

Africa Climate Adaptation Food Security Project (ACA)
UNDP RBA Regional Project

Quarterly Progress Report

Award ID number	00074692
Project ID number	86997
Country	Malawi
Reporting period	April to June 2015
Project Budget	US\$ 665,000
Source of funding	Japanese Government
Co-financing (UNDP TRAC, in-kind, or other)	N/A

1. Summary of Key Achievements

Project Outputs	Key Achievements (made in the current quarter)
Output 1. Climate Information system enhanced for informed and integrated decision making and planning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indicators for the Monitoring and Evaluation framework for National Climate Change Investment Plan were validated at national and district level. Population of the baselines has commenced and is expected to be finalised by end of July 2015. 2. Commencement of work on the Hazard and Vulnerability Mapping exercise for Malawi was initiated and is nearing completion 3. Steps initiated to create and finalise an online Climate Action Intelligence Database to improve access to key information for all. 4. Climate Change information messaging has continued using rural radio stations as an effective means for targeting communities, with MPs also engaged in this activity to promote dissemination. 5. Four Climate Change Information Centers have been strengthened. Appropriate technologies have enabled centres to access real-time weather information from the Meteorology Department. Nsanje and Mulanje districts have further linked climate centres to rural radio stations to assist with disseminating climate and weather messages to communities in real time. Tailor-made climate information materials were also developed, and 350 extension workers were trained in interpreting the climate information from the centres.
Output 2. Selected climate adaptation and risk management measures tested and scaled up	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Above 80% survival rate has been registered for the agroforestry seedlings distributed to communities. The community have already noted the value of agroforestry even though it has just been one season, with further benefits expected to be realised in the next growing season and next three years.

2. Activity Progress Details and Challenges

Project outputs & activities	Annual target July 2014 – July 2015	Explanation of progress	Constraints, Issues & Lessons learned
Output 1. Climate Information systems enhanced for informed and integrated decision making and planning			
Activity 1.1. Develop a National Climate Change M&E system	One M&E framework for the National Climate Change Investment Plan	M&E Framework for CC Investment Plan draft was finalised, indicators were validated at district and central level, and population of baseline is underway.	As this activity will go beyond the project period, funds from UNDP TRAC under the National Climate Change Programme can be used to launch the M&E framework.
Activity 1.2. Support production and dissemination of Climate Change Hazard and Vulnerability maps	Vulnerability maps for two climate change hot spot districts	Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development was engaged to work alongside government to conduct the Hazard and Vulnerability Mapping exercise. Mapping for National and five (5) vulnerable districts in Malawi are on-going. Field work, development of products and validation was completed, with final deliverables expected by end of July.	As this activity will go beyond the project period, dissemination of the products will be considered under UNDP TRAC funding.
Activity 1.3 Support Climate Action Intelligence (CAI) database maintenance and its sustainability	300 CAI tool kits disseminated	200 CAI version I tool kits were disseminated. It was agreed that the remaining funds would be used to develop an on-line database to provide easier access to database and information for interested parties. The e-government was contracted to design a web based CAI database, which was designed and finalised. Updated information will be entered with a deadline for completion by end of July 2015.	Lessons learned: Online database systems where possible, provide easy access to information.
Activity 1.4 Support maintenance of GIS and ICT infrastructure for management of climatic data and information	Two data sets shared through the data sharing platform	Backup support continues to be provided by 'Computer Connections' a service provider outsourced to maintain the servers in the six (6) Departments: of Forestry, Land Resources, Department of Disaster Management Affairs, Department of Climate Change and MET Services, Water Resources and Department of Surveys. The same support is also provided to the Shire River Basin Project.	Lessons learned: Sharing climate change, information from across the board is essential for comprehensive dissemination and coordination.

