

# PEREKEZI FOREST RESERVE

## CO-MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR GUDUGUDU BLOCK

M'MBELWA DISTRICT COUNCIL



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Department of Forestry

**Supported by:** GoM/EU Improved Forest Management for Sustainable  
Livelihoods Programme (IFMSLP)



June 2013

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1. Introduction.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2. Perekezi Block Forest Area.....</b>	<b>1</b>
2.1 Location/Boundary.....	2
2.2 Location Map of Gudugudu Block .....	2
2.3 Tenure.....	3
2.4 Forest Description.....	3
2.5 Forest Uses and Users.....	3
2.6 Social Description.....	3
<b>3. Management Plan .....</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1 General Objectives.....	4
3.2 Specific Objectives.....	4
3.3 Forest Management Units.....	4
3.4 Map of Gudugudu with FMU:s and Uses.....	5
3.5 Resource Rules.....	5
3.6 Available Forest Resources.....	6
3.7 Management Plans for Each Use.....	11
3.8 Activity Plan.....	16
3.9 Patrolling Plan.....	17
3.10 Monitoring Plan.....	17
3.11 Financial Issues.....	18
<b>4. Management Authority and Time Frame.....</b>	<b>19</b>
Annex 1: Constitution and By-Laws of Gudugudu Block Management Committee.....	20
Annex 2: Agreed Roles and Responsibilities for Implementation of Gudugudu Block.....	24
Annex 3: Names of Members of Gudugudu Block Management Committee.....	25
Annex 4: Forestry Management Agreement.....	26

## **ACRONYMS**

ADC	Area Development Committee
BMC	Block Management Committee
CBO	Community Based Organisation
DFO	District Forest Officer
DoF	Director of Forestry
EPA	Extension Plan Area
EU	European Union
FD	Department of Forestry
FMU	Forest Management Unit
FLS	Front Line Staff
FR	Forest Reserve
GoM	Government of Malawi
GVH	Group Village Headman
HH	Household
IFMSLP	Improved Forest Management for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme
LFMB	Local Forest Management Board
VNRMC	Local Forest Organization
PCU	Programme Coordination Unit
PIU	Programme Implementation Unit
PFMP	Participatory Forest Management Plan
PMU	Programme Management Unit
SFAP	Strategic Forest Area Plan
TA	Traditional Authority
VNRMC	Village Natural Resource Management Committee
VDC	Village Development Committee
VFA	Village Forest Area
VH	Village Headman

## **Acknowledgement**

GVH Chikomeni Thole II Village communities would like to thank the Improved Forest Management for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme (IFMSLP) for funding the development of the Perekezi Forest Reserve Co-Management Plan for Gudugudu Block and staff under the Department of Forestry (DoF) for the facilitation and technical input into all processes leading to the establishment of this plan.

Lastly, the committed and untiring effort by the Management Committee for Gudugudu Block of GVH Chikomeni Thole Villages throughout the development of the Plan is also greatly acknowledged.

## **1. Introduction**

Perekezi Forest Reserve was created in 1933 for the main purpose of protecting the water catchment for agricultural activities and to conserve the forest with its flora and fauna biodiversity.

The present management methods and benefits of the reserve are failing to satisfy the increasing demands of people and institutions with different needs and perceptions. As a strategy to increase its productivity and at the same time reduce unsanctioned (and hence unmanaged) pressure from the surrounding communities, co-management is the viable option. This however, requires that management objectives of the reserve are defined and overall management plan developed as enshrined in the nation's forest policy framework.

The Forestry Department with funding from European Union (EU/GoM) is facilitating the implementation of Improved Forest Management for Sustainable Livelihood Programme (IFMSLP). The Programme aims at contributing to increasing household income and improving food security of communities in selected impact areas through sustainable management of natural resources. In Mzimba, the Programme is being implemented in the Perekezi Impact Area.

