingency Plans and the 2010–2015 Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) frameworks. The PoA is also closely linked to the FAO National Medium-Term Priority Framework (NMTPF)<sup>1</sup> for Malawi and the 2012–2016 Malawi United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). All of these programmes are elaborated in Section 2, which analyses the current socio-economic and humanitarian situation in the country.

The formulation of the PoA was also guided by expert information from the key stakeholder consultations. Experience and lessons learned from past and ongoing FAO projects in Malawi and the region were also used to refine the components of the PoA.

### **1.3.4. Purpose of the PoA**

The PoA will consolidate the ongoing activities of FAO’s country programme supported by the ERCU and the RP Unit. It lays the foundation for FAO’s engagement with the Government of Malawi in addressing the country’s priority needs and bridging agricultural emergency relief with more medium- and long-term development programmes, in collaboration with other partners. Through this framework, lessons from previous and current interventions on preparedness, mitigation and adaptation, and transition to long-term development in Malawi will be drawn upon and shared widely.

The PoA also serves as a tool for resource mobilization to facilitate the implementation of proposed activities. The document will be shared with development partners to seek funding for specific components.

The PoA is a dynamic document that is tailored to the current and projected scenario in Malawi. It will be revised in line with changes in key sectoral development strategies. It is also open to adjustments as the food security situation in the country evolves.

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<sup>1</sup> The NMPTF will be replaced by the Country Programme Framework in 2012.



## 2. SITUATION ANALYSIS

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### 2.1 BACKGROUND

#### 2.1.1. Malawi general economy

Agriculture is the most important sector to Malawi's economy, employing about 80 percent of the workforce, the majority of whom are women. Compared with services and industry – at 46 and 19 percent, respectively – agriculture accounts for nearly 35 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) and for more than 80 percent of export earnings. Most of the agriculture GDP<sup>2</sup> (about 70 percent) is generated from the smallholder subsector. Overall, agriculture supports close to 85 percent of the population and contributes significantly to national and household food security.

According to the World Bank (2010), close to 2 million of the total 2.7 million hectares of cultivated land in the country are cultivated by smallholder farmers. They tend to cultivate small and fragmented landholdings, averaging less than 1 hectare per household, under customary land tenure. Development resources, strategies and policies in Malawi since independence have emphasized agricultural development and the country continues to benefit from substantial, multiyear donor programmes. However, productivity and overall production remain low in the smallholder sector compared with larger commercial estates.

Agriculture is a significant driver of growth through regional exports and import substitution. However, agricultural exports have remained undiversified, with little value addition, dominated by tobacco, tea, cotton, coffee and sugar. Maize, the dominant food staple, is grown on almost 85 percent of the smallholder land area together with other food crops, such as cassava and sweet potatoes, to meet subsistence requirements. Women farmers produce 80 percent of food for household consumption but are less involved in cash crop production<sup>3</sup> and are still largely marginalized in commercial agricultural initiatives.

Malawi aims to reduce poverty through sustained economic growth and infrastructure development as outlined in the MGDS 2006–2011. The growth of Malawi's agricultural economy is constrained by:

- land size limitations;
- low productivity;

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2 Government of Malawi (2012) ASWAp, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and Ministry of Irrigation and Water Development – these two have since been combined into the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development (MOAIWD).

3 Government of Malawi (2004), National Gender Programme (2004–2009), Ministry of Gender, Child Development and Community Development.

- ecological constraints and limited diversification;
- chronic poverty and lack of access to capital/credit for investment;
- low technical know-how on aspects of production through to post-harvest management;
- high input prices;
- limited accessibility to quality inputs;
- poor market access;
- high marketing costs; and
- other demographic and social factors.

As a result, approximately 80 percent of smallholders are locked in a semi-subsistence-based maize production system and remain net buyers of food. A holistic approach to addressing fundamental weaknesses and vulnerability in Malawi is required if agriculture and other sectors are to effectively contribute to increased and sustained economic growth.

### **2.1.2. Selected Human Development Indicators for Malawi**

The majority of Malawians are poor – almost 40 percent of the population lives below the poverty line and 15 percent are estimated to be living in “ultra-poverty”. A consistently higher proportion of female-headed households are in these poverty categories<sup>4</sup>.

Socio-economic indicators illustrate the depth and complexity of poverty in the country. For example, 46 percent of children under five years of age were reported as stunted and 21 percent as underweight in 2006<sup>5</sup>. An estimated 14 percent of Malawi’s population aged between 15 and 49 years is infected with AIDS-related diseases and reportedly account for about 70 percent of hospital in-patient deaths. Recent national estimates indicate there are around 1.8 million orphans in Malawi, of whom 45 percent lost their parents to HIV/AIDS. About 2 percent of these orphans are heads of households, which suggests they left school at a young age in order to take care of younger siblings or continue to learn but under difficult circumstances. This situation makes the orphans themselves more vulnerable to HIV/AIDS as well as to other natural and economic shocks.

The situation of women in rural areas remains particularly precarious, as they are disproportionately affected by the lack of health services, education, land ownership and inheritance, economic opportunities and social benefits<sup>6</sup>. These underlying constraints increase the exposure of households to natural disasters. These issues must be effectively addressed at the same time as agriculture-related interventions that target the smallholder sector.

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4 National Statistics Office (NSO – 2009), Welfare Monitoring Survey 2008, NSO, Zomba.

5 NSO (2008), Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2006, NSO, Zomba.

6 United Nations (UN – 2010), Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Malawi (<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/co/CEDAW-C-MWI-CO-6.pdf>)

## 2.2. AGRICULTURE SECTOR

### 2.2.1. Agricultural production and productivity

Although maize yields almost doubled between 1980 and 2010 (**Table 1**) in Malawi; in comparison with regional levels, overall yields have generally remained low. There has been low uptake of improved farming inputs and smallholder agriculture remains unprofitable. Smallholder farmers have limited access to extension services and productivity-enhancing technologies, among other constraints. The Integrated Household Survey 2004–05 reported that only 13.1 percent of agricultural households received extension advice in 2005. This is exacerbated by weak links to markets, high transport costs, few and weak farmers’ organizations, poor quality control and inadequate information on markets and prices. Women are again disproportionately affected by these constraints and continue to produce low value agricultural products. Owing to high risks in agricultural production and poor access to credit, investment and re-investment have been low. The growth in per capita agricultural output averaged 1.9 percent in the 1970s, compared with -2.3 percent in the 1980s, 5.5 percent in the 1990s and 0.36 percent between 2000 and 2005<sup>7</sup>. However, these aggregate figures disguise the fact that growth was narrowly confined to the commercial estate sector and to smallholders with larger landholdings.

**Table 1:** Trends in yield and harvested area for maize in Malawi between 1980 and 2010

		1980	1990	2000	2010
Yield (tonnes/ha)	Malawi	1.2	1.0	1.7	2.3
	Southern Africa	2.3	2.1	2.7	4.3
Harvested area (ha)	Malawi	969 600	1 343 760	1 435 220	1 655 000

Source: FAOSTAT

### 2.2.2. Food security context

Malawi has experienced chronic food insecurity at both the household and national levels. In the 2010/11 growing season, the country’s First Round Crop Production Assessment estimated that a total of 3.2 million tonnes of maize, largely from smallholder farmers, would be produced against 2.42 million tonnes in national requirements. These high production levels were attributed to favourable rainfall, mainly in the high potential central and northern regions of the country. The Farm Input Subsidy Programme (FISP) – implemented in the 2010/11 season by the Government with support from development partners and providing 1.6 million smallholder farmers with seed and

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<sup>7</sup> Government of Malawi (2009) ASWAp, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Lilongwe.

fertilizer – was also reported to have contributed to the higher production. The FISP supported fewer farmers during the 2011/12 season for maize production, but also piloted support to cash crop production (e.g. cotton) by some households as a way of stimulating income generation.

Despite the significant levels of support provided to the agriculture sector, parts of some districts remain chronically food insecure owing to adverse climatic conditions, such as flooding, dry spells and droughts. Parts of Karonga, Salima, Dedza, Balaka, Nsanje, Chikhwawa, Mulanje, Thyolo, Mwanza, Nsanje and Kasungu are prone to disasters. For example, 508 089 people were reportedly lacking sufficient food during the 2010/11 consumption year, mainly owing to extensive dry spells that hit some already food-insecure districts, including Chikhwawa and Nsange, during the 2008/09 season. Official assessment results projected that 201 000 people would not meet their food needs in the 2011/12 consumption year (MVAC report – forecast for April 2011 to March 2012). Although this figure is lower than the preceding consumption year, efforts must be made to ensure that appropriate assistance is provided to these vulnerable populations and to support them through interventions that can sustainably lift them from this cycle of chronic food insecurity.

### **2.2.3. Agricultural and related policies and strategies**

#### ***2.2.3.1. Malawi Growth and Development Strategy***

The MGDS II is the Government’s overarching medium-term strategy (2011–2016) to attain the nation’s Vision 2020. The main objective of the MGDS II is to continue reducing poverty through sustainable economic growth and infrastructure development. This is expected to transform the country from being a predominantly importing and consuming economy to a predominantly producing and exporting economy. The MGDS II emphasizes six thematic areas:

- sustainable economic growth;
- social development;
- social support and DRM;
- infrastructure development;
- improved governance; and
- cross-cutting issues.

Agriculture and food security, irrigation, youth development, HIV/AIDS, integrated rural development, natural resources and climate change are some of the specific issues identified as requiring attention under these thematic areas. The MGDS II represents a policy shift from social consumption to sustainable economic growth and infrastructure development.

### 2.2.3.2. Agriculture Sector Wide Approach (2011–2015)

The 2011–2015 ASWAp is a priority investment programme in the agriculture sector that aims to accelerate agricultural growth and development, and which is based on the priority agricultural elements of the Malawi MDGS II. It represents a consensus on how Malawi can accelerate agricultural growth and development. To achieve this goal and objectives, ASWAp aims to address three focus areas:

- food security and risk management;
- commercial agriculture, agroprocessing and market development; and
- sustainable agricultural land and water management.

In addition, it will address two key support services to the three focus areas – technology generation and dissemination; and institutional strengthening and capacity building. The ASWAp framework recognizes issues of HIV prevention and AIDS impact mitigation, and gender equity and empowerment as cross-cutting. It is designed to serve as a single comprehensive programme and budget framework with a formalized process for better donor coordination and harmonization of investment and alignment of funding between the Government of Malawi and donors in the agriculture sector. The ASWAp identifies key constraints to the agriculture sector and the required investments within the context of national and regional strategies, policies and targets for agricultural development and food security.

### 2.2.3.3. Malawi United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2012–2016)

The United Nations (UN) agencies continue to support Malawi in its growth and development strategies and interventions. The overarching objective of the 2012–2016 UNDAF in Malawi is to support the country in moving from poverty to prosperity and achieving internationally agreed development goals and MDGs. To help address the development challenges faced by Malawi, the UNDAF prioritized five key strategic areas:

- poverty reduction;
- HIV/AIDS;
- children and youth vulnerability;
- gender disparities; and
- sustainability.

In line with national strategic objectives reflected in the MGDS II, the UN agencies in Malawi will address issues of (i) sustainable and equitable economic growth and food security; (ii) basic social services; (iii) HIV and AIDS; and (iv) governance between 2012 and 2016.

In supporting the Government, the UN will capitalize on agency comparative advantages and apply its division-of-labour approach in more coherent and coordinated programming. Emphasis will be placed on the most vulnerable groups and the UN will strive to ensure active and effective participation in decision-making by these groups as a key to sustaining development results. Joint design and implementation of programmes will foster engagement in sector-wide programming initiatives, with a focus on results through policies/systems reform, quality services taken to scale and a focus on life-improving impacts on women and girls, families and communities. Implementation of the UNDAF will benefit from the success and lessons learned from the last UNDAF cycle (2008–2011) and the lessons learned and experience gained from implementation of the UN Transformative Plan.

#### 2.2.3.4. National Medium-Term Priority Framework

The NMTPF, prepared at the request of the Government of Malawi, defines the joint Government of Malawi and FAO medium-term priorities and FAO's technical cooperation in Malawi for the period 2010–2015. It was prepared under the leadership of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security through intensive consultations involving all key line ministries and departments, relevant UN agencies, civil society organizations and other development partners. The NMTPF identifies key priority areas in which FAO will focus its assistance in an effective and coherent manner to support the implementation of the Government's priorities between 2010 and 2015. These are:

- a. food security and nutrition;
- b. commercial agriculture, agroprocessing and market development;
- c. sustainable agricultural land and water management;
- d. technology generation and dissemination;
- e. institutional strengthening and capacity building;
- f. HIV prevention and AIDS impact mitigation; and
- g. gender equity and empowerment.

The NMTPF is both a framework and a planning and management tool and strives to maximize synergy and complementarity with the MDGs, the MGDS, the ASWap investment framework, the UNDAF, the NDRM strategy, and other development initiatives.

### **2.3. HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT AND VULNERABILITY**

The intensity and frequency of disasters has been increasing in Malawi, largely owing to climate change, population growth, urbanization and environmental degradation. Prolonged mid-season dry spells, flooding along river basins and the lakeshores, and poor rainfall distribution are some of the challenges faced. According to reports

by the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), drought/dry spells are key hazards affecting most rural households in various parts of the country and their frequent occurrence – often not predicted – has eroded communities’ resilience. These climatic events are affecting communities whose livelihoods are already weakened by various ecological and socio-economic constraints.

According to national estimates, approximately 273 000 people were food insecure by January 2012 owing to limited food access. Those affected were mostly from southern districts of Nsanje, Chikhwawa, Balaka, Blantyre, Chiradzulu, Mwanza, Neno, Phalombe, Zomba and Ntcheu, which suffered localized production shortfalls as a result of irregular rains and a dry spell in 2010/11. Flooding in the Shire River basin during the 2011/12 season affected an estimated 6 000 people. Cyclone-related flooding in Chikwawa and Nsanje districts caused localized damage to crops and livestock. In parts of Southern and Central Regions, a dry spell in February coincided with the flowering stage of the maize crop and could reduce yields and overall production. Preliminary forecasts already project a slightly lower production of maize compared with the 2010/11 season.

## **2.4. ADDRESSING VULNERABILITY AND HUMANITARIAN ISSUES IN MALAWI**

### **2.4.1. The Malawi National Disaster Reduction Framework**

As a signatory to the Hyogo Framework for Action, the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and the MDGs, the Government of Malawi has committed itself to substantially reduce disaster losses in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets of the communities that it serves. In order to ensure that this commitment is met, the 2010–2015 Malawi National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework was adopted in June 2010 and aims to systematically and proactively make the nation resilient to disaster risks. The priority areas include mainstreaming DRM into sustainable development policies and planning processes; identifying, assessing and monitoring disaster risks; establishing/strengthening effective early warning systems; capacity and knowledge building; vulnerability and disaster risk reduction (DRR) and preparedness; and strengthening response capacity. Achieving these strategic goals will help to reduce poverty and enhance socio-economic development.

#### ***2.4.1.1. The National Disaster Reduction and Management Technical Committee***

As part of its commitment to DRM, the Government of Malawi established a National Disaster Reduction and Management Technical Committee (NDRMTC), which in turn established multidisciplinary Technical Subcommittees for the purpose of integrating DRR into sustainable development and in response and recovery policy and planning processes. These technical teams address the following thematic areas:

- disaster risk assessment;

- agriculture and food security;
- health and nutrition;
- water and sanitation;
- early warning;
- response and recovery;
- search and rescue;
- transport and logistics; and
- shelter and camp management.

FAO is the designated UN-lead agency on agriculture and food security and co-chairs this Cluster with MOAIWD. In recent years, Malawi has piloted and/or applied various strategies for coping with the risk of droughts, floods, food supply shortfalls and other shocks, in collaboration with its partners.

