

**CO-MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR MITAWA NSINJI FOREST BLOCK
IN
LIWONDE FOREST RESERVE
MACHINGA DISTRICT**



January, 2014

Covers Pictures Clockwise: *Timber and firewood; (some of the products that will be harvested from the block), Mitawa nursery, and part of Mitawa Block.*

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ACRONYMS

ADFO	Assistant District Forestry Officer
DFO	District Forestry Office (r)
EU	European Union
FA	Forestry Assistant
FD	Forestry Department
FDF	Forest Development Fund
FMU	Forest Management Unit
GPS	Geographical Positioning System
GIS	Geographical Information System
GVH	Group Village Headman
H/Hs	Households
Ha	Hectares
IFMSLP	Improved Forest Management for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme
LFMB	Local Forest Management Board
LFO	Local Forest Organization
NTFP	Non- Timber Forest Product
T/A	Traditional Authority

Summary

Mitawa/ Nsinji Co-Management Plan is a document that reflects all participatory processes of discussion, analysis, consultation and planning that were carried out by both Community members of Group Village Heads Mitawa, Mtepa, Makolanga and Nsinji of Traditional Authority Chamba and Forestry Department through Machinga District Forestry Office. The entire process was intended to empower local communities in GVHs Mitawa, Mtepa, Makolanga and Nsinji area so that they are able to make informed decision jointly with the Forestry Department and take the responsibility over the forest resources around their area both on customary land and state-owned forest reserve or part of it, in this case forest block. This is in line with the National Forestry Policy, 1996 which advocates for co-management of protected areas such as forest reserves.

The Co-Management plan shall guide both Mitawa/ Nsinji community and Forestry Department (Machinga District Forestry Office in particular) in sustainable management and utilization of the forest block. As such, the document outlines management objectives, forest management units, management practices for each product, resource user rules, patrolling plan, participatory monitoring and evaluation plan, financial projections and other important aspects which will assist to conserve and regulate access of forest products.

The village has a total number of 1846 households and its population is 9,934.

The block has eleven streams namely; *Magobo, Mchololo, Chikoleka, Namiwawa, Lingoni, Lingamasa, Nanyenga, Malembanje, Mtalaweuli, Namalilima* and *Namiyala*. Out of them eight (8) are perennial and these are; *Magobo, Nchololo, Namiwawa, Lingoni, Lingamasa, Nanyenga, Malembanje and Mtalaweuli*. It has got one main objective and five specific objectives. The block shall provide the communities of Mitawa Nsinji with woody and non woody products as well as environmental services (protection of catchments and fragile areas)

The communities have developed fourteen (14) management practices in order to guide the harvesting system in the determined coupes according to the types of uses. In addition, eighteen (18) resource use rules and penalties including detailed management plan for each product have also been formulated.

Apart from the resource use rules, management plan and practices, the communities also managed to develop an activity, patrolling, harvesting and Monitoring Plans for woody and non-woody products. The management plan also gives detailed financial projections.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document is the co-management plan for Mitawa/ Nsinji Forest Block. The block is 1359.6 ha and is located to the Eastern side of Liwonde Forest Reserve which is 24,351.87 ha. This plan derives its objectives from Liwonde Strategic Forest Area Plan whose main objectives include:

- Rehabilitation and protection of fragile areas within and outside the forest reserve.
- Increasing forest cover, productivity and value, to ensure continuous provision of local and national Services.
- Improvement of livelihoods of forest dependent communities through sustainable forest management and utilization.
- Improvement of forest governance issues through local institutions.

2.0 MANAGING AUTHORITY

This management plan shall be managed by a Local Forest Organization (LFO) known as Mitawa/ Nsinji Block Management Committee from Group Village headmen Mitawa, Mtepa, Makolanga and Nsinji of Traditional Authority Chamba in collaboration with Department of Forestry through Machinga District Forestry Office. The block committee shall be officially registered by the District Forestry Office.

3.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE FOREST BLOCK

3.1 General Description

Mitawa/Nsinji Forest Co-management Block is found in Liwonde Forest Reserve which is located to the South Eastern part of Machinga district about 20Km away from the Boma and about 10 Km away from Namwera Turn- Off.

The Block has a total area of 1, 359.6 hectares with steep slopes and many streams. These streams include; Magobo, Mchololo, Chikoleka, Namiwawa, Lingoni, Lingamasa, Nanyenga, Malembanje, Mtalaweuli, Namalilima and Namiyala. Perennial rivers in the block include, Magobo, Nchololo, Namiwawa, Lingoni, Lingamasa, Nanyenga, Malembanje and Mtalaweuli.

The block is characterized by red stony soils (katondo) and black sandy soils. It is dominated by dry- miombo woodland tree species such as *Ntwana*, *Mchenga*, *Thombozi*, *Msolo*, *Mlombwa*, *Chiumbu*, *Njombo*, *Masuku*, *Mbwabwa*, *Mchonya*, *Mkalati*, *Lungwe*, *Mpoza* and *Mpembu (Maula)*. There is also a plantation of Eucalyptus tree species namely Lingoni covering an area of 150 hectares.

The block has different sizes of forest cover .There is visible human interferences like opening up of gardens, charcoal burning and illegal firewood collection for both domestic and commercial purposes that is leading to deforestation.

Location of Mitawa Forest Block in Liwonde Forest Reserve

3.2 Boundary

The block borders with Kachato forest block to the West and Lingoni River separates the two blocks. Chindenga forest block is to the East with Lingamasa river separating the two blocks. Chaone Forest block is to the North and customary land lies to the Southern part of the block. The boundary was demarcated using Geographical Positioning System (GPS). Figure 1 on page 8 illustrates a Map which shows the block boundaries.

3.3 Land Tenure

Mitawa/Nsinji Forest block is part of Liwonde forest reserve which was gazetted in 1924 to protect catchment areas and special tree species. This implies that the forest reserve which includes Mitawa Forest block itself still remains the property of Malawi Government.

3.4 Forest Users

The primary user groups of the block are the people from the four Group Village Headmen namely: Mitawa, Mtepa, Makolanga and Nsinji. In total, the four Group Village Headmen have 1846 households (H/Hs) that benefit from the block. There are also secondary users from the neighboring communities outside Mitawa/Nsinji. There are customers from Zomba and Blantyre cities who are privileged to buy some of the forest products like Eucalyptus poles and firewood from the plantations.

3.5 Uses

The block is used in three main ways which include; sources of woody and non woody products, environmental protection and tourism.

Non-woody forest products include: - mushrooms, fibres, medicine, fruits, bamboos, honey, game meat and thatching grass. Woody products include firewood, timber, and poles, cooking sticks, wooden spoons, mortars, pestles and curios.

Map showing Forest Block boundary

4.0 FOREST MANAGEMENT UNITS

Mitawa/Nsinji forest block has four (4) forest management units (FMUs). These are described below and map showing the FMUs is on the next page.

4.1 FMU 1

FMU 1 is composed of Eucalyptus (Blue-gum) trees and this portion is known as Lingoni, a substation of plantation covering an area of **150** hectares. It is stocked with sizeable pole trees and firewood that can be harvested.

4.2 FMU 2

This FMU is covered by regenerating trees with an area of about ----- hectares. The area is strictly protected from harmful bush fires, fiber collection and animal grazing.