The Strategic Forest Area Plan (SFAP) for Perekezi Impact Area is a long term plan with a broad perspective to bring about sustainable management of forest goods and services in and around Perekezi Forest Reserve for improved and equitable livelihoods of the surrounding communities. The SFAP provides the vision, and set of management objectives and strategic actions carefully developed and defined with regard to the reserve's wider environmental significance rather than to the demand of products and services it might yield.

This document describes the Co-management Plan for Gudugudu Block in Perekezi Forest Reserve which is in line with Perekezi Strategic Forest Area Plan. The main objectives of the SFAP are:

1. To increase forest cover on customary land adjacent to the forest reserve.
2. To engage communities in sustainable land use management on customary land adjacent to the forest reserve.
3. To manage the forest resource in Perekezi for catchment and biodiversity protection and use.
4. To increase the economic contribution of the forest products to sustainable livelihood for forest dependent communities.
5. To regularize access to extraction of first products from Perekezi Forest Reserve.

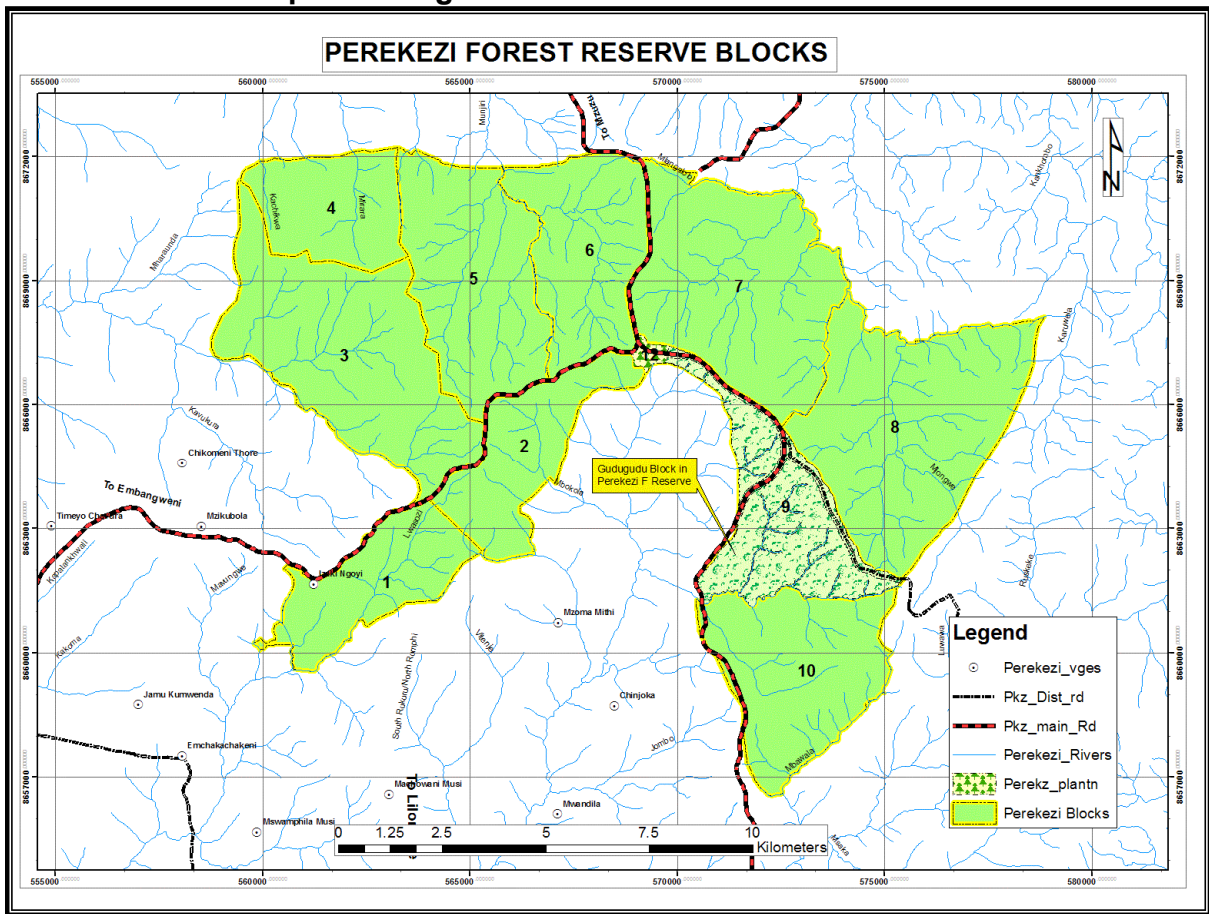
Gudugudu Co-Management Plan is based on objectives 2 and 3 in the Perekezi Strategic Forest Area Plan. The strategic plan divides the forest reserve into 10 blocks.