#### **2.4.2. Vulnerability assessments and analysis**

The MVAC is a consortium of government, Non-governmental Organization (NGO) and UN agencies that is chaired by the Ministry of Development Planning and Cooperation. Since 2002, the MVAC has been responsible for generating, analysing and disseminating information on disaster threats and pending hazards as part of the national early warning system.

#### **2.4.3. Disaster coordination arrangements in Malawi**

Coordination helps to harmonize and align the efforts of various actors by creating a conducive environment for collaborative efforts. Coordination also helps to strengthen the relationship between Government and non-state stakeholders. The Government of Malawi – through the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), which sits under the Office of the Malawi President and Cabinet (OPC), and assisted by various line ministries and actors such as the Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS), UN agencies and NGOs and with support from donors – is responsible for overall national coordination of all actors involved in an disaster-related activities. Annex 2 shows the new national DRM institutional structure.

In accordance with UN humanitarian reform and the cluster direction of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), Cluster lead agencies are expected to ensure coordinated action among partners in their respective sectors, including reporting and information sharing. FAO is the designated UN lead support agency to the Agriculture and Food Security Cluster, which is led by MOAIWD and under the overall coordination of DoDMA. Under the guidance of the UN Resident Coordinator, the UN Country Team (UNCT) – made up of heads of UN agencies and NGOs – is responsible for the effective and efficient implementation of interagency disaster management activities for actors outside of the Government.

As part of its role, DoDMA coordinates the development, implementation and review of annual national contingency plans (NCPs). These NCPs are prepared as part of disaster preparedness and informed by several sources of information including the seasonal climatic outlook. The process is supported by all relevant sectoral Government ministries and departments, UN agencies, NGOs and other stakeholders. The NCPs are activated at the onset of the rainy season under the authority of the Secretary and Commissioner for Disaster Management Affairs. NCP activation signifies that all coordination mechanisms, and roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders (Government, UN agencies and NGOs, and MRCS) are in effect and DoDMA approaches the various stakeholders for support depending on the severity and magnitude of the disaster. Each stakeholder is responsible for executing the actions identified in the NCP in preparing for and responding to an emergency. To draw lessons and make future improvements, at the end of the rainy season, DoDMA conducts a review with all stakeholders to assess the overall effectiveness of the plan, and of the preparedness, response and recovery activities executed.

The MVAC planning and implementation processes and development and implementation of the NCPs are limited by inadequate capacity (human, technical, material and financial). These gaps need to be filled for a more effective preparedness, response, mitigation and prevention of disasters and threats.



### 3. FAO PROGRAMME IN MALAWI AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INCREASED SUPPORT TO AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SECURITY DRM

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FAO has been working with the Government of Malawi for many years, providing policy, technical and regulatory and operational support in the following areas:

- policy and strategic planning;
- technology development across the value chains;
- capacity development;
- agricultural information systems management;
- production systems and management;
- sustainable natural resources management;
- food and nutrition security; and
- coordination

The following subsections outline some of the specific programmes undertaken by FAO in Malawi.

#### 3.1. SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR FOOD SECURITY (1997–2005)

This Programme started with 30 project sites in 1997, expanding to 900 sites by 2004. The Programme targeted households with land and labour constraints, such as female-headed, elderly and large households hosting orphans as a result of HIV and AIDS. The pilot phase introduced new technologies and approaches which the Government of Malawi adopted and used to formulate a food security policy that recognized the important role of small-scale irrigation, improved access to farm inputs and participatory extension approaches.

#### 3.2. NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR FOOD SECURITY

A National Action Plan for Food Security and Nutrition in Malawi was formulated to support food security programmes and interventions. Some elements of the plan are incorporated in the Food Security and Risk Management pillar of the Agricultural Development Programme. FAO has mobilized resources to implement some activities of the Plan, including USD 5.2 million for the project “Enhancing food security and developing sustainable rural livelihoods” and USD 5.1 million for “Improving food security and nutrition policies and programme outreach”.

### **3.3. EMERGENCY PREVENTION SYSTEM FOR TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL AND PLANT PESTS AND DISEASES (EMPRES) – ANIMAL HEALTH COMPONENT**

Following an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in late 2008, FAO's EMPRES provided effective support to contain the spread of the disease.

### **3.4. PROMOTING SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION**

FAO is currently implementing a three-year project (2011–2013) that brings together the Governments of Malawi and of China in addressing technological constraints related to agricultural growth and development. In this tripartite partnership, issues of farm mechanization, horticultural production, land resource conservation, fisheries and aquaculture, livestock production (including dairy), marketing and agribusiness development are being addressed.

### **3.5. FAO'S EMERGENCY ROLE IN MALAWI**

FAO's ERCU, with support from donors – such as the European Union (EU), the Governments of South Africa and Spain, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) and the Office for United States Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)/United States Agency for International Development (USAID) – has been implementing programmes in support of:

- overall food security and livelihoods;
- improving the food and nutrition security of orphans and HIV/AIDS-affected children;
- avian influenza preparedness;
- small-scale fish farming enterprises;
- early recovery support to flood-affected populations;
- improving access to local crop varieties;
- crop diversification; and
- capacity development to enhance agricultural production in vulnerable communities.

Projects such as the development of Nutrition Rehabilitation Units have been previously used to counter severe and acute malnutrition in Malawi among vulnerable rural households. The project developed an integrated programme for nutrition and diet and promoted dietary diversification for HIV/AIDS-infected and -affected people.

### 3.6. NMTPF

As elaborated in Section 2, the NMTPF seeks to improve FAO's contribution to the national development agenda and the national Agricultural Development Programme. FAO is reviewing Malawi's priorities and approaching ministries and key civil society organizations and development partners operating in the country in order to support the Government in implementing the Agricultural Development Programme.

### 3.7. ONE UN – “DELIVERING AS ONE” PROGRAMME

FAO is operating within the UNDAF in Malawi, which was endorsed by the Government for the period 2008 to 2011. Within the UNDAF, the first cluster aims to ensure that Government policies and local and national institutions support equitable economic growth and food and nutrition security while minimizing or reversing environmental degradation. The UN in Malawi is coordinating its support to achieve the MDGs through five thematic clusters (listed in **Section 2.2.3.3.**). FAO is taking the lead in promoting sustainable economic growth and food and nutrition security. FAO is also involved in the other four clusters and in the cross-cutting group on gender.

In implementing the above interventions, FAO is mindful of social issues related to gender inequality, youth and child vulnerability, and diseases pandemics such as HIV/AIDS. Emphasis has been placed on ensuring that these vulnerable groups receive attention and are provided the opportunity to participate in FAO's programmes.

Overall, since 2006, FAO-Malawi implemented projects valued at more than USD 28 million. Details of selected projects that have been implemented in Malawi by FAO are provided in **Annex 4.**



## 4. THE MALAWI FAO PLAN OF ACTION

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### 4.1 SCOPE FOR POA IMPLEMENTATION IN SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MALAWI

There is great scope to implement the proposed PoA framework for Malawi in support of key socio-economic and human development objectives with a focus on disaster-prone communities, as outlined in the sections below.

#### 4.1.1. Supporting relevant national growth and development objectives

Substantial growth in the agriculture sector is regarded as a key vehicle for achieving poverty reduction and economic growth in Malawi. With more than 80 percent of the population relying on agriculture, increased growth in the sector will offer development opportunities and improve livelihoods for the majority of Malawians. Improvements in both crop- and animal/livestock-based farming systems are required in order to achieve agriculture-led growth. Field crops (food and non-food), horticultural and plantation crops need to be complemented with appropriate livestock interventions to diversify the production base and enhance food, income and nutrition security.

Malawi is already implementing programmes – such as the targeted FISP – to enhance food security, particularly within the smallholder farming sector. Such programmes could benefit from integrated approaches that seek to increase the efficiency of the inputs and other resources used. Various national growth and development strategy documents highlight the following as requiring attention and increased investment for greater agricultural productivity and production in the country:

- diversification and commercialization of smallholder farming, including market integration;
- increased resource-use efficiency, increased productivity, maximizing returns and reducing losses through the application of good agricultural practices (GAPs) and improved value chain management;
- stimulating the livestock industry, including dairy production, with a focus on the smallholder sector to improve the asset base, nutrition and incomes of poor households;
- integrated and sustainable management of the natural production resource base – water and land resources;
- climate change adaptation and mitigation, including increased and improved irrigation;
- institutional development and capacity building at the local and national levels in the sector;
- strengthened agricultural research and extension technical and operational capacity, and technology development and dissemination;
- community technical capacity building and enhanced awareness and knowledge;
- improved agricultural information systems management – increased availability and reliability of information,

- and application of standardized and harmonized approaches;
- increased public/private partnerships, including local-level value addition, e.g. agroprocessing;
  - improved farmer access to financial resources and/or credit for agricultural investments;
  - empowerment of vulnerable groups in the sector – addressing issues of gender imbalance, vulnerable children and the impacts of HIV/AIDS; and
  - better sectoral DRM – improved preparedness, response, mitigation and prevention, and building the long-term resilience of vulnerable populations to threats and disasters.

## **4.2. KEY CHALLENGES AND SOURCES OF HOUSEHOLD VULNERABILITY**

Despite surplus production at the national level over the last five consecutive years, some households still remain food insecure owing to several factors, including:

- mid-season dry spells leading to partial or complete crop failure;
- flooding causing substantial losses in crops, livestock, stored food and/or seed and other household assets, and to infrastructure;
- narrow cropping ranges;
- low prices of cash crops offered by buyers against the minimum Government set prices, e.g. for tobacco and cotton;
- high cost of agricultural inputs: the Government's FISP has reached about 50 percent of the smallholder farming population and the remainder sometimes fail to afford the required inputs;
- the HIV and AIDS prevalence rate is currently at 12 percent – the pandemic erodes the quantity and quality of available labour and exposes children and the youth to vulnerability;
- limited market integration;
- absence or low involvement of the private sector in the smallholder sector (except for tobacco); and
- limited public and private sector investments in the sector.

Given these factors, FAO should support the Government in designing and implementing interventions to assist poor smallholder farmers and address issues related to DRM to improve the food security and livelihoods of affected and at-risk communities.

Agriculture-sector growth is likely to be hampered by disasters caused by floods, drought, pests, diseases, etc. Addressing these threats and reducing the risk of hazards and the impact of disasters is a priority of the Government of Malawi. According to DoDMA, limited disaster early warning and related support systems, and inadequate human resources and financial capacity at the district level to organize a medium- to large-scale response and early recovery operations are key challenges faced in coordinating disaster-related issues.

### 4.3. KEY COMPONENTS OF THE POA

#### 4.3.1. Goal and outcomes of the PoA

The PoA seeks to contribute to reducing risk and the impact of disasters on food and nutrition security through better DRR and improved community resilience to shocks in disaster-prone areas of Malawi. The PoA will contribute to this through the achievement of four outcomes (Table 2) premised around issues of agriculture- and food security-related disaster preparedness, response, mitigation and prevention. Table 2 also links the goal and outcomes of the PoA to the FAO organizational Strategic Objectives, the MGDS II and to the Malawi national ASWAp in the country.

**Table 2: Goal and outcomes of the PoA and their linkages to the FAO Organizational Strategic Objectives and the Malawi ASWAp, as well as selected priority areas of the second MGDS II**

MDGS	<b>Thematic area:</b> Sustainable economic growth, social support and DRM		<b>Thematic area:</b> Social development	
	<b>Selected key priority areas:</b> (a) agriculture and food security; (e) integrated rural development; (f) green belt and irrigation water development; and (i) climate change, natural resources and environmental management		<b>Selected key priority areas:</b> Gender, youth development, HIV and AIDS management	
ASWAp FOCUS AREAS (FAs)	<b>FA 1:</b> Food security and risk management	<b>FA 2:</b> Commercial agriculture, agroprocessing and market development	<b>FA 3:</b> Sustainable agricultural land and water management	<b>Cross-cutting issues:</b> HIV/AIDS and gender
	<b>Key components:</b> 1. Maize self sufficiency through increased maize productivity and reduced post-harvest losses  2. Diversification of food production and dietary diversification for improved nutrition at household level, with a focus on crops, livestock and fisheries  3. Risk management for food stability at national level	<b>Key components:</b> 1. Agricultural exports of different high value commodities for increased revenue  2. Agroprocessing mainly for value addition and import substitution  3. Market development for inputs and outputs through public/private partnerships	<b>Key components:</b> 1. Sustainable agricultural land management  2. Sustainable agricultural water management and irrigation development	<b>Key components:</b> Mainstream gender and HIV/AIDS
FAO STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	<b>FAO Organizational Result 1 for Strategic Objective 1</b> – Countries’ vulnerability to crisis, threats and emergencies is reduced through better preparedness and integration of risk prevention and mitigation into policies, programmes and interventions  <b>Organizational Result 2 for Strategic Objective 1</b> – Countries and partners respond more effectively to crises and emergencies with food- and agriculture-related interventions  <b>Organizational Result 3 for Strategic Objective 1</b> – Countries and partners have improved transition and linkages between emergency, rehabilitation and development			

<b>POA GOALS AND OUTCOMES</b>	<b>GOAL:</b> To reduce risk and the impacts of disasters on food and nutrition security through better DRR and improved community resilience to shocks in disaster-prone areas			
	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Strengthened food security disaster preparedness and institutional capacity of Government and communities to address agricultural and related threats and disasters	<b>Outcome 2:</b> Enhanced cereal productivity, post-harvest management and dietary diversification in disaster response interventions.	<b>Outcome 3:</b> Household transition from emergency to long-term development strengthened through agricultural diversification, improved natural resource management, adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, and through improved marketing and market linkages	<b>Outcome 4:</b> Livelihood-based social protection for vulnerable groups integrated into national agricultural and food security disaster policies, strategies and programmes

### 4.3.2. Expected outputs of the PoA

**Table 3** provides the detailed outputs that are expected to contribute to the achievement of the four PoA outcomes.

**Table 3: Malawi PoA: Expected outputs**

<b>Outcome 1:</b> Strengthened food security disaster preparedness and institutional capacity of Government and communities to address agricultural and related threats and disasters	<b>Outcome 2:</b> Enhanced cereal productivity, post-harvest management and dietary diversification in disaster response interventions	<b>Outcome 3:</b> Household transition from emergency to long-term development strengthened through agricultural diversification, improved natural resource management, adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, and through improved marketing and market linkages	<b>Outcome 4:</b> Livelihood-based social protection for vulnerable groups integrated into national agricultural and food security disaster policies, strategies and programmes
<b>Output 1.1</b> Agricultural policies and programmes effectively integrate DRR/M strategies	<b>Output 2.1</b> Interventions and production practices to increase cereal yields promoted among targeted vulnerable communities	<b>Output 3.1</b> Smallholder farming diversified to include and increase production of appropriate cash crops, alternative staple foods, livestock and livestock products, and aquaculture in the target areas	<b>Output 4.1</b> Agricultural and food security DRR strategies, programmes and interventions effectively mainstream gender, HIV/AIDS and youth needs
<b>Output 1.2</b> Agriculture and food security early warning information systems and their management improved at all levels	<b>Output 2.2</b> A diversity of nutritious crops, crops suitable for post-flooding/drought planting, and small livestock promoted in disaster response interventions	<b>Output 3.2</b> Vulnerable communities apply improved agricultural production techniques and improved land-use and land management practices	<b>Output 4.2</b> Interventions that enhance entrepreneurial skills and self-reliance among vulnerable farming groups (e.g. youth, women, people living with HIV, child-headed households) promoted and supported

<p><b>Output 1.3</b> Government and community technical and operational capacity strengthened in agriculture and food security analysis, disaster preparedness and risk reduction</p>	<p><b>Output 2.3</b> Improved post-harvest handling and storage methods promoted for cereals and other crops</p>	<p><b>Output 3.3</b> Vulnerable communities apply improved water use and management practices, including small-scale irrigation and water harvesting</p>	<p><b>Output 4.3</b> Gender, HIV/AIDS and orphan and vulnerable children (OVC)-responsive training, education, information and communication materials on agriculture and food security developed and/or improved</p>
<p><b>Output 1.4</b> Use of drought- and/or flood-tolerant crops and varieties promoted and community access to these improved</p>	<p><b>Output 2.4</b> Enhanced knowledge and technical skills of extension agents and of vulnerable households on appropriate field production and post-harvest management practices</p>	<p><b>Output 3.4</b> Income-generating agroprocessing initiatives supported in the targeted areas and linked to local and national markets</p>	
<p><b>Output 1.5</b> Coordination and planning of agriculture and food security disaster preparedness and emergency response enhanced</p>		<p><b>Output 3.5</b> Input/output linkages between vulnerable smallholder farmers, farmers' associations and public/private sector buyers are facilitated, improved and strengthened</p>	
		<p><b>Output 3.6</b> Piloting of income-generating enterprises by disaster-prone households is supported by appropriate pilot commodity insurance schemes to mitigate against selected shocks</p>	
<p><b>Cross-cutting outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lessons learned and best practices from pilot projects are documented, packaged appropriately and disseminated to target audiences, including decision- and policy-makers to facilitate programming, planning and policy formulation</li> <li>• Communication and visibility of DRR/M and related strategies and interventions supported by FAO is increased</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of FAO-supported agricultural and food security DRR, disaster response and rehabilitation interventions strengthened</li> </ul>			

### 4.3.3. Proposed activities for the PoA outcomes and outputs

FAO is the designated UN lead agency for the Agriculture and Food Security Cluster and co-chairs the Cluster with MOAIWD. Through the PoA framework for Malawi, FAO will seek to fulfil the duties associated with this role.