4.3 FMU 3

This is a harvestable area from where diverse woody products can be obtained. It is the largest forest management unit in the block and it covers an area of about ----- hectares. This is the area where charcoal burning, illegal timber sawing illegal cutting down of trees for firewood are currently taking place.

4.4 FMU 4

This is a non-harvestable area with steep slopes and a catchment area for most of the rivers that originate from the block. This is a no-go zone for any activity hence totally protected from any forest activity. This area covers about ----- hectares.

Map showing FMUs in Mitawa Block

5.0 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

5.1 General Objective

•To improve the livelihoods of Mitawa/ Nsinji community through sustainable management and utilization of forest resources and services.

5.2 Specific objectives

1. To provide fuel wood, timber and poles for both domestic and commercial purposes. This will be done in FMU 3 and FMU 1
2. To protect the regenerants so as to improve forest cover and increase the wood base. This will mainly take place in FMU 2.
3. To protect the stream banks and other fragile areas. This will be done in FMU 4.
- 4 To sustainably utilize Non -Timber Forest Products (NTFP) –mushroom, honey, medicine, fruits, thatch grass, game meat, soil, stones, fibres and bamboos. This will be taking place in FMUs 1, 2, 3, 4

6.0 MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The following are the appropriate management practices that have been developed in order to guide the harvesting system in determined coupes according to the types of uses:

NO	PRACTICES	DESCRIPTION
1	Protected areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All catchment areas, stream banks and steep slopes will not be harvested.
2	Fire protection in coupes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire protection shall be a priority in the whole block to avoid damaging the regenerants.
3	Coppice with standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A considerable number of trees to act as standards shall be left in each coupe in order to allow them grow into large sizes and support other uses e.g. timber, medicine and act as mother trees. 25 trees per hectare (ha) at spacing of 20m from each tree shall be left giving a maximum number of 200 trees. The coppices shall be managed together with the standards.
4	Thinning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In all harvestable coupes thinning shall be done after 7-10 years of regenerants. In Eucalyptus plantation thinning shall be done after 3 years. Thinned products shall be used for different purposes e.g. fibres, small poles and firewood. Thinning records shall be kept.
5	Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regeneration shall be by coppicing, root suckering and planting.
6	Harvesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harvesting shall be done during the dry season (May-September). Trees shall be cut close to the ground (15cm stump height) to enhance coppicing.
7	Controlled early burning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early burning shall be done soon after rainy season to prevent fierce bush fires and stimulate regeneration.
8	Seed trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The standards shall produce seed sufficient to support genetic variation.
9	Fruit trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fruit trees shall be reserved until they become underproductive when they shall be used for other woody products.
10	Timber standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timber trees shall be reserved for standards and these trees can be harvested in the next rotation

7.0 RESOURCE USE RULES

NO	RESOURCE RULES	SPECIFICATION	PENALTY
1	No cutting of trees along the stream banks (50m on either side)	Cutting of trees will be only done 50m away from the stream banks on both sides.	Anyone found guilty of cutting trees along the stream banks shall pay a fine of K15, 000 for each felled tree. The tools and felled trees shall be confiscated. Failure to pay the fine, the offender shall be given a piece of work in the block equivalent to the fine. If he/she fails to comply with, then he/she will be sent to court to answer charges.
2	No charcoal burning	Charcoal burning in the block or outside the block is not allowed.	Anyone found guilty of burning charcoal in and outside the block shall pay a fine of K20, 000.00 and failure to do so will be taken to court.
3	No setting of bush fires in the block.	Any fires that occur in the block other than one set during controlled early burning is unauthorized.	Anyone found guilty of setting fire in the block shall pay a fine of K15, 000.00 and failure to pay shall be taken to court.
4	No unauthorized pit-sawing in the block.	-Pit-sawing shall only take place in the demarcated coupes under permission from the block committee (LFO).	-Anyone found guilty of an offence related to pit-sawing in the block shall pay a fine of K15, 000.00 per felled tree. -The planks and tools shall be confiscated. If he/she fails to pay the stipulated fine shall be taken to court for prosecution.
5	No unauthorized hunting.	Hunting shall be allowed to take place with permission from the LFO.	Anyone found guilty of hunting without permission shall pay a fine of K1,500.00.
6	No disposal of pollutants of any kind in the block.	-Rivers and forests shall be totally protected from being polluted.	Any person found guilty of an offence related to pollution of the water and forest shall pay a fine of K5,000.00 and failure to do so shall be taken to court for prosecution.
7	(a)No unauthorized collection of firewood.	Collection of firewood shall be done after obtaining permission from the LFO.	-Anyone found guilty of collecting firewood for domestic use shall pay a fine of K150.00/head load. -Anyone found guilty of collecting firewood for commercial purposes shall pay a fine of K200.00/head load.
	(b)Authorized free collection of firewood.	-Every Saturday communities from the four GVHs adjacent to the block will be permitted to collect firewood freely. -Only dry firewood will be allowed to be collected	-Any outsider found guilty of joining the authorized communities in the collection of firewood on the day set for free collection shall pay a fine of K200.00/head load.
	(c)No unauthorized entry into the block in possession of tools like panga knives, axes, bow-saws.	Collection of firewood should be done using long poles or bamboos with hooks.	Anyone found guilty of the possession of unauthorized tools shall pay a fine of K150.00 and the tool will be confiscated and be returned after paying K50.00 for each confiscated tool.
8	No unauthorized harvesting	Bamboos shall be harvested after obtaining	Anyone found guilty of harvesting bamboos without permission

	of bamboos	permission from the LFO.	shall pay a fine of K300.00 per bundle. The bamboos shall be confiscated
9	No unauthorized grazing of animals in the block.	All regenerants in the block are protected from any damage.	Anyone found guilty of grazing animals in the block shall pay a fine of K150.00 for each animal.
10	No entry of unauthorized visitor in the block.	Any visitor shall be required to obtain permission from the LFO.	Visitors found guilty of trespassing in the block without permission from the LFO shall pay a fine of K15000.00 each.
11	No unauthorized collection of soil and stones.	Collection of soil and stones shall be done after obtaining permission from the LFO.	-Anyone found guilty of collecting soil without permission shall pay a fine K500 per wheelbarrow. -Anyone found guilty of collecting quarry stones without permission shall pay a fine of K5, 000.00 per ton.
12	Cutting of fruit trees in the block is not allowed	Fruit trees are not allowed to be cut in the block.	Anyone found guilty of an offence related to the cutting of fruit trees shall pay a fine of K15, 000.00.
13	No unauthorized harvesting of the regenerants.	Regenerants shall be protected from harvesting, grazing and fires.	Anyone found guilty of harvesting regenerants, shall pay a fine of K150.00 per regenerant..
14	No opening up of gardens or establishing settlement in the block.	Cultivating and/or construction of houses shall not be allowed under any circumstance.	Anyone found guilty of opening up garden or establishing settlements shall pay a fine of K20,000.00 and his/her crops shall be slashed out. Settlements shall be demolished and failure to pay the fine , the offender shall be taken to court to answer charges.
15	No cutting of trees below 15cm stump height in the block.	Cutting of trees shall only be allowed at the stump height of not more than 15cm.	Anyone found guilty of cutting trees above 15cm stump height shall be charged to pay a fine of K500.00 per stump.
16	No cutting of freshly young trees for firewood	Cutting of trees for firewood shall only be allowed with permission from the LFO	Anyone found guilty of an offence related to cutting of freshly young trees for firewood shall pay a fine of K15,000
17	No unauthorized cutting of trees for curios will be allowed in the block	Cutting of trees for curio production shall only take place with permission from the LFO	A fine of K15, 000 per each un authorized felled tree for curio production shall be paid
18	No un authorized hanging of bee hives in the block	Hanging of bee hives shall only be done in demarcated coupes with permission from the LFO	Anyone found guilty of hanging bee hives without permission shall pay a fine of K3, 000 per hive.