## 2. Gudugudu Block Forest Area

### 2.1 Location/Boundary

The Perekezi Forest Reserve has an area of 15,370 hectares and is situated in Mzimba District in Kazomba and Mbawa Extension Planning Areas (EPAs), Traditional Authorities Mzikubola, along the M1( Mzuzu – Lilongwe) Road about 16 kilometers south of Mzimba Boma. It is a relatively hilly area.

### 2.2 Location Map of Gudugudu Block



### 2.3 Tenure

Perekezi Forest Reserve is a government forest reserve Gazetted in 1935

## **2.4 Forest Description**

The total area of the Gudugudu Block is 1,238 hectares. The forest is typical Miombo woodland, as in the rest of the reserve. The forest is composed of different age classes and sizes due to illegal cutting for firewood and timber. There are few trees of timber trees mainly along the dambos of Rukuru and Gudugudu dominated by Katope and Chiyere species. But trees for firewood and poles are abundant. The dominant trees in the block are *Brachystegia spp*, with protected species such as *Syzygium cordatum*, *Faurea spp* and *Bridelia micrantha* growing mostly along the riverbanks. The dominant soil in the block is sandy-clay mostly on the upper areas with some alluvial soils on the banks of the streams.

## **2.5 Forest Users and Uses**

Community members from Jaji Shaba, Mateyo Shaba, Mjojo Mhlanga, Manunda Mchemela, Malambika Shaba, Mandala Mazaye, Kandavweke Shaba and Nezala Shaba villages are the primary users of Gudugudu Block. All users must have authority from the Block Management Committee to collect/harvest forest products.

People collect woody products such as firewood and poles. Other Illegal activities include pit-sawing for planks and collection of firewood for sale along M1 road to passers-by.

Non-wood forest products are collected from the block for both consumption and sale such as fruit, mushrooms, honey, caterpillars, wild orchids (chinaka), flying ants, medicine, and thatching grass.

## **2.6 Social Description**

GVH Chikomeni Thole comprises the following eight villages which are involved in Gudugudu Block; Jaji Shaba, Mateyo Shaba, Mjojo Mhlanga, Manunda Mchemela, Malambika Shaba, Mandala Mazaye, Kandavweke Shaba and Nezala Shaba. The total number of households is 205. The main ethnic groups are Tumbuka and Ngoni with Chewa minority.

In the area a sustainable Livelihood Analysis survey was carried out which indicated that most people belong to poor category with (53%) of the total households, seconded by average which is (22%), (14%) is third which is very poor and lastly better off which is only (11%). Both men and women are engaged in forest and non-forest based economic activities as a means of earning a living.

In order of their importance, the main sources of income in the area include: farming, sale of forest products, livestock rearing, small scale businesses and piece work.

### **3. Gudugudu Block Co-Management Plan**

#### **3.1 General Objectives**

*To sustainably co-manage Gudugudu Block in Perekezi Forest Reserve to supply forest products, social and ecological services to meet the diverse needs of the communities.*

#### **3.2 Specific Objectives**

- To sustainably utilize firewood, poles and timber trees for domestic and commercial purposes.
- To increase the availability of non-wood forest products such as fruits, honey, mushrooms, wild orchids (chinaka), caterpillars, flying ants, medicinal plants and thatch grass.
- To protect the water catchment for downstream agricultural activities.
- To empower surrounding communities to actively participate in the sustainable management of Gudugudu Block.