The extent and success of the implementation of the activities proposed in this framework depend on the availability of sufficient financial resources. The framework therefore provides indicative activities that could be undertaken in support of the various outputs for each outcome. Depending on the level of resources mobilized by FAO and its partners over the next five years, all or part of these activities will be implemented. If partial implementation is inevitable, reprioritization will be carried out with key stakeholders, particularly relevant Government departments. The detailed proposed activities under each outcome are presented in the following sections.

#### ***OUTCOME 1: Strengthened food security disaster preparedness and institutional capacity of Government and communities to address agricultural and related threats and disasters***

Under this outcome, FAO will support national institutional assessments to identify areas that require strengthened agriculture and food security disaster preparedness. This will be followed by the implementation of appropriate interventions to address the key identified needs related to preparedness. Working with relevant stakeholders, FAO will support awareness raising and mainstreaming of DRR within the sector. Based on identified needs, FAO will help to strengthen the technical capacity of stakeholders to enable them to deal with agricultural and food security disasters. Improved and context-specific adapted technologies will be promoted to ensure that vulnerable farmers are better prepared for forecast disasters and to mitigate the negative impacts of adverse conditions.

Under the overall coordination of DoDMA, FAO will support the MVAC to monitor and report on emergency situations and potential threats. Strengthened and improved early warning systems are key to providing relevant early warning information in a timely and accurate manner in order to facilitate programming and planning by stakeholders. An assessment of the existing early warning systems in the sector will be conducted and recommendations used to improve future early warning activities. National monitoring of the evolution and performance of agricultural seasons will be supported annually to generate data on pre-planting season input availability, staple food crop planting areas and performance in relation to prevailing production conditions – floods, droughts, dry spells or normal – and overall staple food crop production levels. Additionally, information on livestock performance will also be generated, including surveillance of major and transboundary pests and diseases – such as migratory locusts, Newcastle disease in poultry, foot-and-mouth disease in cattle, and others. FAO will continue to support efforts to improve data quality, accuracy and timeliness, while also supporting the harmonization and standardization of efforts in relation to methodologies and tools, as required for more effective early warning.

Coordination is key to better and more successful preparedness and response actions. FAO will continue to provide technical and targeted operational support to the Government of Malawi on the coordination of agricultural and food security threats/disaster preparedness, response and rehabilitation interventions. As part of its coordination role, FAO will assist in vulnerability mapping to identify areas threatened by disasters. Mapping of past and existing agricultural and food security disaster response interventions will also be supported to reduce potential overlap or duplication of efforts among stakeholders. In addition, FAO will support the wide dissemination of the generated information through various channels and platforms. In conjunction with relevant stakeholders such as DoDMA, MVAC and MOAIWD, best practices and lessons learned from past and existing agricultural and food security interventions will be collected and documented and made available to all interested parties to inform policies and programming. One of the main roles of the DRM Cluster chairs is to ensure that the needs of the respective sectors are addressed and reported to the Government according to requirements stated in the NCP. Through the PoA framework, FAO will also fulfil this role in partnership with MOAIWD, UN agencies, NGOs, and other key stakeholders.

Details of the proposed activities to be undertaken to achieve the outputs under Outcome 1 are provided in **Table 4**.

**Table 4: Proposed Activities for Outcome 1 – Preparedness, institutional and technical capacity building on agriculture and food security DRR**

OUTPUTS	PROPOSED ACTIVITIES
<p><b>Output 1.1</b> Agricultural policies and programmes effectively integrate DRR/M strategies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the Government to assess institutional needs on agricultural DRR/M at central and decentralized levels</li> <li>• Support awareness creation about the National DRM Policy Framework within the agriculture sector</li> <li>• Support development/refinement of DRR mainstreaming guidelines in agriculture</li> <li>• Help to ensure that national disaster policies adequately capture agricultural issues and that the agriculture sector adequately embraces DRR at all levels</li> <li>• Provide support on institutional capacity building of key departments to plan, implement and monitor agriculture and food security DRR and response strategies</li> <li>• Support national agricultural institutions in incorporating DRR interventions into their research, extension and development programmes at the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation stages</li> <li>• Support establishment and/or strengthening of partnerships on DRR among government, private sector and other relevant stakeholders in the sector</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 1.2</b> Agriculture and food security early warning information systems and their management improved at all levels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support assessment of the current agriculture and food security early warning and monitoring systems to identify gaps, constraints (including operational constraints) and areas requiring strengthening (e.g. accuracy, timeliness and usefulness of information and its dissemination to decision-makers and other users)</li> <li>• Support the Government and partners to establish baselines as required, e.g. developing survey tools, undertaking surveys, analysing data</li> <li>• Assist the Government in developing/refining the agricultural component of the National Early Warning and annual NCPs</li> <li>• Support MVAC with procurement of relevant assessment and analysis equipment (e.g. GPS instruments) and with development/review of vulnerability assessment and analysis tools for the agriculture and food security component</li> <li>• Participate in the regular MVAC monitoring visits and other relevant activities on early warning</li> <li>• Participate in joint disaster assessment missions as required and support relevant follow up response processes and activities</li> <li>• Where necessary, help facilitate agriculture extension staff in the target areas to increase/improve their mobility and efficiency in carrying out early warning activities more effectively</li> <li>• Strengthen weather forecasting capacity in support of the agriculture sector, e.g. providing support to installation of local level weather stations, and to support the downscaling of the national weather forecasts to community level, short-term training of new staff, and staff participation in relevant national- and regional-level weather-related events, etc.</li> <li>• Support surveillance of major and transboundary crop and animal disease and pests (e.g. army worm, locusts, large grain borer, foot-and-mouth disease, Newcastle disease)</li> </ul>

<p><b>Output 1.3</b> Government and community technical and operational capacity strengthened in agriculture and food security analysis, disaster preparedness and risk reduction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide support to assessment of technical and operational capacity needs on agricultural disaster issues at central and decentralized levels</li> <li>• Support the Government and other stakeholders in strengthening staff technical capacity (through training, learning visits, etc.) to prepare and respond to agricultural and food security disasters</li> <li>• Support DoDMA and MOAIWD in disaster mapping, contingency planning, simulations and review of contingency plans, and on disaster awareness and management campaigns</li> <li>• Participate in UN Consolidated Appeal Process and response plans as required</li> <li>• Support the review of data collection tools and processes for vulnerability assessment and analysis and methodologies</li> <li>• Support application/implementation of the agricultural components and food security components of the National DRM Policy Framework</li> <li>• Support the Government in implementing technical capacity building, skills and knowledge improvement of extension agents through e.g. orientation for new staff, staff short-term in-service training and hands-on practice, and supporting exchange learning visits, etc.</li> <li>• Support operations of relevant national institutions and community-based agents through joint resource mobilization to cover the necessary requirements</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 1.4</b> Use of drought- and/or flood-tolerant crops and varieties promoted and community access to these improved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support innovative adaptive on-farm research on drought- and flood-tolerant crops and varieties in the disaster-prone areas</li> <li>• Support vulnerable households to access the necessary suitable planting materials and with capacity and knowledge on timing of key operations in relation to seasonal hazards such as droughts and/or floods</li> <li>• Support local initiatives on seed multiplication for the relevant crops/varieties within the vulnerable areas and support household/local level seed processing and storage efforts</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 1.5</b> Coordination and planning of agriculture and food security disaster preparedness and emergency response enhanced</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support coordination among Government and other stakeholders on disaster-related issues to ensure that the needs of this sector are addressed and reported, e.g. developing work plans, agendas, sourcing resource persons, providing secretariat services to coordination</li> <li>• Support Government and partners in strengthening development/updating of a database and mapping of emergency interventions and making these available to stakeholders for coordinated planning and programming</li> <li>• Support the MVAC to mobilize resources to support early warning and vulnerability assessments and analysis</li> <li>• Support lessons learning on early warning and vulnerability analysis and feedback into future planning and programming</li> <li>• Support regular interaction and information sharing among stakeholders on agricultural disaster management and related issues</li> </ul>

## ***OUTCOME 2: Enhanced cereal productivity, post-harvest management and dietary diversification in disaster response interventions***

The PoA framework will enable FAO to continue and expand its support to identifying and implementing suitable response interventions to help households rebuild their livelihoods (production capacity and assets) after a crisis. FAO will continue to provide emergency agricultural interventions as required and, in the process, will promote the introduction and greater use of quality agricultural inputs, while taking account of sustainability needs. Empowering households in issues related to seed access will be a priority, as will supporting improved natural resource management practices within response activities.

Response interventions will continue to include activities aimed at enabling affected households to access inputs and promoting GAPs and knowledge among beneficiaries to enhance the effectiveness of input support. Input distributions that compete with existing input markets in the country will be discouraged. For the purpose of sustainability, FAO will instead pilot and scale up market-based approaches to increase access to inputs within response interventions.

Household nutritional requirements will be met by providing diverse crops (e.g. staple cereals, legumes, vegetables, fruit trees) and small livestock to households, allowing farmers to choose inputs based on their needs.

Support will also be provided to rehabilitate relevant infrastructure – such as irrigation facilities – as part of wider rebuilding efforts in disaster-affected communities. As co-chair of the Agriculture and Food Security Cluster, FAO will work to reduce overlap and improve the complementarity of response interventions. This will be achieved through assisting the Government to map agriculture and food security response activities being undertaken by different actors and sharing this information widely. Training and extension for sustainable production and post-harvest management will be strengthened at the community level.

The proposed activities for Outcome 2 are presented in **Table 5**.

**Table 5: Proposed Activities for Outcome 2 – Response interventions**

OUTPUTS	PROPOSED ACTIVITIES
<p><b>Output 2.1</b> Interventions and production practices to increase cereal yields promoted among targeted vulnerable communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support integration of conservation agriculture (CA) into current and future Government input support programmes to enhance productivity and production</li> <li>• Support the application of other GAPs, e.g. use of quality seed and of organic and inorganic fertilizers, efficient use of inputs, timeliness of farm operations, integrated pest management (IPM)</li> <li>• Support local seed production initiatives, particularly for legume crops and small grains</li> <li>• Support the review and updating of production guidelines, extension manuals and other materials by Government research and extension departments as required</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 2.2</b> A diversity of nutritious crops, crops suitable for post-flooding/drought planting, and small livestock promoted in disaster response interventions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate access to suitable improved inputs for replanting following disasters, including off-season production with small-scale irrigation or residual moisture to improve household food availability and income</li> <li>• Ensure that nutritional requirements are considered in response actions through supporting diversification of crop input packages to include vegetables (including indigenous ones as appropriate), legumes, fruits, small grains, etc.</li> <li>• Provide support to piloting and upscaling suitable small stock livestock interventions (poultry, pigs, goats, rabbits) to improve household nutrition</li> <li>• Provide support to animal health services such as transboundary animal disease surveillance and control of major diseases that may impact on assisted households/communities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 2.3</b> Improved post-harvest handling and storage methods promoted for cereals and other crops</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support piloting and upscaling of new techniques for post-harvest treatment and storage of grain and seed, and refine existing methods where necessary, e.g. construction of cement and metallic granaries and silos for seed and grain, training local artisans to manufacture silos and training households on management of improved granaries</li> <li>• Support management of improved household- and community-level storage facilities, e.g. warehouse receipt system, delivery and retrieval mechanisms, collateral support procedures for grain and seed</li> <li>• Support integrated pest and disease control during post-harvest storage of food products and seed, including monitoring of migratory storage pests</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 2.4</b> Enhanced knowledge and technical skills of extension agents and of vulnerable households on appropriate field production and post-harvest management practices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist the Government and partners to undertake capacity and training needs assessments</li> <li>• Support the Government to update training and extension materials on production, including GAPs and post-harvest handling and management (including linkages between production, harvesting and the post-harvest behaviour of produce)</li> <li>• Support training programmes and activities on livestock production and management, animal health care, fodder production, stall feeding, small-scale dairy production, etc.</li> <li>• Support the review of current technology transfer mechanisms in use by Government and other stakeholders in the agriculture sector, especially in view of their suitability for vulnerable farming households and identify gaps or areas requiring improvement</li> <li>• Support the Government to identify and pilot new extension approaches and scale up best practices, including the lead farmer approach, among vulnerable communities</li> <li>• Facilitate linkages to regional/global level through cross-learning on GAPs and extension mechanisms on relevant subjects</li> <li>• Support review and upgrading of teaching materials in agricultural colleges particularly as they relate to smallholder farming and within the context of disasters</li> <li>• Support training of extension agents, veterinary staff and communities on surveillance and management of relevant facilities</li> </ul>

**OUTCOME 3: Household transition from emergency to long-term development strengthened through agricultural diversification, improved natural resources management, adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, and through improved marketing and market linkages**

Managing and reducing chronic vulnerability in Malawi's smallholder sector requires that the underlying factors that aggravate household vulnerability are addressed at the same time as response interventions are implemented. For example, production in the sector is generally from a narrow production base.

The PoA will enable FAO to strengthen disaster preparedness and improve the linkages and transitions between emergency, rehabilitation and development. The PoA will facilitate support to the identification and implementation of mitigation strategies that reduce the exposure of communities to future threats and emergencies. Outcome 3 of the PoA intends to help lift vulnerable households from emergency situations to more sustained livelihoods with a long-term development focus through the strategies outlined below.

**Diversification and commercialization**

The Government of Malawi is seeking to widen the participation of smallholders in commercial crop, livestock and fish production. Based on market needs and potential, cash crops and livestock- or aquaculture-based enterprises will be introduced or expanded in the target communities. Depending on their suitability to various agro-ecological zones, potential cash crops include horticultural and plantation crops, e.g. tea, sugar, cotton, tobacco, etc. Small livestock could include pigs, poultry and goats, while dairy production could also be included in suitable communities. Interventions will focus on enabling vulnerable farmers and communities to generate significant income from commercialized farming and therefore buffer themselves against potential risks or threats.