8.0 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR EACH PRODUCT

8.1 Woody Products

Name of Product: Firewood

Key Species: Mchenga, Mtwana, Miombo, Mbanga, Mpandula, Ntatasika and Thombozi

Demand: High

Supply: High

Problems/Issues:

- Wild fires
- Poor harvesting practices
- Illegal harvesting.
- Charcoal production

Management Practices:

- Harvesting of firewood for commercial and domestic purposes shall be done in demarcated coupes only. The leftovers from other products such as timber, poles, shall be collected as firewood.
- Collection of firewood shall be monitored by the LFO.
- 15cm stump height above the ground level shall be strictly recommended when cutting trees in the harvestable coupes.
- Fire shall be used as a management tool in the block in patches in-order to promote regeneration and reduce fire hazard.
- Firewood shall be cut and stacked in cubic metres or collected as head loads. Large diameter logs which are bulky shall be converted into small pieces that can be easily carried as chopped firewood.
- Dead and fallen branches of trees shall be collected as firewood in both harvestable and un-harvestable areas.
- Trees that are dead, diseased, deformed and whips shall be used as firewood in-order to provide space to other growing small trees.
- Intensifying forest patrols

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 19,200 head loads of firewood shall be harvested per year for domestic purposes and 38,400 head loads for commercial uses.
- 720 cubic metres of indigenous firewood shall be harvested per year for domestic purposes and 2,400 cubic metres for commercial purposes per year.
- 3120 head loads of exotic firewood shall be harvested per year for domestic purposes and 6240 head loads of exotic trees for commercial per year.
- 1040 cubic metres of exotic firewood shall be harvested per year for domestic purposes and 2400 cubic metres for commercial purposes.

Who can be issued with permits?

- Permits shall be issued to firewood collectors.

Fees/royalties:

- Domestic users shall pay K100.00 per head load of indigenous firewood while commercial users shall pay K150 per head load of indigenous firewood.
- A fee of K50 shall be paid for any head load of exotic firewood by domestic users while commercial users shall pay K100 for the same head load.
- Bicycle full of indigenous wood shall attract a fee of K200

N.B: Communities from Mitawa/ Nsinji shall be allowed to collect firewood for free every Saturdays.

Name of Product: Poles

Key Species: *Mchenga, Mtwana, Miombo, Mbanga, Msopa, Msuku Naphini, Thombozi and Eucalyptus.*

Demand: High

Supply: Low

Problems/Issues:

- Scarcity of species
- Poor harvesting practices
- Illegal harvesting

Management Practices:

- Harvesting of poles for sale and domestic purposes shall be done in demarcated coupes only. The leftovers from poles shall be collected as firewood. Collection of poles in the demarcated coupes shall be monitored by the LFO.
- 15cm stump height shall be strictly observed in the harvestable coupes.
- Fire shall be used as a management tool in the harvested coupes in patches in-order to promote regenerants.
- Trees which are dead, diseased, deformed and not suitable for poles shall be cut and be used as firewood in-order to provide space to other growing small trees.
- Forest patrols shall be intensified

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 4800 and 1000 big poles (migomba) of indigenous trees shall be harvested per year for domestic and commercial purposes respectively.
- 1200 and 2000 big poles of exotic poles shall be allowed to be harvested per year for domestic and commercial purposes respectively
- 24,000 and 5000 small poles of indigenous trees shall be harvested per year for domestic and commercial uses respectively.

- 5000 and 10000 small poles of exotic trees shall be allowed to be harvested for domestic and commercial purposes per year respectively.

Who can be issued with permits?

- Permits shall be issued to pole collectors.

Fees/royalties:

- Commercial users shall pay K500 per big pole and domestic users shall pay K250 for indigenous trees.
- Commercial users shall pay K150.00 per small pole (phaso) and K100.00 for domestic use for indigenous trees.
- For Eucalyptus, K50.00 shall be paid per each small pole for domestic and K100.00 per big pole for commercial uses.
- For big poles of Eucalyptus, K200.00 shall be paid for domestic purposes and K350.00 for commercial purposes.

Name of Product: Timber

Key Species: *Mbawa, Mlombwa, Ntangatanga, Naphini, Nkalati, Mchonya, Nkweranyani, Ntonongoli and Masuku.*

Demand: High

Supply: Low

Problems/Issues:

- Scarcity of big trees
- Poor harvesting practices
- Illegal harvesting

Management Practices:

- Harvesting of timber for sale and domestic purposes shall be done in determined demarcated coupes only. The leftovers from timber shall be collected as firewood.
- Collection of timber in demarcated coupes shall be monitored by the LFO.
- 15cm stump height shall be strictly recommended when cutting timber trees above the ground level in the harvestable coupes.
- A minimum of 15 timber trees in each 2 hectares coupe shall be left standing as mother trees (plus trees).
- Trees whose diameters at breast height are more than 30 cm shall be harvested in the coupes.
- Timber trees less than 30cm diameter shall be marked as retainers in the respective coupes and shall be left untouched.
- Fire shall be used as a management tool in the harvested coup in patches in order to promote regeneration and reduce fire hazard.
- Enrichment planting shall be carried out in areas which have no regenerants.

- Intensifying forest patrols

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 75 trees for timber shall be harvested per year for commercial uses and 100 trees per year for domestic uses in demarcated coupes only.

Who can be issued with permits?

- Permits shall be issued to pit-sawyers.

Fees/royalties:

- Commercial users shall pay K10,000 per tree
- Domestic users shall pay K5, 000.00 per tree.

8.2 Non Woody Products

Name of product: Mushroom

Key species: *Utenga, Kungolokwaititi, Nakasache, Ujojo, Nakajongolo, Chipatwe, Usinda, Nakambalakata, Utale, Liwuwula, Makomakamajani and Nankalulu.*

Demand: High

Supply: Low

Problems/Issues:

- Poor harvesting practices

Management practices:

- Harvesting of mushroom shall be done in all places where it is available in the block.
- Management of areas where big trees were felled shall be strictly observed to encourage the growth of regenerants of tree species that promote mushroom growing.
- Monitoring of mushroom harvesting shall be done by the block committee.
- Use of fire shall be regulated to avoid scorching mushroom seed or spores.

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 2 baskets of mushrooms shall be collected per household per season for domestic use and 6 baskets per household per season for commercial use.

Who can be issued with permits?

- Permits shall be issued to outsiders.

Fees/royalties:

- Communities for the four GVHs shall collect mushrooms free of charge.
- Outsiders shall pay a fee of K100 per basket

Name of Product: Honey

Key tree species that attract bees: Eucalyptus, *Mpandula* and *Mlungamo*.