#### **3.3 Forest Management Units**

There are 3 distinct management units in Gudugudu Block with a total area of **1,238** hectares.

FMU A: Honey Production. The unit has an area of 224 hectares and shall mainly be used for honey production. Dry firewood for domestic purpose will also be collected in this unit.

This area is close to the villages' hence easy supervision of the beehives.

FMU B: Firewood, Poles and Timber Production. The unit is 776 hectares and shall be used for collecting dry firewood. The unit has potential for Poles and Timber extraction.

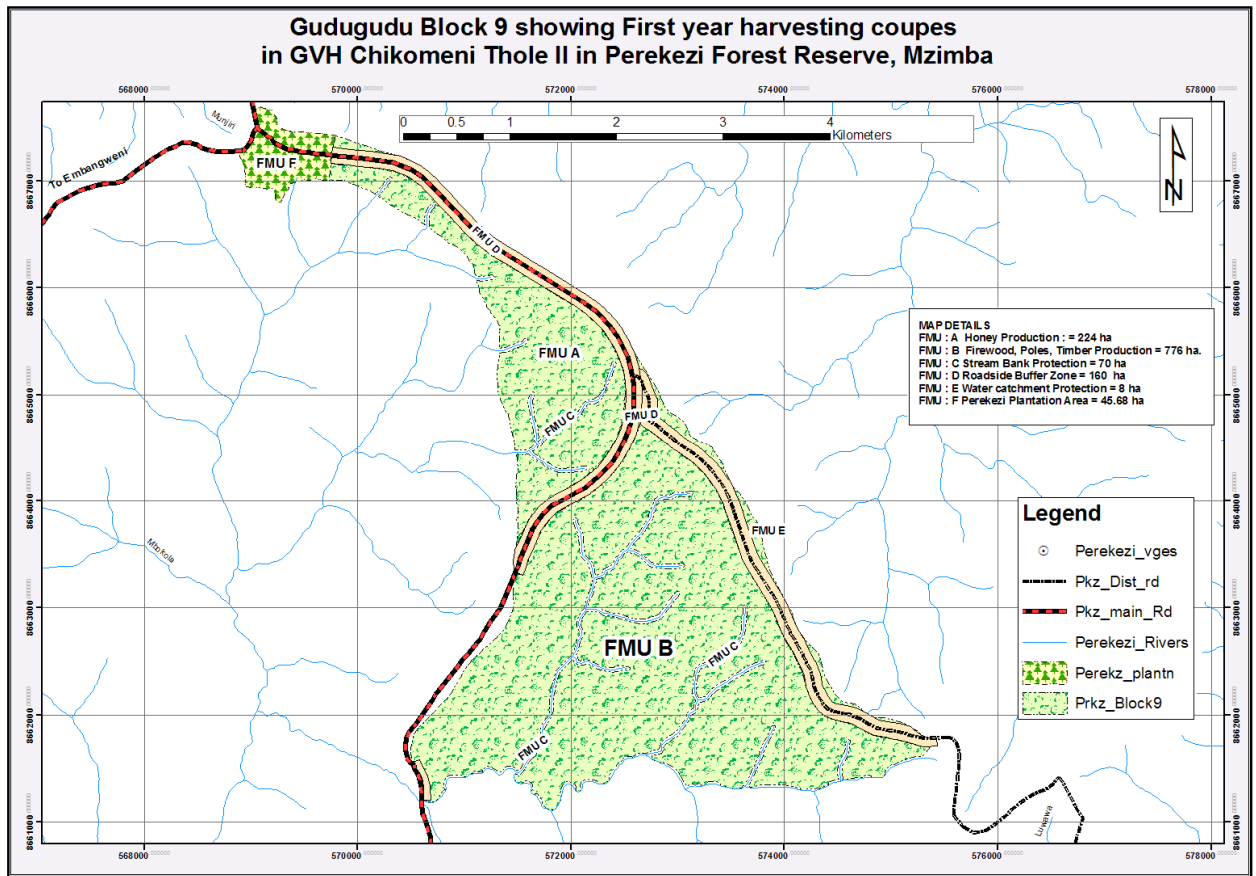
Buffer Zone. An area of 50 metres shall be left all round the block as a boundary where no cutting shall be allowed in order to protect the block from encroachment from the surrounding communities. The unit has an area of 238 hectares.