Productivity under these diversified systems will be ensured through improved and innovative GAPs, which will be applied to increase the efficiency of inputs. CA will be expanded and the use of quality inputs promoted. Integrated crop and land management and improved animal production and health support will also be promoted. To expand the production season, off-season activities, including using small-scale irrigation, will be supported. Through the framework, households will receive assistance to access start-up kits of crop or livestock production-based inputs.

**Technical capacity building**

Combined with diversification and enhanced productivity strategies, extension and farmer capacity and knowledge building will be integral to improving service delivery. FAO will support the Government and others (e.g. farmers' unions) to strengthen agricultural extension systems and delivery, as well as training and backstopping for Government extension agents (including veterinary). Capacity development on integrated production and pest management (IPPM), sustainable land and water management – such as water harvesting, soil conservation, and improved grazing – and post-harvest handling and management will also be supported. Agrobusiness skills will be strengthened at the household level.

### Input/output market linkages and markets

Market linkage programmes for the target communities will be designed and implemented in cooperation with private companies using contract production schemes for crops such as tobacco, cotton and horticultural crops, out-grower schemes for sugar, tea, horticultural crops, etc., and farmer cooperatives. Through these arrangements, farmers can access inputs and advisory services and have a guaranteed market for their products. Most of the cash crops for local and export markets in Malawi are currently grown on commercial estates. The inclusion of smallholders in these enterprises will help to improve the livelihoods of the majority poor population.

### Agroprocessing

Income generation in the smallholder farming sector is currently limited – partly owing to a lack of value addition. Most produce is marketed in its primary unprocessed state at lower prices. Where appropriate, communities will be supported to add value to their produce through, for example, local-level processing. The PoA will support the target communities to access and use – depending on the agro-ecological zone and enterprises – facilities such as oil pressing machines, peanut butter-making machines, milking centres (including small-scale dairy processing facilities), solar driers, rice and small grain shelling machines, appropriate animal slaughter facilities, and grading, packaging and improved storage facilities. Marketing of partially or fully processed products will help households to generate higher incomes. However, there will be a need for intensified knowledge and capacity development on the operation and management of processing facilities, as well as standards and quality management and assurance.

### Environment and climate change

Over- and inappropriate use of natural resources, which is often characteristic of smallholder farming systems, not only reduces potential output, but also contributes to community exposure to disaster risks and vulnerability. Together with partners, activities around CA, reforestation and/or agroforestry, improved soil and water management, and wetland management will be designed in cooperation with communities. It is estimated that over 90 percent of soil erosion at farm level can be prevented by adopting CA. CA can also result in up to 30 percent improved water use by crops, thereby buffering crops from moderate mid-season dry spells. **Table 6** provides details of activities that will be undertaken to achieve the outputs proposed for Outcome 3.

**Table 6: Proposed activities for Outcome 3 – Transitioning from emergency to rehabilitation and long-term development**

OUTPUTS	PROPOSED ACTIVITIES
<p><b>Output 3.1</b> Smallholder farming diversified to include and increase production of appropriate cash crops, alternative staple foods, livestock and livestock products, and aquaculture in the target areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist stakeholders with assessment of market potential of ‘new crops’, livestock and livestock products as part of commercialization of smallholder enterprises in the disaster-prone areas and facilitate wide dissemination of the findings</li> <li>• Support pilot production of selected income-generating crop/livestock commodities and of alternative staple crops in the target areas</li> <li>• Provide support to technological adaptive research including farmer innovation on e.g. varietal selection, agronomic management, IPPM, crop associations, small-scale dairy production, etc.</li> <li>• Where necessary, support stakeholders to source good quality start-up materials (seed, seedlings, fodder planting material, poultry chicks, piglets, goats, heifers, bulls, artificial insemination, milking facilities, etc.)</li> <li>• Where necessary, support development or updating of production and extension manuals for the new interventions</li> <li>• Support animal health care service in the target communities, e.g. for preventive and control purposes against major animal pests and diseases outbreaks which might negate progress or development</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 3.2</b> Vulnerable communities apply improved agricultural production techniques and improved land-use and land management practices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote wide adoption of CA activities in Malawi</li> <li>• Provide support in piloting and scaling up improved soil conservation practices including reinforcement of fragile lands through e.g. tree or grass planting</li> <li>• Support piloting of improved livestock grazing practices including training and grazing plot establishment based on stocking rates</li> <li>• In the disaster-prone areas, support household and community level agroforestry interventions such as soil fertility improvement, fodder and woodlot production and management, fruit tree production, honey production, tree seed production and propagation and other interventions as appropriate</li> <li>• Support use of household manure and compost</li> <li>• Support community-based dambo and water catchment area management in view of gardening activities</li> <li>• Support the Government to upgrade and operate soil analysis laboratories to facilitate a more informed approach to soil fertility management</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 3.3</b> Vulnerable communities apply improved water use and management practices, including small-scale irrigation and water harvesting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the Government and communities to build technical, operational and management capacities for irrigation management</li> <li>• Support the scaling up of CA and other in-field rainwater harvesting techniques</li> <li>• Support small-scale irrigation activities (constructing new schemes or rehabilitating and expanding existing ones in the target areas; training on small-scale irrigation)</li> <li>• Assist promotion of effective management of water catchment areas in the target areas (e.g. afforestation, grass cover)</li> <li>• Support research activities aimed at establishing appropriate irrigation water management and crop production techniques in schemes</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 3.4</b> Income-generating agroprocessing initiatives supported in the targeted areas and linked to local and national markets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support formation of partnerships along the commodity value chains in support of small-scale agroprocessing</li> <li>• Support establishment of local (individual and group) processing facilities for crops and livestock depending on the area and production outputs</li> <li>• Assist with development of appropriate support materials/guidelines for managing the processing facilities</li> <li>• Support interventions such as the grain warehouse receipt system which could provide some form of collateral for households in accessing credit for their agroprocessing activities</li> <li>• Support quality certification and regulatory services to enhance quality and compliance with phytosanitary and other market requirements</li> <li>• Support training of staff and community members in identified aspects of agroprocessing and standards and quality assurance</li> </ul>

<p><b>Output 3.5</b> Input/output linkages between vulnerable smallholder farmers, farmers' associations and public/private sector buyers are facilitated, improved and strengthened</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support Government and partners to use market-based approaches to input procurement by the supported households through, e.g. use of paper or electronic vouchers or debit cards as has been piloted in Zimbabwe and Zambia</li> <li>• Facilitate dialogue, negotiations and formation of guided partnerships between farmers, service providers, private/public sector traders, etc. for specific priority commodities (e.g. cotton, sugar, tea, chillies, paprika, fruits, plantations crops, vegetables) in the target areas</li> <li>• Assist with organizing smallholder farmers into groups/cooperatives and to build their capacity in farmer group management and dynamics, agribusiness skills and management, lobbying/negotiating skills, cost-benefit analysis, post-harvest management including grading and packaging of produce</li> <li>• Where necessary help to facilitate farmer group members to improve physical access to input/output markets through e.g. supporting the rehabilitation of community-level feeder roads or bridges</li> <li>• Support contract growing schemes for selected commodities, including capacity building of extension agents and farmers in contract farming</li> <li>• Support local availability of input/output markets and marketing facilities by helping to strengthen agrodealer capacity in handling agro-inputs and outputs, and centralized bulking of produce to reduce transaction costs</li> <li>• Facilitate increased innovative access to agricultural inputs and implements/equipment and to output markets by supporting relevant initiatives such as the Ware-House Receipting Approach and the WFP initiative on Purchase for Progress in the disaster-prone areas</li> <li>• Support piloting/expansion of market information systems, e.g. through cellular techniques for key commodities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 3.6</b> Piloting of income-generating enterprises by disaster-prone households is supported by appropriate pilot commodity insurance schemes to mitigate against selected shocks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support piloting/refining of a commodity market insurance system in support of vulnerable farming households in their income-generating response and mitigation interventions</li> <li>• Support development and testing of insurance schemes for smallholder livestock enterprises related to response and mitigation interventions in the disaster-prone areas</li> <li>• Support collection and analysis of relevant weather data in support of the weather-based insurance schemes including setting up small weather stations in communities to facilitate data availability in different micro-climates</li> <li>• Support provision of awareness/sensitization and training of staff and communities on smallholder insurance schemes</li> </ul>

#### **OUTCOME 4: Livelihood-based social protection for vulnerable groups integrated into national agricultural and food security disaster policies, strategies and programmes**

In its operations, FAO remains mindful of the compounding effects of gender inequality, youth vulnerability and disease pandemics. In this regard, the PoA will facilitate FAO's support to the Government, NGOs, other UN agencies, and other relevant stakeholders to enable the design and implementation of innovative agriculture-based social support activities to vulnerable rural youths, child-headed households, female-headed households, women in general and people living with HIV.

Building on experience, FAO will continue to work with relevant state and non-state actors in implementing the Junior Farmer Field and Life School (JFFLS) activities, school garden projects and other rural youth entrepreneurship skills development interventions to help build the self-reliance of vulnerable children and youths. Within the proposed PoA framework, FAO will seek to actively engage and provide opportunities for women, the elderly and orphans to participate in all aspects of its programmes.

Identified gaps in embracing more gender and socially inclusive policies, capacities, institutions and programmes for agriculture and rural development will be addressed. **Table 7** indicates the activities that will be undertaken to achieve Outcome 4 on gender equality, youth economic empowerment and development, and addressing HIV/AIDS within the agriculture sector.

**Table 7: Proposed Activities for Outcome 4 – Mainstreaming gender, HIV/AIDS and youth issues**

OUTPUTS	PROPOSED ACTIVITIES
<p><b>Output 4.1</b> Agricultural and food security DRR strategies, programmes and interventions effectively mainstream gender, HIV/AIDS and youth needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist the Ministry to conduct gender, HIV and AIDS, youth and OVC audits for key departments and make/refine recommendations for mainstreaming these into strategies/policies and strategies among agricultural research, extension and development departments</li> <li>• Support assessment of knowledge, technical and entrepreneurial skills and training needs among agricultural and other relevant partners on gender, youth and HIV/AIDS issues</li> <li>• Support capacity development of extension agents and farmers to mainstream youth, HIV/AIDS and gender issues in agricultural and other food security response interventions</li> <li>• Support interventions such as the JFFLS to improve skills, knowledge and self-reliance among OVCs by supporting resource mobilization and implementation of projects</li> <li>• Assist stakeholders to pilot agriculture-based entrepreneurship and nutrition enhancement interventions including small livestock, legume integration, diversified fruit and vegetable production for women, female- and child-headed households, and the youth</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 4.2</b> Interventions that enhance entrepreneurial skills and self-reliance among vulnerable farming groups (e.g. youth, women, people living with HIV, child-headed households) promoted and supported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the Government in improving and increasing access to production resources by vulnerable women, OVCs, people living with HIV, child-headed households through input support programmes</li> <li>• Support women, youth and people living with HIV to establish and operate income-generating agricultural projects and business skills development in the target areas</li> <li>• Promote uptake and scale up appropriate production and conservation practices such as CA, agroforestry, soil and other land conservation practices among women, youth, and people living with HIV</li> <li>• Provide support to activities of the technical working group committees on gender, HIV and AIDS within the agriculture departments</li> <li>• Support the Government to lobby for greater support on gender, HIV and AIDS research and development in agriculture from donors as they relate to emergency, early recovery and transition to long-term development</li> <li>• Support training programmes on gender and on HIV/AIDS for staff and communities (for orientation, upgrading and skills development, etc.) within the sector</li> <li>• Facilitate documentation, dissemination of best practices on gender, HIV/AIDS and youth issues within the food and nutrition security context</li> <li>• Support campaigns and training on HIV/AIDS and better nutrition, including demonstrations on preparation of diverse meals by families</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 4.3</b> Gender, HIV/AIDS and OVC-responsive training, education, information and communication materials on agriculture and food security developed and/or improved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support development or upgrading and dissemination of training, information and education materials targeted at vulnerable groups within the smallholder farming sector</li> <li>• Support the design and dissemination of gender, HIV and AIDS responsive agriculture information, education and communication materials in relation to emergencies and early recovery interventions</li> <li>• Support development and strengthening of existing training curricula and courses on gender, HIV and AIDS</li> <li>• Support establishment of networks and partnerships among stakeholders and partners dealing with gender, HIV and AIDS in agriculture fisheries and natural resources sector to facilitate lessons learning and information sharing</li> </ul>

## Cross cutting issues

**Table 8** outlines the proposed activities to be undertaken to support lesson learning and knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation of the PoA. Activities to enhance communication and visibility of the PoA interventions are also outlined.

**Table 8: Proposed Activities for Cross Cutting Issues – Lessons learning, M&E, and communication and visibility**

OUTPUTS	PROPOSED ACTIVITIES
Lessons learned and best practices from pilots are documented, packaged in appropriate formats and disseminated to various target audiences, including decision- and policy-makers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support lessons learning among partners and within and among communities</li> <li>• Ensure that best practices from pilots are documented, packaged in appropriate formats and disseminated to various target groups</li> <li>• Support the use of evidence generated from interventions to inform programming, decisions and policies</li> </ul>
Communication and visibility of DRR/M and related strategies and interventions supported by FAO is increased	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support establishment and improvement of effective communication and coordination platforms and mechanisms among Government, donors, civil society organizations, and the private sector for the PoA framework activities</li> <li>• Where necessary, support the Government in developing a national communication and visibility strategy for agriculture- and food security-related disasters</li> <li>• Develop a communication and visibility strategy for FAO-supported agricultural DRR/M and related strategies and interventions</li> <li>• Support development of communication and visibility materials as required for different initiatives</li> <li>• Support information dissemination to various target groups using different dissemination mechanisms and pathways</li> </ul>
Monitoring and evaluation of FAO-supported agricultural and food security DRR, disaster response and rehabilitation interventions strengthened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for the PoA and for subsequent relevant interventions implemented in support of the PoA</li> <li>• Lead and support subsequent monitoring and evaluation of interventions of the PoA</li> <li>• Conduct training to build the capacity of stakeholders on monitoring and evaluation principles and practice (including participatory monitoring and evaluation) and develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for all projects emanating from the PoA</li> <li>• Analyse data, produce reports and disseminate findings</li> <li>• Prepare and submit donor reports as required</li> <li>• Conduct independent programme reviews as deemed necessary or based on requirements of the various donors</li> </ul>



## 5. INSTITUTIONAL AND IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE POA

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### 5.1 FORMALIZING THE POA FRAMEWORK AND MOBILIZING RESOURCES

FAO will share the document with MOAIWD and DoDMA to discuss the content and need for any further inputs, as well as the joint launch of the PoA. After the launch, various components of the document will be used for joint resource mobilization by FAO, the Government and other partners. Several project proposals, targeted at specific development partners, will be prepared by FAO with these partners to address selected components of the PoA.

### 5.2 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS: FAO COUNTRY PROGRAMME

The PoA will be well integrated into the overall FAO country programme in Malawi. It will complement the activities of the regular FAO programme in the short- to medium-term timeframe. Specifically, the PoA will contribute to achievement of all seven of the NMTPF focus areas (outlined below), focusing on regions that are highly vulnerable to disasters:

- a. food security and nutrition;
- b. commercial agriculture, agroprocessing and market development;
- c. sustainable agricultural land and water management;
- d. technology generation and dissemination;
- e. institutional strengthening and capacity building;
- f. HIV prevention and AIDS impact mitigation; and
- g. gender equity and empowerment.

### 5.3 POTENTIAL PARTNERS AND OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

The PoA has been developed within the framework of national objectives in Malawi and, as such, it will be implemented in support of relevant Government departments. FAO has and will continue to implement its activities on agricultural emergencies, rehabilitation and transition to development in collaboration with state and non-state actors.