Demand: High

Supply: High

Problems/Issues:

- Lack of modern bee keeping materials
- Lack of technical knowledge in bee keeping.
- Bush fires.

Management practices:

- Hanging of bee hives for both commercial and domestic purposes shall be done in non-harvestable areas mainly along river banks.
- Hanging and harvesting of honey shall be monitored by the LFO.
- Remaining products from harvested honey shall be processed into Candle wax and floor polish.
- Weeding shall be carried out in all areas where bee hives have been hanged in order to reduce fire hazard
- All bee hives shall have identities such as number and name of owner.
- In areas where bee hives are hanging, fire shall be strictly excluded to avoid damages.

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 400 bee-hives shall be allowed to be hanged per year for domestic and 500 bee hives for commercial purposes per year.

Who can be issued with permits?

- Permits shall be issued to groups or individuals.

Fees/royalties:

- Commercial bee keepers (outsiders) shall pay a fee of K2000 per bee hive per year, and K1000 shall be paid per bee hive per year for domestic purposes.

Name of product: Fruits

Key species: *Nthema*, *Masuku*, *Mphinji*, *Mapoza*, *Mateme*

Demand: High

Supply: Medium

Problems/Issues:

- Bush fires
- Poor harvesting practices
- Illegal felling of fruit trees

Management practices:

- Only matured and ripen fruits shall be harvested.
- Fruit trees growing areas shall be protected from fires.

- Harvesting of fruits shall be done using recommended harvesting methods (collection of fallen fruits, climbing up the tree and using long hooked sticks).
- Fruit trees shall only be used for fruit collection purpose until the tree dies or has stopped bearing fruits.
- Collection of fruits in the block shall be monitored by the block committee.

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 5538 pails shall be collected for domestic purposes per season
- 1000 pails shall be collected for commercial purposes per season

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to fruit collectors.

Fees/royalties:

- Commercial fruit collectors shall pay a fee of K200 per pail.
- Villagers from Mitawa/ Nsinji shall collect fruit for free.

Name of product: Medicine

Key species: *Chinama, Chiumbu, Mlombwa, Thombozi, Mpoza and Mdimba.*

Demand: High

Supply: High

Problems/Issues:

- Bush fires
- Poor harvesting practices

Management practices:

- Harvesting of medicine shall be done in all parts of the block.
- The Block Management committee and members of the community shall monitor the harvesting of herbs in the block.
- Removal of roots, barks and leaves shall be done with minimal damage.
- Medicinal trees shall be protected from fires by the block committee.
- Cover the dugout pits.
- Use of branches and leaves of medicinal plants instead of roots shall be encouraged
- Intensifying forest patrols

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 150 bags of 50Kg shall be allowed to be harvested per year for domestic use.
- 75 bags of 50 Kg shall be allowed to be harvested per year for commercial use.

Who can be issued with permits?

- Permits shall be issued to herbalists.

Fees/royalties:

- Commercial herb collectors from outside the four villages shall pay a fee of K3500 per bag and domestic collectors shall pay a fee of K2000 per bag.

Name of product: Thatch grass

Key species: *Kamphe (tsekera), Mapyopyo, Nakashe, Nansongole, Senjere, and Nsewe*

Demand: High

Supply: High

Problems/Issues:

- Bush fire.
- Bad grazing practices

Management practices:

- Thatch grass collection shall be done between May and June.
- Only matured grass shall be recommended to be harvested.
- Number of bundles shall be limited per household per year.
- Bush fires shall be protected in areas where there is thatch grass in the block.
- Awareness meetings shall be intensified to the communities adjacent to the block before controlled early burning operation starts.

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 20000 bundles shall be collected for domestic use per year and 400 bundles for commercial uses per year.

Who can be issued with permits?

- Permits shall be issued to thatch grass collectors.

Fees/royalties:

- Free for villagers within the block
- Outsiders shall pay a fee of K100 per bundle

Name of product: Game

Key species: *Kalulu, Gwape, Mbawala, Nguluwe, Nyani, Pusi and Mbira*

Birds:

Demand: High

Supply: Low

Problems/Issues:

- Bush fires:
- Illegal hunting
- Deforestation

Management practices:

- Hunting of animals shall be allowed after the breeding season.
- Number of animals to be killed shall be limited per year.
- Controlled early burning shall be encouraged.
- Regenerating trees shall be promoted in –order to maintain ground cover.
- Pollution of water in the streams shall be strictly prohibited.
- Nets shall not be allowed for hunting
- Intensifying forest patrols

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 200 and 50 permits shall be paid for domestic and commercial hunters respectively.

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to animal hunters.

Fees/ royalties:

- Commercial hunters shall pay a fee of K1, 000.00 per permit while domestic hunters shall pay K500 per permit.

Name of product:	Bamboos
Key species:	Local (Zachikuda)
Demand:	High
Supply:	Low

Problems/Issues:

- Bush fires
- Poor harvesting practices

Management practices:

- Only matured bamboos shall be recommended to be harvested.
- Number of bundles shall be limited per household per year.
- Bush fires shall be protected in areas where there are bamboos in the block.
- Intensifying forest patrols

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 5000 and 2000 bamboos shall be allowed to be harvested for domestic and commercial purposes per year respectively

Who can be issued with permits?

- Permits shall be issued to bamboo collectors.

Fees/royalties:

- Commercial bamboo collectors shall pay a fee of K500 per bundle of bamboos and a fee of K200 per bundle for domestic use.

Name of product: Stones

Key types: *Nagaga, quarry stone and Lubwe.*

Demand: High

Supply: High

Problems/Issues:

- Increased soil erosion
- Unregulated collection of stones

Management practices:

- Stones shall be collected in gentle slope areas.
- Collection of such products shall be monitored by the BMC

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 100 tonnes per year shall be allowed for commercial use and 1,250 wheelbarrows for domestic use per year

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to stone collectors for domestic and commercial purposes.

Fees/royalties:

- A fee of K5000 per ton shall be paid for commercial purposes K500 per wheelbarrow for domestic use per year.

9.0 ACTION PLAN

NO	ACTIVITY	WHO WILL DO IT	WHEN	REQUIREMENTS
1	Forest patrols	Committee members, all communities and the Extension workers.	January-December. -When a need arises).	Panga knives, Spears, axes, receipt books, exercise books, pens and catapults.
2	Weeding and screefing	Committee members, all communities.	April-June	Hoes, slashers, panga knives.
3	Tree planting	Committee members, all communities and the Extension worker.	December-April	Hoes, wheelbarrows, shovels, trowels.
4	Selling of forest products	Committee members.	January-December	Permits, receipt books, pens, exercise books.
5	Issuing of permits	Committee members.	January-December	Permits/receipts books.
6	Committee meetings	Committee members.	January-December	Exercise books, pens, minerals.
7	General meetings	Committee members and all communities.	Once in a month	Exercise books, pens.
8	Controlled early burning	Committee members, all communities and the Extension worker.	April- June	Matches, moppers, fire pack pumps.
9	Thinning (singling)	Committee members, all communities and the Extension worker.	April-August	Panga knives, adze, slashers.
10	Ground preparation	Committee members, all communities and the Extension worker.	October-November	Hoes, picks, axes, ropes, panga knives.
	Nursery establishment	Committee members, all communities and the Extension worker.	May-September	Panga knives, hoes, pails, rakes, slashers, shovels, wheelbarrows, watering cans.
12	Firebreak screefing	Committee members, all communities and the Extension worker.	April-May	Hoes, slashers, panga knives.
13	Seed collection	Committee members, all communities and the Extension worker.	July-September	Sacks, poles with hooks.