FMU C: Stream Bank Protection. The unit is set aside for water catchment protection. A strip of 20 meters on each side of streams shall be left intact. The total protected area is 70 hectares.

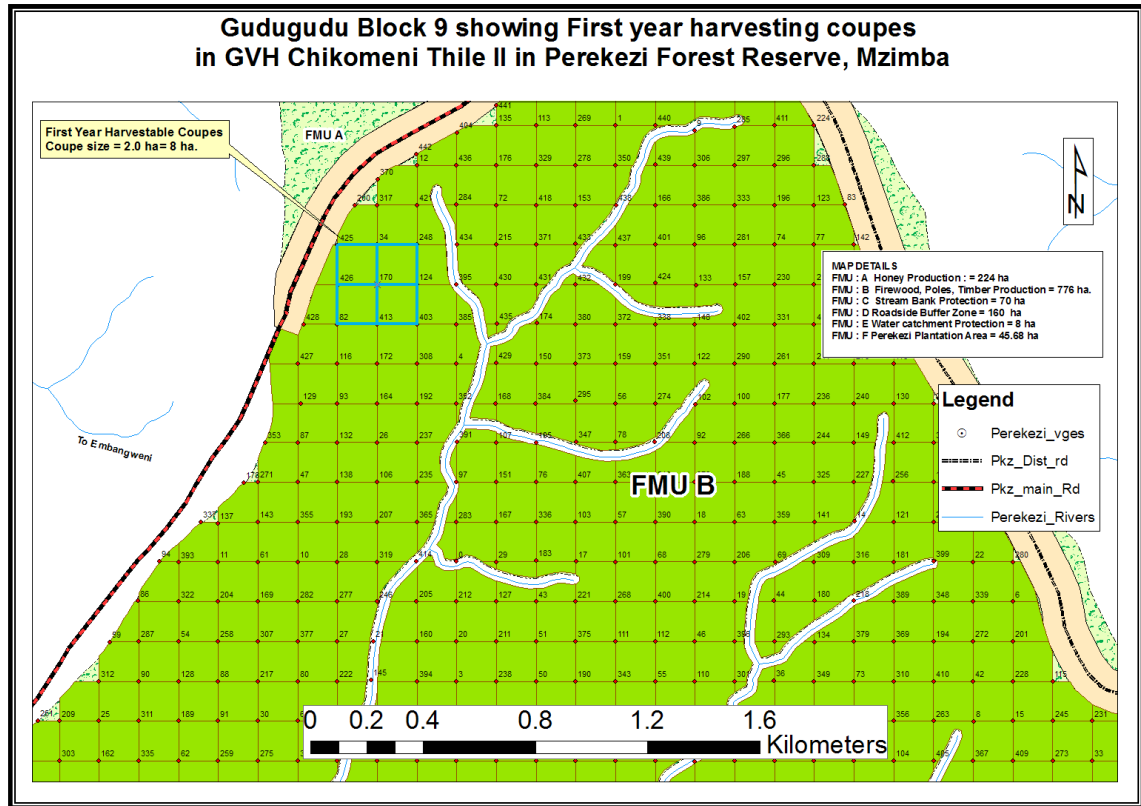
#### **3.4 Map of Gudugudu Block with FMU's and Uses**