The activities proposed in the PoA will be carried out for and with the relevant departments in MOAIWD, the MVAC, DoDMA, local and international NGOs, international and local research institutions including the Consultative Group

on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) centres, regional and local networks such as the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) and others, the private sector, farmers' unions and other UN agencies.

FAO will work directly with the MOAIWD departments and will collaborate with other ministries, such as the Ministry of Health including the National Aids Council (NAC), the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, the Ministry of Transport and Public Infrastructure, and the Ministry of Gender, Children and Community Development on relevant matters.

The main UN agencies that will be engaged in implementing this PoA include the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the World Food Programme (WFP). In the contingency planning processes, FAO will also work with United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA). Other partners include the donor community in Malawi and multilateral donors through the FAO Regional Offices and headquarters.

**Table 9** summarizes the categories of key potential partners and their likely roles in implementing the PoA.

**Table 9: An analysis of the key potential partner category to the PoA implementation**

PARTNER CATEGORY	KEY FOCUS AREA	RELATIONSHIP AND/OR PROPOSED ROLES IN THE POA
Government of Malawi		
MOAIWD	MOAIWD has the overall national responsibility for formulating and implementing policies on sustainable agriculture, land and water resources, and food security. The Ministry is also responsible for setting and implementing agendas on agricultural research, capacity building, extension, technology, development and regulatory services on agriculture, land and water management, and food security. It also ensures agriculture-based economic growth, food security and poverty reduction.	MOAIWD will be the main stakeholder to be supported by FAO through the PoA at both national and local levels. The relevant departments in the Ministry will lead implementation of some activities and/or provide resource persons for various activities. Projects will be jointly developed, implemented, monitored and evaluated, while lessons learning and scaling up of best practices will also be promoted.
Other ministries and departments e.g. Ministry of Development Planning and Cooperation; Ministry of Education, Science and Technology; Ministry of Gender, Child Development and Community Development; Ministry of Health including the NAC; Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services; and others	Similar to MOAIWD but with specific sectoral mandates.	These Ministries will be engaged in relevant projects and activities. They will be both beneficiaries of the PoA outcomes as well as implementers of activities falling within their mandates. The Ministries will actively participate at all stages of the projects that relate to their main lines of work.
DoDMA	Coordination on disaster-related issues at the national level (preparedness, response, mitigation and prevention).	FAO will support DoDMA in coordinating agriculture- and food security-related disaster response and rehabilitation interventions, as well as appropriate DRR initiatives.
MVAC	Vulnerability assessments and analysis and early warning systems.	Members of the MVAC will be consulted in the development of specific projects or activities related to agriculture and food security, and vulnerability and assessments in the country. Depending on the agreed activities, they will directly or indirectly take part in implementation, monitoring and evaluation of relevant components.
<b>Malawi Red Cross Society</b>	Humanitarian relief interventions	Joint disaster response programmes on agriculture will be developed, implemented and monitored/evaluated together with the Red Cross, and jointly with other stakeholders such as the Government and NGOs as applicable.
<b>Farmers' unions and/or associations</b> – Farmers' Union of Malawi (FUM); the National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi; etc.	Farmers' unions and/or associations address farmer constraints related to input access, agricultural productivity and markets and market promotion. They support agricultural information generation and technology development and their dissemination. They also provide advisory and extension services and advocate for relevant policies.	The unions/associations will take part in designing specific projects, their implementation, monitoring and evaluation including capacity development, provision of advisory services and other service delivery to their participating members. They are also expected to support the establishment and strengthening of market linkages for inputs and outputs for their members. They will also engage and/or support private sector participation in agroservice delivery within the smallholder sector.
<b>NGOs/faith- (FBOs) or community-based organizations (CBOs)</b> dealing with agriculture and food security; gender; health, youth and OVCs; HIV/AIDS; nutrition, education, agribusiness; environment and/or natural resources management, etc.	NGOs/CBOs/FBOs support communities in humanitarian issues including food security and social protection – livelihoods-based approach. They raise awareness and provide advocacy support on farming, health-related issues including HIV/AIDS, gender equality, education, health, human rights, governance, environment (including natural resources), and other sectors.	NGOs/CBOs/FBOs will participate in specific project development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. They will mobilize communities jointly with relevant government and local authorities. They will also undertake field implementation of community-level activities and, where applicable, will provide training to communities and support lessons learning and experience/knowledge sharing.
<b>CGIAR centres</b> e.g. International Centre for Tropical Research, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre, World Agroforestry Centre, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture and others	Agricultural research (crops, agroforestry, livestock, policy), breeding, and technology development.	Depending on their mandates, relevant CGIAR centres will be selected for joint research programming of preparedness, response, prevention and mitigation activities. They will lead implementation and monitoring of relevant components of the joint projects.

<b>Educational/academic institutions</b>	Agricultural training and education.	Joint development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of specific projects. They will also lead relevant research and training activities at different levels.
<b>Private sector, including traders and processors</b>	They are involved in commercial agricultural production and marketing including commodity-based research and extension and policy advocacy; agroservice and input/equipment delivery including financial services; agroprocessing and technological services; and infrastructure development.	Many reports in Malawi point to the limited level to which the private sector has been engaged in smallholder development. It is envisaged that through the PoA, private sector engagement and their participation in smallholder socio-economic development will be increased. Through activities such as contract farming and/or outgrower schemes, the private sector will increase their support to smallholder farmers and enhance their production (through e.g. agro-inputs supply, training, advisory services, equipment supply, and other services), post-harvest handling and marketing skills for selected produce/ commodities.
<b>Donors and development partners</b>	Funding and technical support for humanitarian relief and economic development. Formulation and implementation of development policies	Through alignment to the ASWAp and donor objectives in Malawi, the PoA addresses focal areas considered by the Government, donors and the development community as key to driving agricultural and economic growth and development in the country. It is expected that donors will provide support, according to their mandates and funding mechanisms, to relevant components of the PoA and actively participate at different stages of implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the PoA as relevant.
<b>Civil society</b>	The Civil Society Agriculture Network (CISANET) is a policy advocacy organization, working on agriculture and food security policy issues affecting resource-poor people including smallholder farmers and their livelihoods, as well as on monitoring resource allocation and use.	The active participation of CISANET in relevant FAO programmes will be re-established. They will participate in livestock, marketing, land and water management matters and general food security support policy issues.
	FANRPAN is a regional policy research and advocacy network whose operations are informed by major regional policy frameworks and processes in Southern Africa. FANRPAN promotes effective food, agriculture and natural resources (FANR) policies by facilitating linkages and partnerships between government and civil society, and by building the capacity for policy analysis and policy dialogue in Southern Africa, and supporting demand-driven policy research and analysis. Although FANRPAN is a regional institution, its strength lies in its national <sup>8</sup> hubs, such as the one in Malawi.	FANRPAN, through the intersectoral network platform in Malawi will support stakeholders on issues related to policy analysis, DRR/M and mitigation. Through this network, support will be provided to the Government and other stakeholders in applying the generated information, knowledge and best practices to influence relevant policies.
<b>Other UN agencies</b> e.g. WFP, UNICEF, UNOCHA, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNRCO, UNCT, and others	Provide support to the Government on respective socio-economic development including humanitarian and relief programmes.	FAO will continue to be part of the UNCT, the UN Emergency Management Team and the One-UN programme. UN agencies will be key partners to the PoA. FAO will engage WFP in designing and implementing activities that help to enhance productivity in the WFP Purchase for Progress programme. In addition, FAO and WFP will continue to collaborate on strengthening crop and food security assessments through the MVAC and also through the Crop and Food Supply Assessment Missions. UNICEF is expected to continue working with FAO to address matters impacting on children through the JFFLS, school gardens, and other programmes. On activities related to HIV/AIDS, UNAIDS will be a key partner.

8 The national FANRPAN hubs comprise the following stakeholders: Government Ministries responsible for FANR; policy research institutions such as relevant university departments; private sector national umbrella organizations that deal with FANR; national farmers' organizations; and civil society organizations.

### **5.3.1. Partnership arrangements**

FAO will select and contract implementing partners based on their mandate, expertise, suitability of their interventions to the target areas, logistical and technical capacity to carry out large-scale programmes, complementarity of their programmes to existing efforts in the selected areas, and previous experience with FAO. Beneficiary targeting in the selected disaster-prone areas will be carried out in close consultation with the Government and other stakeholders, including local authorities and the humanitarian community (i.e. NGOs, donors), in order to maximize coverage in the areas most in need, increase the effective use of resources and avoid overlaps. FAO's strategy involves continued engagement with donors, NGOs, the private sector and, particularly, the Government to ensure that agricultural needs are systematically analysed, relevant interventions designed and implemented, and key lessons shared for continued programme and policy improvement. FAO will work with the Government, local authorities and other key groups or informants to agree on beneficiary selection and targeting criteria.

### **5.3.2. Operational guiding framework**

For specific projects, an operational framework will be stipulated as part of the Project Document and relationships between FAO and partners will be guided by frameworks such as Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) or Letters of Agreement (LoAs), depending on the context. These will specify the types and objectives of the partnerships, while also providing details on expected outputs and how these outputs will be achieved. In addition, the MoUs and/or LoAs will highlight the resource requirements for the agreed activities and timing on delivery of the outputs and other deliverables such as progress reports. All contracts undertaken as part of the action will be awarded and implemented in accordance with the published FAO procedures and standards. As much as possible, pooling of resources among partners will be encouraged for complementarity of interventions. FAO will endeavour to consolidate, strengthen and broaden existing coordination mechanisms in order to ensure the most effective outcome from the agricultural assistance programmes in the target areas.

## **5.4. PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES**

Standard FAO procurement procedures will be applied to the project. Procurements up to USD 150 000 will be carried out by the FAO Subregional Office for Southern Africa, based in Harare. A comprehensive tender process will be carried out for all procurement actions exceeding USD 10 000, the tenders for which will be opened by a bid opening panel and evaluated by a Procurement Review Committee. All procurement actions exceeding the value of USD 150 000 will be carried out by FAO's Procurement Unit in headquarters through an international tender process in line with FAO rules and regulations. All suppliers considered by FAO will be vetted and approved prior to being invited for tender.

High quality inputs will be used. Certified seed preferably procured locally and/or in the Southern Africa region will be made accessible to the farmers by agrodealers. Specifications to be adopted for local input procurement will be based on the Malawi MOAIWD regulatory requirements and on International Seed Testing Association regulations and standards, which are also reflected in the FAO quality declared seed system. Varietal selections will be based on the Ministry's recommendations and regulations, and on their suitability for growing conditions in the target areas. The National Seed Testing Laboratory will support quality testing and verification of seed standards before procurements by beneficiaries are facilitated through the programme.

## **5.5. GOVERNMENT INPUTS**

The Government of Malawi will provide resource persons as required for various components of the PoA framework and subsequent specific projects. These persons could be at technical (research, extension and technology development) or policy level, as deemed necessary. These staff will continue to be paid by the MOAIWD and will be supported through the project on capacity development and, where seen to be necessary, on operational requirements, e.g. travel and training costs and conducting field operations.

The achievement of the objectives set by the framework and specific project shall be the joint responsibility of the Government and FAO and other key partners. The Government shall apply to FAO, its property, funds and assets, and to its staff, the provisions of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies. Except as otherwise agreed by the Government and FAO in the Project Agreement, the Government shall grant the same privileges and immunities contained in the Convention to all other persons performing services on behalf of FAO in connection with the execution of the project. The Government shall deal with any claim which may be brought by third parties against FAO or its staff, or against any person performing services on behalf of FAO, and shall hold them harmless in respect of any claim or liability arising in connection with the project, unless the Government and FAO should agree that the claim or liability arises from gross negligence or wilful misconduct on the part of the individuals mentioned above. The persons performing services on behalf of FAO shall include any organization, firm or other entity, which FAO may designate to take part in the execution of the project.

## **5.6. TECHNICAL SUPPORT LINKAGES**

Overall technical guidance to the PoA framework projects will be provided by FAO through its relevant technical units at headquarters, the Subregional Office for Southern Africa, the Subregional Emergency Office for Southern Africa (REOSA), and the FAO Representation in-country personnel. For various levels of training (trainers of trainers [ToTs] and farmer trainers), local sources of trainers from relevant government departments, parastatals and non-state actors will be identified and undertake training on specific subjects for the ToTs and farmers. Depending on the

enterprise, private sector companies will also provide technical and extension backstopping to contracted farmers at all levels, from production to marketing of the crops, as specified in the contractual agreements. Where necessary, trainers and/or technical sources at the regional and international levels will be engaged to address specific topics.

## **5.7. MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL SUPPORT**

Overall, the programme will be managed by TCE in FAO headquarters. The day-to-day management will be the responsibility of the FAO ERCU in Malawi in close consultation with the FAO Representation and RP Unit in the country. The ERCU's operational and technical capacity will be strengthened to facilitate implementation of the activities.



## 6. MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

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### 6.1. MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

A comprehensive participatory monitoring system will be developed jointly with key stakeholders at the time of the PoA launch. Similarly, for each project subsequently developed and implemented under this PoA, a comprehensive monitoring framework and systems will also be developed. Indicators shall be disaggregated by gender and by categories of population, when appropriate. The monitoring systems will provide details of and guide data collection at different stages of the PoA or projects to allow FAO and partners to track their progress and achievements. Regular data collection and its analysis will allow FAO and partners to make any necessary adjustments and/or decisions as may be required to ensure that the set objectives are met.

### 6.2. BASELINES AND PROJECT MONITORING

At the beginning of the PoA projects, FAO and relevant stakeholders will conduct baseline studies on the general characteristics of the households/communities and other parameters. Information collected will include household demography, agricultural enterprises and their production and productivity, production patterns' management, markets and marketing, agroprocessing, irrigation facilities and practices, general knowledge on selected aspects, previous harvests, and food security status of the beneficiaries.

Monitoring will be carried out on the project inputs, activities, indicators, outputs and outcomes, and other processes necessary for the achievement of the objectives. All monitoring processes will provide a good basis upon which impact evaluation will be conducted on the PoA and its projects, while also facilitating lessons learning. The PoA Logical Framework (Annex 2) and the Logical Frameworks of subsequent projects, as well as specific work plans, will be used as the basis for monitoring progress on processes and activities for the projects. Arrangements for data collection and analysis will be guided by the project indicators at output and activity levels. Performance of the PoA and related projects will be measured against the baselines and enable PoA/project attribution to any change on the indicators.

### 6.2.1. Internal reviews to guide project management

For each project, strategic internal reviews on progress and achievements will be carried out on a regular basis through, for example, monthly/quarterly project coordination meetings and field visits with project implementing partners. The findings and lessons learned will be disseminated periodically to project staff and stakeholders and to the general public. Emphasis will be placed on integrating recommendations and lessons gathered from monitoring and evaluation into ongoing PoA activities and future programming. Implementation of activities is expected to be done mainly through donor-supported projects and specific monitoring and evaluation requirements and arrangements from the particular donor will be addressed. Relevant stakeholders (donors and Government) of the projects will be involved in the monitoring review process in addition to implementing partners. Through the regular progress meetings and interactions with stakeholders, decisions on modifications to planned activities will be made in consultation with the specific project donors. An internal assessment will be conducted at the end of this project to evaluate whether the project achieved stated objectives, the efficiency and effectiveness in achieving the impact, and assessing sustainability of the interventions beyond the project life.

### 6.2.2. Components to be monitored

In designing the monitoring and evaluation systems to measure the success of the PoA in achieving the state objectives, the following will be focused on:

- **Project processes:** e.g. beneficiary selection, levels of funding mobilized, staff recruitment, procurement, operational procedures, partnership arrangements, contract arrangements.
- **Technologies:** availability of suitable production inputs, agronomic practices, diversification of farm enterprises and components within an enterprise, agroprocessing practices, productivity improvements, information systems, land conservation practices, guidelines on specific subjects.
- **Physical structures:** post-harvest/storage facilities, marketing facilities, irrigation facilities, agroprocessing facilities, rehabilitated land.
- **Household status:** income-generating activities, nutrition, coping strategies, food availability and consumption.
- **Institutional status:** Government, private sector and community arrangements, performance in service delivery, coordination of agricultural humanitarian issues, information exchange at centralized and decentralized areas, communication channels, operational capacity .