10.0 PATROLING PLAN

1. Block management committee shall conduct patrols once a week and any day if a need arises.
2. Joint patrols between the BMC and FD staff shall be done once a month

NB: All confiscated materials shall be managed and disposed by the Block Management Committee with technical advice from the FD.

11.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

NO	WHAT WILL BE MONITORED	WHO WILL DO THE MONITORING	WHAT WILL BE THE INDICATORS	WHAT ARE THE METHODS TO BE USED	WHEN WILL THE MONITORING BE CONDUCTED
1	Patrols carried out in the block.	Committee members and the Extension workers	Reduced malpractices	Written progress reports (records)	Throughout the year.
2	Weeding	Communities guided by the extension worker	Area (Ha) weeded	Site visits and reports	April-June
3	Tree planting	Committee members and the Extension workers	Number of trees planted Hectares planted	Field visits Supervision	December-April
4	Selling of forest products	Committee members and the Extension workers	Amount of revenue realized No of receipts books used	Checking receipt books Checking bank statements	Throughout the year.
5	Issuing of permits	Committee members and the Extension workers	Number of permits used	Checking records Counting leaves of the permits used	Throughout the year.
6	Committee meetings	Extension worker and local leaders	Number of meeting conducted Reports produced	Checking minute books	Once every two months.
7	General meetings	Extension worker and local leaders	Number of meeting conducted Reports produced	Interviewing community members	Once every two months.
8	Thinning (singling)	Committee members and the Extension workers	Number of hectares thinned	Site visits and reports	April-August
9	Controlled early burning	Committee members and the Extension workers	Number of hectares burnt	Site visits and reports	April-June
10	Ground	Committee	Distance/ area	Site visits,	October-

	preparation	members and the Extension workers	prepared	reports and supervision	November
11	Nursery establishment	Committee members and the Extension workers	Number of nurseries established	Site visits, reports and supervision	June-October
12	Firebreak screefing	Committee members and the Extension workers	Distance screefed	Site visits and reports	April-May
13	Seed collection	Committee members and the Extension workers	Amount of seed collected	Supervision and records	July-September

12.0 FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

12.1 Annual Cash Flow

In accordance with the data collected, estimated annual cash flow for Mitawa Nsinji Forest Block is tabulated below. Under the Co-Management model, it is proposed that **60%** of the gross income accrued from both domestic and commercial permit fees will be retained in the Block Management account. **10 %** will be transferred to the Local Forest Management Board account while **30%** will be deposited in the Forest Development Fund account held at national level.

Refer to annex 1 and 2 for the estimated annual cash flow and financial projections on activity:

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Population data

NO	GVH'S Name	No of hhs	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Total Population
1	Mitawa	1491	1158	1318	2705	3345	8526
2	Mtepa	119	98	110	53	67	328
3	Nsinji	141	181	176	150	158	665
4	Makolanga	95	90	95	110	120	415
TOTALS		1846	1527	1699	3018	3690	9934

Annex 2: Estimated Management Cost

NO	ACTIVITY	NO OF PEOPLE INVOLVED	NUMBER/ AREA TO BE COVERED	DAILY WAGE/RATE	TOTAL AMOUNT REQUIRED
1	Forest boundary screefing	100	10000m	K300.00/25m	K120,000.00
2	Tree planting	50	5 ha	K3000/ha	K15,000.00
3	Forest patrols	2 (Police officers)	1359.6ha	K10000/person /day	K20,000.00
TOTALS					K155,000.00

Annex 3: Estimated Annual Cash Flow

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT (MK)	%
INCOME		
a) Domestic permits	K12,691,000.00	
b) Commercial permits	K25,508,500.00	
Gross Income	K38,199,500.00	
Money into Local Forest Management Board (LFMB) Account from Commercial permits.	K2,550,850.00	10
Money into Forest Development Fund (FDF) Account from commercial permits.	K7,652,550.00	30
Block Forest Management Committee Account from Commercial permits.	K15,305,100.00	60
Money into Block Committee Account (Domestic + 60 % of Commercial permits)	K27,996,100.00	
Average income per household (1846)	K63,468.41	

Annex 4: Estimate of available Forest Resources

This is based on three sample plots data

No	Product Name	Uses	Total/0.04 ha	Total/ha	Available in 2 ha
1	Firewood	For fuel wood	625 trees	1250 trees	2500 trees
2	Timber	For construction	375 trees	750 tree	1500 trees
3	Small poles	For roofing	10000 poles	20000 poles	40000 poles
4	Big poles	For roofing	375 poles	750 poles	1500 poles
11	Fruits	For food	125 trees	250 trees	500 trees
12	Medicines	For Medicine	25 bags	50 bags	100 bags

Notes: Estimates based on three 20m x 20m sample plots inside the block.

- A two hectare coupe is the suggested annual harvesting area however selective harvesting will be practiced.
- Fruit trees shall be reserved until they become unproductive when they shall be used for other woody products. Main fruit tree species is Masuku (*Uapaca kirkiana*).

Annex 5: Requirements for Forest Products for Domestic Use

The total number of households represented by the block management committee is **1846**. Therefore, the table below calculates the annual domestic forest product requirements of these households:

N0	Product Name	Use	Per HH/yr (Mean)	Annual requirements for the 1846 HHs
1	Firewood	For fuel wood	10 head loads	19,200 head loads
2	Big poles	For roofing	3 big poles	4,800 poles
3	Small poles	For roofing	24 poles	45000 poles
4	Fruits	For eating	3 pails	5538 pails
5	Thatch grass	For roofing and fencing	11bundles	20000 bundles
6	Mushrooms	For food	2 baskets	3692 baskets
7	Stones	For construction	1 wheelbarrow	1250 wheelbarrows
8	Bamboos	For construction	3 bamboos	5000 bamboos

Annex 6: Harvesting Plan for Woody and Non Woody products

No	Product	Available in harvestable coupe	Domestic demand for whole community	Available in vfa	Total products in vfa + block	Surplus available for commercial harvesting
1	Firewood	2500 trees	1000 trees	300 trees	2800 trees	1800 trees
2	Timber	100 trees	100 trees	85 trees	185 trees	85 trees
3	Big poles	4,800poles	8000poles	6000 poles	10800 poles	2800 poles
4	Small poles	24000 poles	30000 poles	5000 poles	35000 poles	11000 poles
5	Fruits	500 trees	400 trees	200 trees	700 trees	300 trees
6	Medicine	100 bags	80 bags	5 bags	105 bags	25 bags