Perekezi Forest Reserve Co-Management Plan for Gudugudu Block



### 3.5 Map showing Harvesting coupes in Gudugudu Block-9 (Perekezi)



### 3.6 Resource Rules

No	Resource Rules	Within Block	Penalty
1	No cutting of live trees from the Block	Cutting of live trees is strictly prohibited and will be monitored by the Block Management Committee	Anyone found guilty of cutting green trees in the Block shall pay a fine of K5000 as stipulated in the Forest Act. Or one goat
2	No sawing of timber is allowed in the Block	Timber sawing in Block is prohibited and will be monitored by Block Management Committee	Anyone found guilty of sawing timber in Block shall pay a fine of K5,000 or pay one goat and confiscated timber by the Block Committee.
3	Dry wood will be collected free for community members. Outsiders shall pay a fee with permit from the Block Management Committee	Applicable	Anyone outsider found guilty of collecting firewood without permit shall pay a fine of K500 or one chicken.
4	No setting of bush fires	Applicable	Anyone found guilty of setting bush fires shall pay a fine of K10,000.
5	Everyone shall participate in any Block forestry activity such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Firebreak maintenance</li> <li>■ Block patrols</li> </ul>	Applicable	Anyone found guilty of refusing to participate in any Block forestry activity shall pay a fine of K200 per working day or one chicken
6	Thatch grass mowing is allowed freely	Applicable	Outsiders shall pay a fine of K200 or boundary screef of 50 meters long

*Perekezi Forest Reserve Co-Management Plan for Gudugudu Block*

7	Grazing of livestock is allowed freely in areas where it is designated for grazing	Applicable	Anyone found grazing without a permit shall pay a fine of K50 per cattle.
8	Collecting caterpillars is allowed freely without cutting green wood	Applicable	Any person found guilty shall pay a fine of K500 per tree or one chicken
9	Hunting is prohibited	Applicable	Any person found guilty of hunting in the block shall pay a fine of K10,000 or one goat
10	Settling in the block is prohibited	Applicable	Anyone found guilty of settling in a Block shall pay a fine of K10,000 and evict the settler
11	Cultivating in the Block is prohibited	Applicable	Any one found guilty of cultivating in the Block shall pay a fine of K5,000 or be taken to a court of law
12	No one should possess forest produce without valid license or permit in Block or around is prohibited	Applicable	Anyone found guilty of possessing forest product without valid permit shall pay a fine of K2,000 and the product will be confiscated.
13	No hanging of bee hives in Block without the permit of the Block Management Committee	Hanging of beehives shall be monitored by block committee and any one interested in hanging a beehive shall pay a 1000 per hive to get a permit	Anyone found guilty of hanging bee hives in the Block without a permit from the Block Management Committee shall pay a fine of K2000 per hive and bee hives confiscated.
14	Mushroom collection is allowed freely	Applicable	Mushroom collection is allowed from the Block freely by the surrounding community.
15	Collection of medicine is allowed by the surrounding communities except for commercial purposes	Applicable	Medicine collection is allowed freely on permission from the Block Management Committee. Commercial collection of medicine will attract a fee of K350 per bundle
16	Fruit collection is allowed freely without felling trees	Applicable	Fruit collection is free on permission from the Block Management Committee
17	Digging wild orchids (chinaka) is allowed	Applicable	Digging orchids is free but for commercial will pay a fine of K1,000

### **3.7 Available Forest Resources**

In the following is presented calculations of:

- Harvestable area in Gudugudu Block (Table 1)
- Estimate of Available Forest Resources (Table 2)
- Domestic forest product requirements (Table 3)
- Forest product availability (Table 4)
- Collection/harvesting Permit Fees For Different Products (Table 5)
- Projected Annual Income from Fees (Table 6)
- Forest Management Costs (Table 7)
- Estimated Annual Cash Flow for Gudugudu Block (Table 8)

The calculations are based on interviews with Gudugudu Block Management Committee members and on data collected from sample plots inside the Block.

This information is primarily used for calculating the annual allowable harvest of firewood for commercial use after domestic requirements have been deducted. The information is also used for establishing the Enterprise Development Plan for selected forest resources in Gudugudu Block.

Forest resources shall be harvested according to the block co-management plan and their estimated availability in the block. Gudugudu Block shall be managed on a 10-year harvesting cycle, which is the rotation period for production of green fuelwood. However, Harvesting of dry and dead wood will be applied to selected areas. In the 38 ha coupes, timber trees shall be managed on a 30 year rotation period. Only selective cutting of timber shall apply and the trees shall be marked before fuelwood is harvested. Table 1 indicates the actual harvestable area of the block.