### 6.3. REPORTING

The FAO ERCU will prepare technical progress and final narrative reports by consolidating inputs from all implementing partners. These reports will be reviewed by FAO headquarters and submitted to donors by the Director of TCE, within 90 days of the end of the project implementation period or as otherwise stated in the Project Agreement.

Financial reports will be prepared by FAO headquarters and submitted to the donors within six months of the end of the project implementation period.

In addition to project-based reports, FAO will provide updates to key stakeholders, particularly the Government, on progress achieved on various components of the PoA. Through the sectoral coordination structures and other platforms, the ERCU will share information generated from the PoA. During the timeframe of the PoA, FAO will continue its project monitoring and evaluation of results with both qualitative and quantitative data. In addition to interim and final narrative and financial reports, FAO will continue its informal reporting to donors, the Government and other stakeholders with regular updates and field visits.



## 7. KEY ASSUMPTIONS AND RISK ANALYSIS

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Successful implementation and attainment of the PoA objectives will depend on the following identified major assumptions, which are elaborated in the Logical Framework (Annex 2):

- operational environment (political, economic and social) in the country continues to be stable or does not deteriorate to interrupt with PoA delivery;
- availability of adequate financial, experienced human and material resources and capacity to implement the PoA proposed activities;
- minimal or no natural disasters occur to impact on programme implementation and delivery;
- policy consistency prevails within the sector during the course of implementing the PoA programmes;
- financial, procurement and policy procedures between FAO and donors are well harmonized to facilitate timely implementation of the activities; and
- willingness and commitment among the stakeholders (Government, NGOs, private sector, civil society, other UN agencies, communities, etc.) continues to prevail during implementation.

The key risks associated with the identified assumptions are analysed in **Annex 5** to provide insights into the probability of their occurrence, their potential impacts, and possible measures to mitigate them. Some of the proposed mitigation measures are already reflected among the activities proposed for the PoA framework to ensure that, as much as possible, the levels and impacts of risks associated with the assumptions are reduced.



## 8. PROJECTED COSTS OF THE POA

The projected overall cost of implementing the activities proposed in the FAO Malawi PoA is USD 55 million over five years – 2012 to 2016. The costs are broken down by outcome and output and details are presented in **Table 10**. Approximately USD 6.7 million will be required over the five-year period to support disaster preparedness and institutional capacity strengthening of Government and communities in addressing agricultural threats and disasters.

Agricultural response interventions to be implemented following disasters are expected to cost approximately USD 7.3 million over the same period. The major component of the budget, nearly USD 27 million, will be spent on strengthening the transition from emergencies and the linkages between emergency, rehabilitation and long-term development within the agriculture and food security sector.

Over the five-year period, FAO projects to spend about USD 5.5 million to support livelihood-based social protection initiatives within the agriculture sector. To ensure that the proposed programmes is well monitored, while facilitating lessons learning and increased visibility of the proposed programmes and actions, an additional USD 3.5 million will be required for the five-year period. Other projected costs involve technical support services to be provided by various relevant FAO technical departments, and to cover direct overhead costs to be incurred by FAO while implementing the PoA activities.

**Table 10: Projected costs of implementing the proposed PoA activities over five years (2012–2016)**

OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS	ESTIMATED COST (USD)
<b>OUTCOME 1:</b> Strengthened food security disaster preparedness and institutional capacity of Government and communities to address agricultural and related threats and disasters	<b>6 700 000</b>
<b>Output 1.1:</b> Agricultural policies and programmes effectively integrate DRR/M strategies	650 000
<b>Output 1.2:</b> Agriculture and food security early warning information systems and their management improved at all levels	1 500 000
<b>Output 1.3:</b> Government and community technical and operational capacity strengthened in agriculture and food security analysis, disaster preparedness and risk reduction	2 250 000
<b>Output 1.4:</b> Use of drought- and/or flood-tolerant crops and varieties promoted and community access to these improved	1 800 000
<b>Output 1.5:</b> Coordination and planning of agriculture and food security disaster preparedness and emergency response enhanced	500 000

<b>OUTCOME 2:</b> Enhanced cereal productivity, post-harvest management and dietary diversification in disaster response interventions	<b>7 300 000</b>
<b>Output 2.1:</b> Interventions and production practices to increase cereal yields promoted among targeted vulnerable communities	1 500 000
<b>Output 2.2:</b> A diversity of nutritious crops, crops suitable for post-flooding/drought planting, and small livestock promoted in disaster response interventions	3 000 000
<b>Output 2.3:</b> Improved post-harvest handling and storage methods promoted for cereals and other crops	2 000 000
<b>Output 2.4:</b> Enhanced knowledge and technical skills of extension agents and of vulnerable households on appropriate field production and post-harvest management practices	800 000
<b>OUTCOME 3:</b> Household transition from emergency to long-term development strengthened through agricultural diversification, improved natural resource management, adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, and through improved marketing and market linkages	<b>27 000 000</b>
<b>Output 3.1:</b> Smallholder farming diversified to include and increase production of appropriate cash crops, alternative staple foods, livestock and livestock products, and aquaculture in the target areas	5 000 000
<b>Output 3.2:</b> Vulnerable communities apply improved agricultural production techniques and improved land-use and land management practices	1 000 000
<b>Output 3.3:</b> Vulnerable communities apply improved water use and management practices, including small-scale irrigation and water harvesting	8 000 000
<b>Output 3.4:</b> Income-generating agroprocessing initiatives supported in the targeted areas and linked to local and national markets	7 500 000
<b>Output 3.5:</b> Input/output linkages between vulnerable smallholder farmers, farmers' associations and public/private sector buyers are facilitated, improved and strengthened	3 000 000
<b>Output 3.6:</b> Piloting of income-generating enterprises by disaster-prone households is supported by appropriate pilot commodity insurance schemes to mitigate against selected shocks	2 500 000
<b>OUTCOME 4:</b> Livelihood-based social protection for vulnerable groups integrated into national agricultural and food security disaster policies, strategies and programmes	<b>5 500 000</b>
<b>Output 4.1:</b> Agricultural and food security DRR strategies, programmes and interventions effectively mainstream gender, HIV/AIDS and youth needs	500 000
<b>Output 4.2:</b> Interventions that enhance entrepreneurial skills and self-reliance among vulnerable farming groups (e.g. youth, women, people living with HIV, child-headed households) promoted and supported	4 500 000
<b>Output 4.3:</b> Gender, HIV/AIDS and OVC-responsive training, education, information and communication materials on agriculture and food security developed and/or improved	500 000

<b>Cross-cutting outputs</b>	<b>3 500 000</b>
Lessons learned and best practices from pilot projects are documented, packaged appropriately and disseminated to target audiences, including decision- and policy-makers to facilitate programming, planning and policy formulation	750 000
Communication and visibility of DRR/M and related strategies and interventions supported by FAO is increased	750 000
Monitoring and evaluation of FAO-supported agricultural and food security DRR, disaster response and rehabilitation interventions strengthened	1 500 000
Technical Services Support costs	500 000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>50 000 000</b>
<b>Overhead costs (at 10% of the subtotal)</b>	<b>5 000 000</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>55 000 000</b>



## 9. KEY REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

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FEWS NET updates: <http://www.fews.net>

FAO Global Information Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS) Country Briefs: <http://www.fao.org/giews/countrybrief>

Government of Malawi (2009) Agriculture Sector Wide Approach, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Lilongwe

Government of Malawi (2004), National Gender Programme (2004–2009), Ministry of Women, Child Development and Community Development

MVAC Strategic Plan 2010–2012

MVAC Committee Reports

NSO (2009), Welfare Monitoring Survey 2008, Zomba

NSO (2008), Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2006, Zomba

National Contingency Plan for Malawi 2011–2012

National Disaster Risk Management Policy, DoDMA, Office of the President and Cabinet, June 2011

UN (2010), Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Malawi: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/co/CEDAW-C-MWI-CO-6.pdf>

FAO NMTPF 2010–2015

UN UNDAF for Malawi 2012–2016



## 10. ANNEXES

### Annex 1: List of organizations and individuals consulted at various stages of the PoA development

The following is an alphabetical list of the individuals who were consulted or participated in discussions during the formulation of the Malawi FAO PoA.

Name	Title and Organization
Chimseu George	Technical Advisor, MVAC
Chingondole Samuel	FAO Assistant Representative for Administration
Chulu Julius	Deputy Director, Department of Animal Health and Livestock Development
Connor Anne	Consultant, Irish Aid
Diop Abdulaye	Representative and Country Coordinator, WFP
Gonani Lazarus	Programme Officer, WFP
Hideki Ito	Assistant Resident Representative, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
Holleman Cindy	Regional Emergency Coordinator, FAO REOSA
Hove Lewis	Regional Conservation Agriculture Coordinator, FAO REOSA
Gruenewald Ilona	Attaché – Programme Officer, Rural Development & Food Security, European Union (EU) Delegation in Malawi
Kabanga Charlie	Project Officer, GOAL, Nsanje District
Kachingwe	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme Focal Person, MOAIWD
Kadokera Fumbani	Principal Crops Officer, MOAIWD
Kapondamgaga Prince	Executive Director, FUM
Kara Gertrude	HIV, Gender & Nutrition Officer, FAO REOSA
Killick Peter	Canadian International Development Agency
Korsieporn Pinit	FAO Representative, Malawi
Kuthe Nathan	Administrator, Flemish International Cooperation Agency
Leenders Naud	Advisor, DRR/DRM UNDP
Legodi Keletso	Associate Programme Officer, FAO
Luchen Sina	Regional Emergency Agronomist, FAO REOSA
Luhanga Jeffrey	Controller, Agricultural Extension and Technical Services, MOAIWD (now Principal Secretary II)
Mafuleka Gift	Deputy Coordinator, DoDMA

<b>Maganga Erica</b>	Principal Secretary I, MOAIWD
<b>Malumelo Roman</b>	Coordinator, Donor Committee for Agriculture & Food Security
<b>Mbamba Rosebell</b>	Climate Change Project Coordinator, FAO Malawi
<b>Mitsugu Hamai</b>	Procurement Officer, Purchase for Progress Programme, WFP
<b>Musopole Edson E.</b>	ASWAp Coordinator, MOAIWD
<b>Mussa John</b>	Director, Land Resources Conservation Department
<b>Mwalabu Charles</b>	Principal Irrigation Officer
<b>Mwamadi Norah</b>	Youth Employment and Child Labour Coordinator
<b>Ng'oma Lilian</b>	Commissioner of DoDMA
<b>Ngulube Emmanuel</b>	Food for Peace Coordinator, United States Agency for International Development
<b>Nkhoma Alick</b>	Assistant FAO Representative for Programmes
<b>Nkhoma Dyce</b>	Principal Relief and Rehabilitation Officer, DoDMA
<b>Nkhono Tamani</b>	Coordinator, CISANET
<b>O'Brien Eric</b>	Regional Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, FAO REOSA
<b>Pulu Mable</b>	FAO Regular Programme, Malawi
<b>Sibande Lonestar</b>	Programme Officer, Evangelical Association of Malawi, Chikwawa
<b>Sikaanen Petri</b>	Head of Programmes, GOAL, Nsanje District
<b>Simpson Moira</b>	Programme Officer, Cooperazione Internazionale, Salima District
<b>Sorheim-Rensvik Marita</b>	Second Secretary, Agriculture and Climate Change, Royal Norwegian Embassy
<b>Spolander Per</b>	Disaster Preparedness ECHO Project Coordinator , FAO REOSA
<b>Standen Howard</b>	United Kingdom's Department for International Development
<b>Toshihide Yoshikura</b>	Project Formulation Advisor, JICA
<b>Waalewijn Peter</b>	Irrigation Specialist, World Bank
<b>Winnubst Maria</b>	Attaché, EU Delegation

## Annex 2: Logical Framework for the PoA

RESULTS HIERARCHY	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
<p><b>GOAL:</b> To reduce risk and the impacts of disasters on food and nutrition security through better DRR and improved community resilience to shocks in disaster-prone areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % reduction in annual food gap among the targeted communities</li> <li>• Reduced proportion of vulnerable farming households in need of food assistance in the target areas</li> <li>• Reduced proportion of humanitarian funding spent on food purchase in the targeted areas</li> <li>• Reduced prevalence of malnutrition in the target areas</li> <li>• Decrease in proportion of households adopting negative coping strategies</li> <li>• % of households below the poverty line in the target areas</li> <li>• Reduction in land degradation indices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MVAC reports</li> <li>• MOAIWD reports</li> <li>• NSO reports</li> <li>• Donor and NGO reports</li> <li>• Reports from other Government departments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political environment remains stable</li> <li>• No major disasters affect operations at national and local levels</li> <li>• Availability of adequate donor funding</li> <li>• Government, partner and community willingness continues to prevail</li> </ul>
<p><b>OUTCOME 1:</b> Strengthened food security disaster preparedness and institutional capacity of Government and communities to address agricultural and related threats and disasters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of agricultural institutions involved in preparedness activities or effectively integrating food security disaster preparedness initiatives</li> <li>• Increased linkage between preparedness and response initiatives</li> <li>• Number of preparedness activities supported</li> <li>• Timely preparation, activation and review of contingency plans</li> <li>• % of stakeholders reporting improved preparedness in agriculture sector</li> <li>• Response to agricultural emergency is timely and well-coordinated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MVAC reports</li> <li>• MOAIWD reports</li> <li>• NSO reports</li> <li>• Donor and NGO reports</li> <li>• UN coordination reports</li> <li>• Policy documents</li> <li>• Evaluation reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued DoDMA and MVAC operations</li> <li>• Continued donor support</li> <li>• Continued Government, partner and community willingness and/or cooperation on DRM continues</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 1.1:</b> Agricultural policies and programmes effectively integrate DRR/M strategies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidelines to DRR mainstreaming in agriculture and food security available</li> <li>• Number of senior agricultural staff supported with leadership and management capacity building on DRR/M</li> <li>• Number of national agricultural departments and NGOs supported to incorporate/strengthen DRR into programmes and plans</li> <li>• Number of departments or institutions implementing DRR interventions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOAIWD reports</li> <li>• Partner reports</li> <li>• Policy and other strategic documents</li> <li>• DoDMA reports</li> </ul>	