Annex 7: Income Projection from Woody Products

Product Name	Domestic requirement		Commercial requirement		Frequency	Quantity/ year	Annual Calculations	
	HHs	Permit	HHs	Permit			Domestic	Commercial
Firewood Indigenous	1846	K100/ head load	200	K150/ head load	2 head loads/hh/wk for domestic use and 2 head loads/hh/wk 4 cubic metres/hh/month for domestic use and 10 cubic metres /hh/month for commercial	19,200 head loads (domestic)	K2,880,000.00	K5,760,000.00
	15	K1500/ cubic metre indigenous	50	K 2500/ cubic metre		38,400 head loads (commercial)	K1,080,000	K6,000,000.00
	20					720 cubic metres/yr (domestic)		
		K50/head load exotic	30	K100/Head load exotic	3headloads/hh/wk for domestic use and 4headloads/hh/wk for commercial use	3120 head loads/yr (domestic)	K156,000.00	K624,000.00
	10	K1500/cubic metre for exotic	10	K2500/cubic metre for exotic	2 cubic metre/hh/wk 20cubic metres/month	1040 cubic metres/yr (domestic)	K1,560,000.00	K6,000,000.00
						2400 cubic metres/yr (commercial)		

Poles-Indigenous and Exotic (a)big poles	800	K250/big pole (indigenous)	20	K500/big pole (indigenous)	6 big poles/hh/year for domestic and 500 big poles/hh/ yr for commercial use	4800 big poles (indigenous)/year for domestic use and 1000 big poles (indigenous) for commercial use/ year	K1,200,000.00	K500,000.00
	200	K200/big pole (exotic)	20	K350/big pole (exotic)	6 big poles/hh/year for domestic and 100 big poles/ yr for commercial use	1200 big poles (exotic)/year for domestic use 2000 big poles (exotic)/year for commercial	K240,000.00	K700,000.00
(b)small poles	800	K100/small pole (indigenous)	50	K150/small pole (indigenous)	30 small poles /hh/year for domestic and 100 small poles for commercial use per year	24000 small poles/year for domestic use (indigenous) 5000 small poles/yr for commercial use (indigenous)	K2,400,000.00	K750,000.00
	100	K50/ small pole (exotic)	10	K100/ small pole (exotic)	50 poles/hh/yr for domestic and 1000 poles commercial use	5000 small poles for domestic use/yr 10,000 small poles for commercial/yr	K250,000.00	K1,000,000.00
Timber	100	K5000/tree	15	K10000/tree	1 tree/hh/yr for domestic use and 5 trees for commercial	100 trees for domestic use/year 75 trees for commercial use/year	K500,000.00	K750,000.00
TOTAL FOR WOODY PRODUCTS							K10,266,000.00	K22,084,000.00

Annex 8: Revenue Projection from Non Woody Products

Product Name	Domestic requirement		Commercial requirement		Frequency	Quantity/ year	Annual calculations	
	(H/Hs)	Permit	(H/Hs)	Permit			Domestic	Commercial
Mushroom	1846	Free access	20	K100/basket	2 baskets /hh/season for domestic use and 6 baskets /hh/season for commercial use	3692 baskets/yr For domestic use 120 baskets/ yr for commercial use	-----	K12,000.00
Fruits	1846	Free	200	K200/Pail	5 pails /hh/ season for commercial use and 3 pails/hh/season for domestic use	5538 pails for domestic use and 1000 pails for commercial use/season	-----	K200,000.00
Thatch grass	1000	Free	20	K100/bundle	20 bundles/hh/yr for domestic use and 200 bundles /hh/yr for commercial use	20000 bundles for domestic use and 4000 for commercial	-----	K400,000.00
Stones	250	K500/Wheelbarrow	5	K5000/tonne	5 wheelbarrows/hh/yr and 20 tonnes/hh/yr for domestic and commercial use respectively	1250 wheelbarrows and 100 tonnes for domestic and commercial use respectively per year	K625,000.00	K500,000.00
Game animals	20	K500/ permit	10	K1000/permit	10 permits per year for domestic use and 5 permits for commercial use per year	200 permits for domestic hunters and 50 permits for commercial hunters	K100,000.00	K50,000.00
Honey	20	K1000/bee hive	10	K2000/bee hive	20 bee hives/hh/yr for domestic use and 50 bee hives for commercial use	400 bee hives for domestic use and 500 for commercial	K400,000.00	K1,000,000.00

					/year			
Bamboos	100	K200/bamboo	20	K500/bamboo	50 bamboos/hh/yr for domestic use and 100 bamboos per year for commercial	5000 bamboos for domestic use and 2000 for commercial	K1,000,000.00	K1,000,000.00
Medicine	15	K2000/50Kg bag	5	K3500/50Kg bag	10 bags/hh/yr for domestic use and 15 bags/hh/yr for commercial use	150 bags for domestic use per year and 75 bags for commercial use	K300,000.00	K262,500.00
TOTAL FOR NON WOODY PRODUCTS							K2,425,000.00	K3,424,500.00

Annex 9: Mitawa/ Nsinji Block Management Committee Constitution:

Name of LFO: Mitawa/ Nsinji Block Management Committee.

Name of the Block: Mitawa/ Nsinji Forest block

Address: C/0 BOX 95,
Chamba.
Machinga

Contact numbers: Cells: Mr. Lameck Chiboda 0888978378
SGVH Mitawa 0995731546.

1.0. OBJECTIVE

To satisfy Mitawa/Nsinji wider community's (especially those from GVHs Mitawa, Mtepa, Makolanga and Nsinji) needs of forest based products such as firewood, poles, wood, timber, thatch grass, honey and mushrooms through collaborative management and sustainable utilization of forest resources within Mitawa/Nsinji Forest block and promote conservation of fragile areas.

2.0 STRUCTURE:

2.1 There shall be an elected managing committee comprising office bearers (40 members) such as Chairperson and vice, Secretary and vice, Treasurer and other 35 members.

2.2 These members shall be elected proportionately from the four (4) villages mentioned in 1.0 above.

2.3 Community members from the above 4 villages shall be automatic members of Mitawa/ Nsinji wider community. To this effect, elected members shall be representatives of different interested user groups of the Block from the above four villages.

2.4 All Village Heads in the stated villages and the Group village Headmen Mitawa, Mtepa, Makolanga and Nsinji shall be ex-officials of the Block Management committee.

2.5 The wider community members shall be automatic members of the Block Management Committee.

3.0. ELECTIONS:

3.1. Elections shall take place in a free and fair manner in consultation with the four Group village heads. Ten (10) chosen community members (representatives) from each of the four (4) villages shall contest for executive membership of the Block Management Committee. Village heads shall accompany their contestants to the elections as observers.

3.2. Elections shall take place every three years except when the whole committee is dissolved or some members are disqualified, dismissed or have resigned.

3.3. Elected office bearers shall run a term of three years and will be eligible to stand for another one term basing on efficiency and effectiveness.

3.4. The entire Block Management committee shall be dissolved after conniving and committing a serious crime or conducting business not in a transparent manner. Since Community members have a stake in the management of the Block, they have the right to summon the Block Committee to the Group Village head as BMC advisor to clarify issues pertaining to management of their block.

4.0. ELIGIBILITY OF MEMBERS:

Eligible members shall only be:-

- Citizens from the stated four villages
- Committed & dedicated members from the three villages.
- People with no record of conviction after committing an offence.
- Non-drunkard(s).
- Visionary
- People with respect

4.1. Termination of Membership:

Members shall be eliminated only if:-

- A member commits a serious crime such as theft, corruption, mismanagement of forest products.
- A member has rebelled against the Block Committee.
- If the term of office has expired.
- A member has passed away.
- A member has gone mad.