<p>Activity 1.5 Promote media campaigns and the national climate change website to ensure programme raises relevant CC issues at relevant times of the year</p>	<p>10 radio programmes conducted</p>	<p>366 jingles (1 minute) on climate change messages are being aired during peak hours. 48 programmes (15 minutes) on climate change are being aired on community radios in Mchinji, Salima and Karonga districts. Special messages by Parliamentarians on climate change and natural resources are being aired on TV Malawi and National Radio stations.</p>	<p>Lessons learned: Community Radios is a cheaper and effective means of dissemination of climate information in rural communities. Engagement of leaders, such as MPs, serves as an effective method of encouraging further interest from communities.</p>
<p>Activity 1.6 Review, develop and disseminate appropriate knowledge materials for district climate information centers incorporating gender dimensions</p>	<p>1500 different materials supplied to climate centres</p>	<p>18,000 different materials including posters, pamphlets, brochures and booklets, are being printed for district climate centres to be ready for use by end of July 2015. The materials are both in English and local languages (Chichewa and Tumbuka).</p>	<p>Lessons learned: Where possible, ensure communication materials on climate information are available in local languages, and in picture format, to ensure a greater audience is reached, including the illiterate.</p>
<p>Activity 1.7 Work with DCCMS, rural radio stations, land users and fishermen to develop and implement provision of tailored regular (daily or weekly) weather forecasts-including approaches to explain reliability of forecasts top land users.</p>	<p>50 messages sent to relevant audiences by Meteorology department</p>	<p>Specific forecasts have been sent to climate centres for access by communities. 460 messages have been sent in the reporting quarter to the districts of Salima, Mulanje, Nsanje and Karonga.</p>	<p>See above on lessons learned for radio programmes.</p>
<p>Activity 1.8 Train extension workers/farmers to maximize usage of locally produced climate data</p>	<p>200 extension workers trained</p>	<p>Extension workers were sensitised on the use of the Climate Centres to access weather and early warning messages for their communities. 350 extension workers were mobilised and sensitised in Karonga, Salima, Mulanje and Nsanje.</p>	<p>Lessons Learned: While Extension Workers have been sensitised there is need to continue to build capacity of all the users of climate information along the chain, to ensure it is correctly analysed, interpreted and used effectively. These areas have been included in the new proposal to the Green Climate Fund.</p>

Output 2: Selected climate adaptation and risk management measures tested and scaled up			
Activity 2.1 Identify climate risk management approaches in selected districts, explore safety-net measures	Two approaches identified	Following discussion with the Project Manager and Regional Advisor, funds under this activity were re-allocated to support strengthening of District Climate Information Centres and Agroforestry activities.	Lessons Learned: Avoid duplicating existing efforts: UNICEF and WFP are leading on social protection in Malawi.
Activity 2.2 Support national capacity for climate finance readiness	One training conducted	Following discussion with the Project Manager and Regional Advisor, it was agreed that funds under these activities be re-allocated to support development of the closely corresponding activity under this project in Activity 1.1, development of the M&E Framework for the Climate Change Investment Plan. This activity was undertaken by the Department of Economic Planning and Development to build their capacity in implementing the Investment Plan, as well as ensuring an M&E Framework in place, would improve access to climate finance.	Lessons Learned: Ensure adaptive management and flexible project designs and plans, which allow for these small adjustments.
Activity 2.3 Build capacity for implementing the National Climate Change Investment Plan	One training conducted		
Activity 2.4 Support food security activities under National Climate Change Investment Plan	5 initiatives implemented	Tree growing: Over 80% survival rate has been registered for the agroforestry seedlings that were supplied to farmers. Farmers have reported the positive changes that they have noted with the approach and more benefits are expected in the next growing season since agroforestry takes three years to fully demonstrate its benefits.	There are valuable benefits of this approach which will continue to be monitored under the complementary project supported by Flanders in the same districts, to ensure benefits are fully achieved and documented.

3. Milestones for the next quarter and related needs

The project will concentrate on consolidating and finalising all outstanding work under the programme by end of July 2015, including the final payments to the consultants under the Hazard and Vulnerability Mapping activity where the remaining project funds of \$39,554 have been committed, as indicated in Section 4. This activity is on-track with final fund disbursement planned for end of July 2015, latest early August. Once these funds have been disbursed the delivery rate will increase from 94% at present, to 100% as planned. 2015 Progress Report and a full Project Terminal Report will be submitted by 15th August 2015 to provide further information on the progress achieved in 2015, as has been summarized in this report, and to report on achievements for the project throughout the entire period.

4. Financial progress

Activities	Budget	Encumbrances	Expenditure	Cumulative expenditure	Balance
2013 1 & 2	\$ 665,000	\$ 0.00	\$ 21,255	\$ 21,255	\$ 643,745
2014 1 & 2	\$ 643,745	\$ 1,555	\$ 223,636	\$ 225,191	\$ 418,554
2015 1 & 2	\$ 418,554	\$ 0.00	\$ 379,000	\$ 379,000	\$ 39,554
Delivery Rate to date (cumulative):					94%

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21/07/2015