<p><b>Output 1.2:</b> Agriculture and food security early warning information systems and their management improved at all levels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline assessments supported and reports produced</li> <li>• Frequency and accuracy of field data collection increased</li> <li>• Number of improved data and/or information analysis tools applied</li> <li>• Early warning information flow channels from districts to national level and feedback mechanisms to the district assemblies are clearer and effective and communicated to relevant stakeholders</li> <li>• Weather forecasting initiatives focusing on agriculture supported</li> <li>• Number of vulnerability assessment and analysis methodologies reviewed</li> <li>• Proportion of organizations accessing and/or using updates on food security to inform emergency programming and response</li> <li>• Surveillance supported for major crop and animal pests and diseases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoDMA reports</li> <li>• MOAIWD reports</li> <li>• MVAC reports</li> <li>• Partners' reports</li> <li>• District reports</li> <li>• Evaluation reports</li> <li>• Meteorological reports</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 1.3:</b> Government and community technical and operational capacity strengthened in agriculture and food security analysis, disaster preparedness and risk reduction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set of identified core capacity building needs on DRR and food security assessment and analysis</li> <li>• Number of training programmes, including orientation, developed on food security and related issues</li> <li>• Number of training programmes implemented and their effectiveness</li> <li>• Increased Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) scores among central and decentralized staff on DRR issues and food security analysis</li> <li>• Quantities of operational resources procured (motor vehicles, motorcycles, bicycles, computers and other relevant equipment)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MVAC reports</li> <li>• Partners' reports</li> <li>• DoDMA reports</li> <li>• District reports</li> <li>• Participants' lists</li> <li>• Procurement and delivery invoices</li> <li>• Evaluation reports</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 1.4:</b> Use of drought- and/ or flood-tolerant crops and varieties promoted and community access to these improved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of farmers using drought/ flood-tolerant crops or varieties</li> <li>• Increased local availability of planting material for drought/flood-tolerant crops</li> <li>• Increased KAP scores among extension agents and farmers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FAO and partner reports</li> <li>• Ministry reports</li> <li>• Household survey reports</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 1.5:</b> Coordination and planning of agriculture and food security disaster preparedness and emergency response enhanced</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of organizations involved in coordination of agriculture activities</li> <li>• Maps of agricultural disaster-prone areas produced/reviewed</li> <li>• Agriculture component of the NCP supported</li> <li>• Work plans on preparedness, response, mitigation/prevention supported</li> <li>• Work plans effectively implemented</li> <li>• Annual and regular planning and review/feedback meetings supported</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry reports</li> <li>• MVAC reports</li> <li>• Partners' reports</li> <li>• District reports</li> <li>• DoDMA reports</li> <li>• Coordination membership lists</li> </ul>	

<p><b>OUTCOME 2:</b> Enhanced cereal productivity, post-harvest management and dietary diversification in disaster response interventions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % increase in annual total staple food production in the target areas</li> <li>• Average quantities of small stock, fish, legumes, fruits and vegetables produced from response interventions</li> <li>• Proportion of households with energy food reserves in critical hunger period (December to March) from own production</li> <li>• Higher dietary diversity scores among target households</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MVAC reports</li> <li>• Partners' reports</li> <li>• District reports</li> <li>• Household survey reports</li> <li>• Nutrition surveillance or survey reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potentially devastating pests and disease outbreaks are addressed on time</li> <li>• Availability of adequate funding support</li> <li>• Continued cooperation among partners</li> <li>• No extreme weather conditions occur and undermine performance of the response actions</li> <li>• Households are willing to diversify their farming enterprises and are applying yield enhancing practices</li> <li>• Materials and other inputs are readily available for procurement</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 2.1:</b> Interventions and production practices to increase cereal yields promoted among targeted vulnerable communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of households registering increased cereal yields</li> <li>• Proportion of target households practicing CA</li> <li>• Proportion of households applying other good agronomic practices (timing of operations, planting populations, fertilizer management, timely weeding, integrated pest and disease control or other practices)</li> <li>• Higher yielding varieties grown as appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MVAC reports</li> <li>• Partners' reports</li> <li>• District reports</li> <li>• Household survey reports</li> <li>• Pest and disease surveillance reports</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 2.2:</b> A diversity of nutritious crops, crops suitable for post-flooding/drought planting, and small livestock promoted in disaster response interventions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of households producing protein and vitamin rich foods such as poultry, small livestock, fish, legumes, fruits</li> <li>• Average number of small livestock units owned per household</li> <li>• Average quantities of small livestock products (meat, eggs, goat milk, etc.) produced in the target communities</li> <li>• Average number of households consuming different food groups and/or accessing nutrition education support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MVAC reports</li> <li>• Partners' reports</li> <li>• District reports</li> <li>• Household survey reports</li> <li>• Nutrition surveillance and survey reports</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 2.3:</b> Improved post-harvest handling and storage methods promoted for cereals and other crops</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of 'new' on-farm/ community-level storage facilities constructed/established for food grains and seed</li> <li>• Community-level grain storage/banking system procedures/rules in place</li> <li>• Number of households applying improved post-harvest handling practices/treatments to grain before and during storage</li> <li>• Quantities of stored grain at local and national levels</li> <li>• Decrease in post-harvest losses recorded for staple and other foods</li> <li>• Reduced prevalence of severe migratory storage pests</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOAIWD reports</li> <li>• Community and household survey reports</li> <li>• Partners' reports</li> <li>• NSO reports</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 2.4:</b> Enhanced knowledge and technical skills of extension agents and of vulnerable households on appropriate field production and post-harvest management practices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of trained extension staff/agents</li> <li>• Increased KAP scores among extension staff/agents and among target households on the targeted subject areas</li> <li>• % of households receiving timely and adequate extension support</li> <li>• Reduction in animal mortality in the target areas</li> <li>• Increased animal off-take rate in the target areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOAIWD reports</li> <li>• Household survey reports</li> <li>• Veterinary reports</li> <li>• Partners' reports</li> </ul>	

<p><b>OUTCOME 3:</b> Household transition from emergency to long-term development strengthened through agricultural diversification, improved natural resource management, adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, and through improved marketing and market linkages</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of households engaged in at least one income-generating agricultural enterprise</li> <li>• Proportion of degraded agricultural land under rehabilitation</li> <li>• Increase in area under sustainable agricultural production practices</li> <li>• Proportion of land under sustainable water management</li> <li>• % increase in real household income from agriculture and related activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOAIWD reports</li> <li>• Survey reports</li> <li>• NSO reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No extreme weather conditions occur and undermine delivery</li> <li>• Households are willing to diversify their enterprises</li> <li>• Adequate funding support</li> <li>• Ready availability of start-up materials e.g. seed from local or regional sources</li> <li>• Ready availability of irrigation equipment</li> <li>• Households are willing to pool their produce for processing and marketing</li> <li>• Improved access to financial markets by</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 3.1:</b> Smallholder farming diversified to include and increase production of appropriate cash crops, alternative staple foods, livestock and livestock products, and aquaculture in the target areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of target households growing new crops such as fruits, tubers, legumes, cotton, nuts, vegetables or expanding the area under these crops</li> <li>• Proportion of target households diversifying into small livestock, poultry, fishery, dairy for income generation</li> <li>• % increase in area planted with new crops</li> <li>• % increase in livestock units in target communities</li> <li>• Average quantities of agricultural products (meat, milk, eggs, vegetables, fruits, cotton, etc.) produced</li> <li>• Average quantities of agricultural products or surplus marketed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community and household survey reports</li> <li>• Government reports</li> <li>• Partners' reports</li> <li>• FAO reports</li> <li>• Donor reports</li> </ul>	<p>the households</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agro-input providers/traders/service providers are willing to serve smallholders</li> <li>• Contract agreements are honoured</li> <li>• Smallholders farmers are ready for joint procurement</li> <li>• Willingness on the part of the insurance industry</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 3.2:</b> Vulnerable communities apply improved agricultural production techniques and improved land-use and land management practices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of sustainable land management techniques introduced, strengthened or scaled up in target areas (e.g. soil erosion control, tree planting, wetland reclamation, CA)</li> <li>• Increase in agricultural land area under CA</li> <li>• Average area under integrated soil fertility management practices such as agroforestry, rotations with legumes, manure and compost use</li> <li>• Increase in area with soil erosion control techniques</li> <li>• Increase in farmers using IPM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community and household survey reports</li> <li>• Government reports</li> <li>• Partners' reports</li> <li>• FAO reports</li> <li>• Donor reports</li> </ul>	

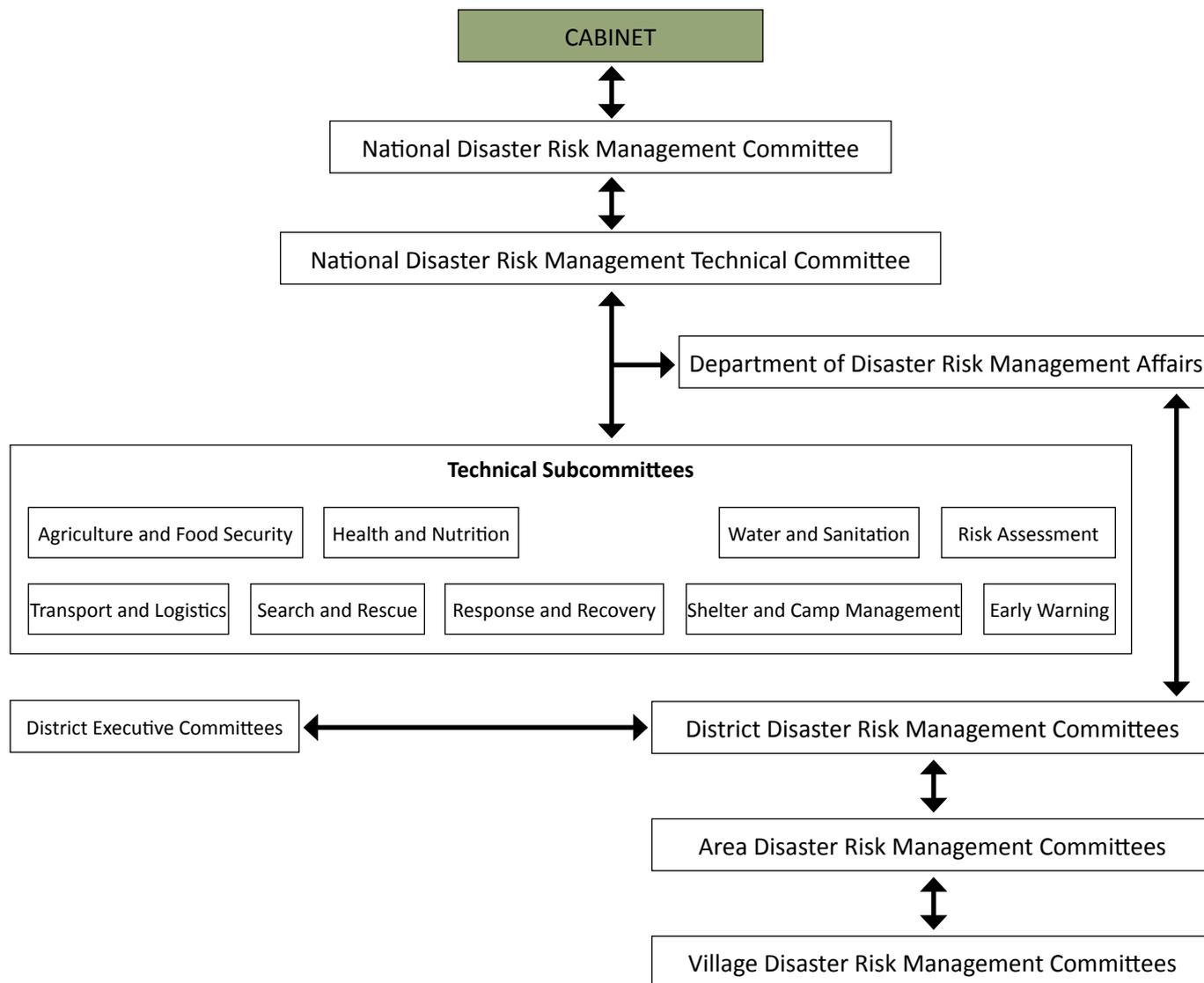
<p><b>Output 3.3:</b> Vulnerable communities apply improved water use and management practices, including small-scale irrigation and water harvesting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % increase in area under sustainable small-scale irrigation</li> <li>• Proportion of target households engaged in small-scale irrigation</li> <li>• Rainwater harvesting and storage systems constructed in the target areas to support agriculture</li> <li>• Proportion of existing small-scale irrigation schemes rehabilitated</li> <li>• Small-scale water use research initiatives that are supported</li> <li>• Number of functional water user associations/groups established</li> <li>• Area planted with drought-tolerant crops and the types of crops planted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community and household survey reports</li> <li>• Government reports</li> <li>• Partners' reports</li> <li>• FAO reports</li> <li>• Donor reports</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Output 3.4:</b> Income-generating agroprocessing initiatives supported in the targeted areas and linked to local and national markets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of functional commodity-based agroprocessing partnerships facilitated and/or markets established</li> <li>• Number of target households or groups engaged in processing activities</li> <li>• Average quantities of processing facilities established</li> <li>• Types and quantities of produce/products processed</li> <li>• Proportion of processed products delivered to markets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Household survey reports</li> <li>• Signed partnership documents</li> <li>• Produce delivery records</li> <li>• Records on product output</li> <li>• Market delivery records</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Output 3.5:</b> Input/output linkages between vulnerable smallholder farmers, farmers' associations and public/private sector buyers are facilitated, improved and strengthened</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of market-based input procurement mechanisms piloted or promoted (e.g. use of electronic vouchers, debit card system)</li> <li>• Proportion of private sector companies/agrodealers involved in input/output trading in the target areas for specific commodities</li> <li>• Proportion of target households accessing inputs (seed, fertilizer, chemicals, tools, etc.) through contract farming or outgrower schemes</li> <li>• Increased KAP scores on inputs/outputs handling by agrodealers</li> <li>• Increased KAP score on contractual farming rules among the households</li> <li>• Increased proportion of the households selling crops through contracts</li> <li>• At least one market information system developed and/or strengthened</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signed contracts between suppliers/buyers and households</li> <li>• Input delivery records</li> <li>• Produce delivery records</li> <li>• Household surveys</li> <li>• FAO and partner records</li> <li>• MOAIWD reports</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Output 3.6:</b> Piloting of income-generating enterprises by disaster-prone households is supported by appropriate pilot commodity insurance schemes to mitigate against selected shocks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of weather-related insurance products for crops supported at piloting or expansion levels in the target areas</li> <li>• Number of participating vulnerable smallholder farmers with an insurance cover on their income-generating enterprises</li> <li>• Recommendations and lessons drawn from the project on smallholder index-based insurance and used to improve the insurance products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insurance products</li> <li>• Insurance documents signed</li> <li>• List of insured farmers</li> <li>• Reports on loss assessment and compensation</li> <li>• Evaluation reports</li> </ul>			

<p><b>OUTCOME 4:</b> Livelihood-based social protection for vulnerable groups integrated into national agricultural and food security disaster policies, strategies and programmes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved food production and income generation at household level among the socio-economically vulnerable farming groups</li> <li>• Proportion of target households accessing sufficient food and nutritional support</li> <li>• Increased proportion of vulnerable people involved in decision-making, policy formulation and implementation processes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MVAC reports</li> <li>• MOAIWD reports</li> <li>• Ministry of Health reports</li> <li>• Community and household survey reports</li> <li>• DoDMA reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vulnerable groups are willing to participate in interventions and the various activities such as training, etc.</li> <li>• Government and partners continue to cooperate</li> <li>• Adequate funding support</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 4.1:</b> Agricultural and food security DRR strategies, programmes and interventions effectively mainstream gender, HIV/AIDS and youth needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidelines on mainstreaming HIV and AIDS in planning, implementation, monitoring and budgeting processes available for DRR and response actions</li> <li>• Gender, HIV and AIDS analysis and mainstreaming skills in the agriculture sector built at all levels</li> <li>• Increased allocation of production resources to vulnerable groups</li> <li>• Increased proportion of agricultural migrant workers and traders accessing information and awareness and education on HIV/AIDS</li> <li>• Number of focal points addressing gender, HIV/AIDS, and youth issues in agricultural institutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MVAC reports</li> <li>• MOAIWD reports</li> <li>• Ministry of Health reports</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 4.2:</b> Interventions that enhance entrepreneurial skills and self-reliance among vulnerable farming groups (e.g. youth, women, people living with HIV, child-headed households) promoted and supported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interventions introduced/tested or strengthened among the target groups (e.g. small stock pass-on schemes, small-scale fish production)</li> <li>• Proportion of vulnerable women, OVCs, people living with HIV and child-headed households accessing production resources through various input support programmes</li> <li>• Research and development programmes supported</li> <li>• Labour or drudgery reducing technologies tested and/or promoted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community and household survey reports</li> <li>• MVAC reports</li> <li>• MOAIWD reports</li> <li>• Ministry of Health reports</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Output 4.3:</b> Gender, HIV/AIDS and OVC-responsive training, education, information and communication materials on agriculture and food security developed and/or improved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of existing information, education and communication, and training materials reviewed</li> <li>• Number of new materials developed</li> <li>• Quantities of materials disseminated</li> <li>• Organizations with improved/new materials</li> <li>• Training programmes implemented and their effectiveness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List of participants</li> <li>• Training reports</li> <li>• Distribution lists</li> <li>• FAO and partner reports</li> <li>• MOAIWD reports</li> <li>• Ministry of Health reports</li> </ul>	