4.2 Disqualification/Dismissal of Members:

A member shall be disqualified/ dismissed if:-

- He/she fails to attend meetings for three consecutive times without apparent reasons
- A member commits a serious crime such as theft, corruption, mismanagement of forest products, misappropriation of Block Management Committee funds and equipment.

4.3. Substitution of Members:

Substitution of a member shall take place only if:-

- A committee member dies.
- A committee member has gone elsewhere (transfer) outside the stated villages.
- A committee member has voluntarily stopped to be a member.
- A committee member has gone mad.
- A committee member has been dismissed after committing an offence.

4.4. Rights & Responsibilities of Members:

All Block Committee members shall have the following rights & responsibilities/duties.

a) Rights/Freedoms of Members:

- Right of Association.
- Freedom of Speech in giving suggestions at meetings of the Committee.
- Right to be elected to any position of the Block Management Committee.

- Right to know anything concerning the Block Management Committee.
- Right to benefits accrued from Block or any other sources.

b) **Responsibilities/Duties:**

- Participate in all Committee undertakings.
- Lead the Committee in different aspects.
- Taking care of Committee property.
- Represent the Block Management Committee in other forums.

5.0. SPECIFIC ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

5.1 The Chairperson shall:

- Call meetings of management and preside over deliberations of such meetings.
- In consultation with local leaders call meetings for wider community.
- Be signatory of Institution's account.
- Take part in conflict resolutions

5.2 The Secretary shall:

- Record all minutes of meetings and events of the Block.
- Welcome guests during events.
- Deal with all correspondences of the committee.
- Record fines, finances and penalties.
- Be signatory of Institution's account.

5.3 The Treasurer shall:

- Keep custody of the entire Block's equipment.
- Keep custody of all the Block's finances.
- Be signatory of Institution's account
- Issue licenses for forest products and operations

5.4. Committee members shall:

- Be delegated to represent any member of the executive in meetings
- Participate in committee deliberations
- Be chosen to be a signatory of the institution's account
- Manage conflicts of the committee

5.5. The Group Village Headman and village headmen shall:

- Mobilize their subjects on development activities of the Block.
- Assist to settle disputes which the Block Management committee has failed to settle.
- Advise the Block Management committee where necessary.

5.6. The Forestry Department shall:

- 5.6.1. Provide technical support on all activities of the Block Management Committee.
- 5.6.2. Assist the Block committee in solving disputes that are beyond capacity of GVH level.
- 5.6.3. Observe elections of office bearers of the Block Management Committee.

5.6.4. Assist in resource use regulation and law enforcement.

5.7.0. General members shall:

5.7.1. Be required to take part in tree planting, early burning, thinning, fire break maintenance of the Block and any other activity as may be determined by the managing committee.

5.7.2. Elect their representatives into the Block committee.

5.7.3. Call for dissolution of the committee or disqualification of an elected member in the case of corruption.

6.0. FUNCTIONS OF THE BLOCK COMMITTEE:

6.1. Managing Body (Block Management Committee) shall meet twice every month to discuss management issues.

6.2. Managing body shall meet once in a quarter with a wider committee for information giving, feedback or consensus.

6.3. Quorum of management meeting shall be half the number of Block Committee members i.e. 15 Members.

6.4. Decision shall be reached by voting.

6.5. Block Committee, GVH, VHs shall develop resource use rules, penalties and sanctions.

6.6. Review of the constitution shall be made after one year.

6.7. The block committee shall be registered at the DFO as a Local Forestry Organization.

6.8. The managing committee shall steer all activities of the Block in collaboration with the Forestry Department and with consultations with all the three Group heads and the village headmen.

6.9. Block Management committee shall with consultations with Forestry Officers issue permits and licenses to people for the purpose of accessing products in the Block.

6.10. The Block Management Committee shall upon thorough consultations with the wider community review the Block Management Plan after five years. The reviewed versions shall be presented to the local leadership, other interested stakeholders and the wider community.

7.0. BLOCK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FINANCES:

7.1. Sources of Finances

Finances for the Block Management Committee shall come from the following main sources:-

- Licenses from Forest User groups/Clubs
- Loans from lending institutions such as MARDEF
- Sales of Forest Products & services

7.2. Other Sources

- Tree seedling raising & sales
- Other feasible businesses

8.0. **BENEFIT SHARING:**

100% of monetary benefits arising from sales of forest products for commercial use will be shared as follows: 60% into Block Management Committee Account, 30% into Forestry Department Account and 10% into Local Forestry Management Board (LFMB) Account.

All the money accumulated into Mitawa Nsinji Block Management Committee Account shall be used as follows:

1. Forestry management activities of the Block- 20%.
2. Administration costs of the Block Committee-20%.
3. Micro-Credit scheme-20%.
4. Community Development (bridges, welfare, orphans etc.)-40%.

NOTE:

- Forest Management activities shall include Block boundary screefing, Slashing, Controlled early burning, Monitoring activity implementation, conduct forest patrols, Plot and coupes' demarcation, licensing of forest produce, maintenance of road network adjacent to the block and others.
- Micro-Credit scheme shall provide soft loans to Mitawa Nsinji wider community to start small-scale businesses with an intention of increasing household income levels. The loan will attract an interest of 20% per return. There will be a sub-committee headed by one of the elected members of the BMC to manage the loans. The loans will only be given to organized groups (20 members per group) to ease repayment.

9.0 Names of Mitawa Nsinji Block Management Committee members from GVHs Mitawa, Mtepa, Makolanga and Nsinji

NO	NAME	POSITION	SEX
1	Lameck Chiboda	Chairperson	Male
2	Jafali Musssa	Vice chairperson	Male
3	Charles Beston	Secretary	Male
4	Kennedy Keneth	Vice secretary	Male
5	Wilson Nicks	Treasurer	Male
6	Dafutala Chilombo	Member	Male
7	Melia Toyesi	Member	Female
8	Ayiness Tibu	Member	Female
9	Jeneti Lameck	Member	Female
10	Sofia Bisani	Member	Female
11	Allan Malimwe	Member	Male
12	Paulo Wyson	Member	Male
13	Florence Mathanki	Member	Female
14	Beatrice Kathumba	Member	Female
15	John Banda	Member	Male
16	Laina Afiya	Member	Female
17	Bubakali Chitekete	Member	Male
18	Tomasi Paulo	Member	Male
19	Magret Lanjesi	Member	Female
20	Jafali Frank	Member	Female
21	Fanny Makande	Member	Female
22	Makisoni Makobili	Member	Male
23	Magret Tomas	Member	Female
24	Eliza Mawindo	Member	Female
25	Violet Wisick	Member	Female
26	William Jafali	Member	Male
27	Velonica Kalaile	Member	Female
28	Enock Kamtondo	Member	Male
29	Kennedy Pius	Member	Male
30	Dorothy Amadu	Member	Male
31	Arabu Mwanyali	Member	Male
32	Dyson Chakwana	Member	Male
33	Wilfred Charlo	Member	Male
34	Siginala Kambeta	Member	Male
35	Maria Keyala	Member	Female
36	Daudi Kaluma	Member	Male
37	Jeneti Matandika	Member	Female
38	Jafali Chikwasa	Member	Male
39	Fanny Mthiko	Member	Female
40	John Nyama	Member	Male

Annex 10: Co- Management Agreement Template

CO-MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT (Forestry Act, 1997 Section 25) and

THIS AGREEMENT is made the _____ day of----- BETWEEN Director of Forestry, Ministry of Energy and Mines, hereinafter referred to as the Government, local residents of GVHs Mitawa, Mtepa, Makolanga and Nsinji of Traditional Authority Chamba and District Machinga represented by Mitawa/ Nsinji Block Management Committee as the Local Forest Organization (herewith described as LFO) and known also as the block management committee.

The Government, hereby, wishes to make an agreement with the LFO to provide for co-management, in partnership with the Department of Forestry, of the forest resources of Mitawa/ Nsinji forest block of Liwonde forest reserve, in order to promote sustainable forest management and the enhancement of the livelihoods of the forest adjacent communities.

NOW IT IS HEREBY AGREED as follows:

1. The Government shall upon being satisfied with transitional arrangements recognize the joint authority of the LFO to protect, manage, control and utilize sustainably the forest resource for the benefit of the local community of GVHs Mitawa, Mtepa, Makolanga and Nsinji.
2. The LFO accepts and undertakes to protect, manage, control and utilize sustainably the forest resource in accordance with terms and conditions stipulated in this agreement and annexed block co-management plan.

LFO OBLIGATIONS:

3. In particular the Government gives authority to the LFO subject to the following conditions:
 - a) Forest resources shall be properly maintained and managed according to approved management techniques as set out in the annexed block Co-management Plan.
 - b) The LFO shall enforce the powers that have been devolved to them by the Government in the Forest Rules 2001, and in any subsequent rules, and as agreed in the LFO Registration Agreement.
 - c) The LFO shall protect, manage, control and utilize in a manner that maintains productivity, the forest resources within their jurisdiction and will issue permits and licenses for forest produce primarily for the benefit of the local community and (in the event of surplus products becoming available) for their commercial sale under a license system, as set out in the annexed management plan.
 - d) To assist the District Forest Officer with the issuing of conveyance certificates, the local forest organization may provide the necessary supporting documentation (ownership certificate) to verify source and ownership of wood products under its control. It may also assist local private individuals with wood products in their locality verify ownership for applying for a conveyance certificate from the District Forest Officer.

- e) Benefits accruing from the forest resource shall be equitably utilized by the community in accordance with the benefit sharing arrangements set out in the annexed management plan and LFO constitution.
- f) Revenue accruing from the forest resource shall be equitably utilized by the community in accordance with the LFO Constitution and as per agreements reached at general assemblies of the LFO
- g) 10% of the share of revenue accruing from the issue of commercial harvesting permits and licenses (i.e. those permits and licenses not issued for domestic or subsistence purposes) shall be deposited into the account of the Local Forest Management Board of Liwonde Forest Reserve, with transfers being made on a quarterly basis
- h) 30% of the share of revenue accruing from the issue of commercial harvesting permits and licenses (i.e. those permits and licenses not issued for domestic or subsistence purposes) shall be deposited into the Forest Development Fund Account Number 1 with such transfers being made on a quarterly basis.
- i) It is expected that 60% of the funds available to the LFO after sharing the proportions specified in (g) and (h) will be utilized by the LFO for the purposes of forest development, management and operating costs. This includes utilization of the funds inside and outside the area of the co-management block.
- j) The LFO shall make accessible records of accounts and licenses issued to the Director of Forestry or his/her representative, the District Commissioner or his/her representative upon receiving notification from the Director of Forestry or District Commissioner.
- k) The LFO shall represent and be accountable to the community and operate in accordance with the agreed constitution.

FORESTRY DEPARTMENT OBLIGATIONS:

- 4. In particular the District Forestry Officer and his delegated representatives, shall;
 - a) Provide technical expertise to support the joint implementation with the LFO and the timely revision of the attached block co-management plan.
 - b) Advise and assist with monitoring local accountability mechanisms including, conduct of meetings, elections, by-elections, record keeping, financial accounting, and reporting.
 - c) Provide a basic set of office resources for the LFO (on signature of this agreement) comprising cash books; minute books; duplicate license forms; headed paper and an official LFO stamp or unique mark, plus other necessary items in order to support the set-up of a transparent and well documented forest management and local licensing system. It is anticipated that the LFO will take over purchasing these items after collecting revenue.
 - d) Assist the coordination of forest law enforcement activities between the LFO, traditional Leaders, local community policing forums, local police officers and the District Magistrate in accordance with annexed co-management plan.
 - e) With the LFO jointly monitor the block demarcated in the co-management plan to ensure management is in accordance with this Agreement and in accordance with Standards & Guidelines for Participatory Forestry in Malawi.

- f) Jointly with the LFO countersign any permits and licenses being for the commercial utilization and harvesting of forest products (non-domestic use) in accordance with block co-management plan
- g) In line with licensing procedures issue conveyance certificates against verified documentation to ensure legal transportation of forest products.
- h) Provide in collaboration with other partners, legal, organizational, marketing and other forms of support to the LFO as appropriate.
- i) Organizes in collaboration with other partners, relevant training courses to enhance organizational, technical and management capacity of Local Forest Boards, LFO, traditional authorities and other members of the community.
- j) Recognize and actively support the protection and policing measures taken by the FMB, LFO and the community in accordance with the Forest Act, 1997, Forest Rules 2001, and Local Forest Organization Registration Agreement.

COMMENCEMENT, DURATION AND TERMINATION:

- 5. This Agreement shall come into effect when signed by the Director of Forestry, representatives of the parties, and shall be binding indefinitely subject to clauses 6 and 9 below.
- 6. The Director of Forestry shall have the right to terminate this agreement and revoke authority to protect, manage, control and utilize forest resources, in any of the following events;
 - Negligence or failure to protect, manage and control the co-management block.
 - If the LFO commits any serious breach of this agreement.
- 7. The powers stipulated in clause 6 above, shall not be exercised unless the Director of Forestry has tried all efforts to resolve or correct the situation amicably.
- 8. In cautioning the local community the Director of Forestry shall cite the shortcomings and remedies giving the period within which they should be addressed.
- 9. The LFO may terminate this agreement at any time by giving notice of not less than 8 weeks, in any of the following events;
 - If there is serious breach of this agreement.
 - If for any reason the community finds itself unable or unwilling to continue with the activities of the designated co-management block.
- 10. In the event of notice of termination, LFO shall be under obligation to ensure that the forest area is protected until a Caretaker Committee or Government has assumed authority over the block.

DEMARCATION AND BOUNDARY:

- 11. Division or delineation of forest areas shall be as displayed on the sketch map forming part of the Management Plan annexed to this Co-management Agreement.

DISPUTES:

- 12. In the event of any dispute arising under the Forestry Management Agreement, the matter shall be referred to the Minister Responsible. If any party is dissatisfied with the decision passed by the Minister he/she may apply for a judicial review to the High Court.

13. SIGNED:

[Signature]

DIRECTOR OF FORESTRY:

Dated... 30-01-14

AND

P. Bantari

CHAIRPERSON, LOCAL FOREST ORGANISATION:

Dated.....

WITNESSES:

S. G. V. Mitala

VILLAGE HEADMAN/WOMAN:

Date-----

[Signature]

TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY:

Dated... 2014-02-13

[Signature]

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER:

Dated... 19/02/2014