CROSS CUTTING OUTPUTS		
<p>Lessons learned and best practices from pilot projects are documented, packaged appropriately and disseminated to target audiences, including decision- and policy-makers to facilitate programming, planning and policy formulation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of FAO and partner learning and sharing events facilitated, supported or attended</li> <li>• Number of stakeholders supported to attend national or regional events and/or dialogues</li> <li>• Number of stakeholders reporting access to lessons learned and models of best practice</li> <li>• Increased use of lessons learned/ feedback to inform future activities</li> <li>• Documentary and media events releases/reports produced on best practices and lessons learned</li> <li>• Publications as such as Policy or Technical Briefs, Scientific or Network Papers, flyers, posters, manuals produced or reviewed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoDMA and MVAC reports</li> <li>• Workshop proceedings, meeting minutes, and participation lists</li> <li>• Trip and meeting reports</li> <li>• Distribution lists related to publications</li> <li>• Participants in learning and information sharing events</li> <li>• Minutes of meetings</li> </ul>
<p>Communication and visibility of DRR/M and related strategies and interventions supported by FAO is increased</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Types and numbers of communication platforms supported (Web sites, networks, etc.)</li> <li>• Number of communication and visibility materials (audio visual products, branded items, documentaries, radio stories and others) produced</li> <li>• Quantities of materials disseminated/ distributed</li> <li>• FAO emergency communication and visibility strategy developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Web site and user statistics</li> <li>• Proceedings of meetings</li> </ul>
<p>Monitoring and evaluation of FAO-supported agricultural and food security DRR, disaster response and rehabilitation interventions strengthened</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All response and DRR interventions supported by FAO have an effective monitoring and evaluation framework including baselines</li> <li>• Training on monitoring and evaluation implemented for staff and partners</li> <li>• Data collected and analysis on baselines and intervention processes, activities, outputs and impacts</li> <li>• Monitoring of processes, activities, outputs and impacts undertaken according to timing specified in the monitoring and evaluation framework</li> <li>• Programme reports produced in a timely manner and according to FAO and donor requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation reports</li> <li>• Mission reports</li> </ul>

- Beneficiaries are able to express themselves and recommendations are carried out
- Poor economic policies do not undermine effectiveness of the interventions and support
- Sites are readily accessible for monitoring purposes
- Stakeholders continue to operate effectively

### Annex 3: New national DRM institutional structure for Malawi



**Annex 4: Selected projects implemented through FAO Malawi**  
(only projects that started in or after 2006 are presented)

Project symbol	Title	Donor	Start date	End date	Implementing partners	Objective/comments	Budget (USD)
OSRO/RAF/511/SAF	Surveillance and control of epidemic foot-and-mouth disease and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia in Southern Africa	South Africa	Jan 06	Jul 07	Department of Animal Health	To promote use of Internet connections to provide real-time information on reporting and management of disease outbreaks	200 000
OSRO/RAF/510/SAF	Enhancing livelihoods and food and nutrition security in vulnerable Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries	South Africa	Jan 06	Jan 08	MSH, Connect Hope, ADRA, CDCOM, CPAR, MOAIWD, WFP, UNICEF, Ministry of Education, of Irrigation and Water, and of Gender	Increase/intensify agricultural production/ productivity and diversity to improve resilience of vulnerable households	1 596 272
TCP/RAF/3104	Assistance for the establishment of the African Common Market for basic food products - Phase II	FAO	Feb 06	Jul 07	SADC governments	To undertake the necessary analyses and formulation of a strategy and Plan of Action to assist in furthering agricultural market integration and trade in basic food products in Africa	318 000
TCP/RAF/3105	Support the implementation of African Union policy & strategic initiatives on fisheries	FAO	Jul 06	Feb 07	African member countries of FAO	To assist SADC - FANRD prepare for October 2005 Donor conference, expected to generate financial and technical interest among partners to enhance SADC's overall ability to ensure food security and reduce poverty in the region	322 000
FNPP-FS-MW/06/07	National Forest Programme Facility	FAO	Jul 06	Jun 07	Ministry of Mines, Natural Resources and Environment	To facilitate formulation of two pilot forestry projects in Malawi funded from carbon credit sources	300 000
GCPS/MLW/030/NOR	Enhancing food security & developing sustainable rural livelihoods	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation	Jul 06	Jun 11	MOAIWD	Alleviate poverty and food insecurity among chronically poor by sustainable use of natural resources	5 290 257

GP/RAF/411/JPN	Intra-African training and dissemination of technical know-how for sustainable agriculture and rural development within the framework of South-South Cooperation	Japan	Dec 06	Nov 11	MOAIWD	To spread and disseminate to farmers, foresters, fishers, extension workers and government officials in selected African least developed countries the technological know-how accumulated by African experts that have already benefited from training under past Japanese Technical Cooperation programmes	4 357 025
OSRO/MLW/603/SPA	Agricultural input support for crop diversification to affected smallholder farmers in Kasungu, Ntchisi and Dowa districts of Malawi	Spain	Mar 07	Aug 08	MOAIWD, Ministry of Irrigation and Water Development	To build resilience of smallholder farmers in fighting natural disasters through establishment of sustainable seed and food security base	322 000
TCP/MLW/3103 (D)	Artisanal manufacturing of small metallic silos	FAO	May 07	Apr 08	MOAIWD	Improve household/ community-level storage capacities through the provision of grain and food storage facilities	298 000
GDCP/MLW/001/FLA	Integrating food and nutrition security with sustainable livelihoods	Flanders Cooperation	Aug 07	Jul 10	MOAIWD	To strengthen and build capacity of community groups, particularly farmer associations; and to improve nutritional & hygienic knowledge & status at the household and community levels	5 510 275
TCP/RAF/3111 (E)	Emergency assistance to combat Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome in the Chobe/Zambezi river system	FAO	Oct 07	Sep 08	MOAIWD	To support authorities and administrators of fisheries & aquaculture; natural parks and veterinary services as well as riverine communities of the seven participating countries dependant on the Zambezi river systems for food and livelihoods	153 000

EP/RAF/604/GEF -GLF/2328-2770- GF/3010-04	Sustainable management of inland wetlands in Southern Africa: A livelihood and ecosystems approach	Global Environment Facility	Dec 07	Dec 11	Department of Environmental Affairs	Generate new knowledge of the way that wetlands function, their process and linkages with the surrounding catchment, the environmental and socio-economic implications of different interventions and management strategies and best practises for sustainable development	145 940
OSRO/MLW/801/UK	Agricultural response to flood-affected population	DFID	Mar 08	Oct 08	MOAIWD	To empower the most vulnerable flood-affected households with inputs, knowledge and skills that would ensure improved livelihoods and long-term food and nutrition security, while at the same time building capacity of the MOAIWD to take a leading role on issues surrounding agricultural emergencies	800 000
OSRO/MLW/701/SPA	Establishment of JFFLS in Mchinji, Lilongwe, Machinga, Ntcheu and Mangochi districts of Malawi	Spain	Jan 08	Dec 08	MOAIWD, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Gender, Child Development and Community Development, FAO, WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR	To empower orphans, the most vulnerable children and households, and young people with life skills and knowledge that ensure improved livelihoods and long-term food and nutrition security	335 001
TCP/MLW/3201 (D)	Technical Cooperation Programme Facility	FAO	Jun 08	Mar 11	MOAIWD	Comprised three Baby Projects (Special data facility; post-harvest loss study and support for nutrition capacity building)	177 009
TCP/RAF/3206 (E)	Regional support to alleviate the impact of soaring food prices on the most affected vulnerable farming populations of the Southern African region	FAO	Mar 09	Aug 10	MOAIWD	To strengthen capacity at national and regional level to monitor and analyse the food security situation and implement productive safety nets to boost smallholder food production and address soaring food prices	372 000

TCP/MLW/3203	Strengthening institutional capacity of the agriculture sector to address the impact of HIV and AIDS on food and nutrition security and rural livelihoods	FAO	Oct 09	Sep 11	MOAIWD	Achieve lasting improvements in agricultural production and food security of HIV and AIDS-affected households and communities in the country	358 000
TCP/MLW/3101	Support small-scale fish farming enterprises	FAO	Nov 06	Oct 09	Department of Fisheries	To promote community-level, economically-viable aquaculture operations to support households and national food security by provision of affordable good quality fish protein, focusing on catfish	314 000
TCP/MLW/3102 (D)	Capacity building in farm planning & management for extension workers and farmers	FAO	Aug 07	Sep 09	MOAIWD	Strengthen capacity of extension staff and workers in pilot districts on farm business management and agribusiness	428 000
GTFS/RAF/394/ITA	Enhancing food security in cassava-based farm systems (Malawi and Zambia)	Italian Trust Fund	Jul 06	Dec 09	MOAIWD	Increase incomes and living standards of small rural households via more profitable agriculture production systems	750 000
UNJP/MLW/032/UNJ	One Fruit Tree	One-UN Fund	Oct 09	Oct 12	MOAIWD	Improved household nutrition and increased income earnings of rural poor households	198 000
UNJP/MLW/043/EDF	Provision of social support and capacity building to most vulnerable households through upscaling of JFFLS in Malawi	EDF – Delivering as One	Mar 10	Jun 12	Ministries of Education; Gender, Child Development and Community Development; Agriculture	To address vulnerability of boys and girls and their communities	500 000
GCP/MLW/020/CPA	Technical assistance under the South-South Cooperation with the People's Republic of China in support of the ASWAp in Malawi	China	Sep 10	Sep 12	MOAIWD	To support implementation of the ASWAp aimed at enhancing agricultural production, in support of national and household food security in the country, through the fielding of expertise from China	1 050 098
OSRO/RAF/007/EC	Humanitarian food assistance for vulnerable populations in the southeast African & southwest Indian Ocean region affected by natural disasters	ECHO	Sep 10	Dec 11	COOPI, Goal Malawi and CA/EAM	Increased resilience to food insecurity of flood and cyclone exposed communities	570 000
UNJP/MLW/046/EDF	Support to Ministry of Agriculture in developing a community grain storage management system (2009 and 2010)	EDF- Delivering as One	Mar 10	Jun 12	FAO	Improve food security through increased availability of maize and higher incomes for farmers through marketing	618 533

TCP/MLW/3302	Strengthening pest and pesticide management capacities in Malawi	FAO	May 11	Apr 13	MOAIWD	Contribute to eradication of poverty, improve food security and environmental sustainability through enhancement of sustainable agricultural production	500 000
OSRO/RAF/108/USA	CA coordination and advocacy in Southern Africa	USAID/OFDA	Oct 11	Mar 12	National CA Task Force (NCATF)	To support the NCATFs to improve their coordination on CA and to increase awareness and provide training to communities	121 000
OSRO/RAF/116/USA	Strengthen food security DRR and capacity in areas prone to climatic shocks and natural hazards in Malawi and Mozambique	USAID/OFDA	Sep 11	Mar 12	Goal Malawi, COOPI and EAM	To provide another season of support to hazard-exposed small-scale farmers targeted in the 2010-2011 season, to further entrench the improved food security-DRR methods and technologies to increase their resilience – this additional season of support will also afford the opportunity to gather further evidence on the effectiveness of food security-DRR interventions in Malawi and Mozambique	475 333
OSRO/MLW/601/SPA	Promotion of small-scale irrigation and crop diversification in Machinga, Kasungu, Lilongwe districts of Malawi	Spain	Mar 06	Sep 06	Maleza, Immanuel International	To support small-scale irrigation during dry spells as well as winter period by provision of treadle pumps, legumes and vegetable seed	296 625
OSRO/MLW/602/USA	Support for avian influenza bird surveillance in Malawi	USAID	Apr 06	Mar 07	FAO and National Avian Influenza Task Force	Address short-term actions to be undertaken by Government to strengthen capacity to rapidly detect Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza & minimize spread in case of its occurrence	100 000

## Annex 5: Risk analysis matrix

Source of risk	Occurrence likelihood	Potential impact	Risk impact	Possible solutions/mitigation measures
Inadequate funding and short funding cycles	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited implementation of activities and achievement of the set objectives</li> <li>Delayed/reduced donor engagement to shift support to transitional and development programmes</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revise objectives and targets based on process monitoring findings</li> <li>Maintain high level of communication and collaboration among partners and ensure that all key partners are kept informed of progress and any emanating challenges</li> </ul>
Political instability	Low - Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government departments and other stakeholders have limited capacity and logistical support to participate fully and operations may not be carried out timely</li> <li>Suspension/withdrawal of funding support</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain good contact with donors and hold regular discussions to address any arising developments which may necessitate change</li> <li>Ensure that regular review meetings are held with partners to check on progress according to roles and responsibilities</li> </ul>
Socio-economic instability and unfavourable policies and decisions	Low - Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Underlying funding constraints in the public sector could hinder adequate logistical support to the national departments in implementing the PoA activities</li> </ul>	Medium-High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resource pooling among stakeholders where appropriate; direct support to operational constraints of government, e.g. support with transport, computing and other facilities through various projects of the PoA as deemed necessary.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited or lack of incentives for significant private sector investment on interventions such contract farming</li> <li>Inability to access appropriate and timely inputs and equipment to implement activities</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involving and engaging the private sector from the beginning of to foster good relationships and mutual trust through dialogue and follow through on agreed issues.</li> <li>Facilitate and/or strengthen linkages between private sector and farmers or farmers' groups/producer organizations</li> <li>Ensure that approaches that promote market development are applied in e.g. input access by vulnerable households</li> </ul>
		High inflation could reduce the value of the funding support	Medium	Consider revising the targets down or request for bridging funds from donors, to be analysed on a case by case basis
		Unfavourable pricing and other marketing constraints might cause farmers to limit future production of certain products	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support initiatives such as contract growing where producers and marketers can discuss the pricing before the season.</li> <li>Support with identification of new markets for the potential produce. The information to be generated from the proposed market assessments will help to resolve this by informing of the products that can potentially fetch higher prices.</li> </ul>
		High staff turnover within the extension system will undermine the capacity to train and provide backstopping to the farmers	Low-Medium	Strengthen logistical support to relevant Government departments to maintain momentum and consider incentives through e.g. staff development programmes related to the PoA activities

## Annex 6: Map of Malawi



Map Sources: Europa Technologies, UNCS.  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created Jun 2010 - [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)

## **Annex 7: Acknowledgements**

This Plan of Action (PoA) was prepared by the staff of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Emergency Rehabilitation and Coordination Unit in Malawi with support from FAO headquarters and consultants.

In preparing the document, discussions were held with key stakeholders in Malawi, including various departments in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security; the Department of Disaster Management Affairs; Non-governmental Organizations; civil society; partner United Nations agencies; development partners; farmers' unions; and the FAO Regular Programme in Malawi.

Initially, a half-day meeting was held with representatives from Government departments to draft the expected outcomes and outputs of the PoA. Following this, consultations were held with individual organizations and a consolidated draft set of objectives, outcomes and expected outputs was developed. Further consultations were conducted with key individuals after the initial draft had been prepared. This document is a product of all these processes supported by reference to objectives and proposed activities laid out in various national policy and/or strategy documents.

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