**Table 1: Harvestable Area Of The Block**

	ha	Comments
Block area	1,238	This includes Unharvestable areas
Unharvestable area	462	This comprises the areas for stream bank protection, catchment area, buffer zone and roads.
<b>Estimated Harvestable Area of Block (FMU B)</b>	776	This is the area to which fuelwood and pole harvesting apply

Table 2 shows the estimated availability of different products, based on sample plot data, for harvesting carried out in a 77 ha coupe.

**Table 2: Estimate Of Available Forest Resources (Based On Sample Plot Data)**

Product Name	Use	Total/ha	Available In 77 ha
Mapaso	Rafters (small)	100	7,700
Mathabwa	Timber	25	1,925
Mityangala	Tobacco sticks	75	5,775
Mgololo	Support pole	25	1,925
Sito	Small sticks	100	7,700
Vyaka	hoe handles	25	1,925
Mphanda	Big support poles	175	13,475
Vipaso	Fruit trees	25kgs	1,925kgs
Mankhwala	Medicines	na	-
Nkhuni (dry)	Fuelwood (head load)	25 head loads	1,925
Nkhuni (green)	Fuelwood for brick curing	450 (100 mendles)	34,650( 7,700m3)
Mushroom	Relish		11,200kgs for the whole season and in the whole block

- Notes:
- Estimates based on four 20x20m sample plots inside the block
- 77 ha is the suggested annual harvesting coupe in the management plan

The total number of households represented by the block management committee is 205. Table 3 calculates the annual domestic forest product requirements of these 205 households.

**Table 3: Domestic Forest Product Requirements**

Product Name	Use	Per household/yr (mean) <sup>1</sup>	Annual requirement for all 205 households
Mapaso	Rafters (small)	2	600
Mathabwa	Timber	0.1	460
Mityangala	Tobacco sticks	43	9,000
Mgololo	Support pole	0.1	40
Sito	weaving granaries	23.4	4,800
Vyaka	hoe handles	2	410
Mphanda	Big support poles	0.3	80
Vipaso	Fruit trees	141	29,520kgs
Mankhwala	Medicines	n.a.	-
Nkhuni (dry)	Fuelwood (headloads)	48	9,840
Nkhuni (green)	Fuelwood for brick curing	0.3	80m3
Mushroom	Relish	Domestic requirement for 205 house holds	6,888kgs

In the management plan this is specified as annual harvesting of a 77 ha coupe. Not all domestic forest product requirements will be harvested or collected from the co-management block. Some are more usually collected from other areas including adjacent customary land or private land as well as within Block. Table 4 shows the forest product availability (supply) in relation to domestic requirements taking this consideration into account. Any products surplus to domestic needs will be available for commercial harvesting permits.

**Table 4: Forest Product Availability**

Name	Domestic requirement for 205 households	Amount available from annual 77 ha coupe	Surplus (+) or shortage (-)
Mapaso	600	7,700	+7,100
Mathabwa	460	1,925	+1,465
Mityangala	9,000	5,775	-3,225
Mgololo	40	1,925	-1,885
Sito	4,800	7,700	+2,900
Vipaso	29,520kgs	30,950 kgs for the whole block	+1,430 kgs
Mankhwala	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> For building materials (poles) it is assumed that each household has one house

Name	Domestic requirement for 205 households	Amount available from annual 77 ha coupe	Surplus (+) or shortage (-)
Nkhuni (dry)	9,840	1,925	-7,915 h/loads
Nkhuni (green)	80m <sup>3</sup>	34,650(7,700m <sup>3</sup> )	+7,620 m <sup>3</sup>
Mushroom	6,888kgs	11,200 kgs for the whole block	+4,312 kgs

Gudugudu Block Management Committee will issue harvesting permits for different products at different rates, depending on whether they are for domestic (subsistence) or commercial use. Estimated domestic permit fee income and commercial permit fee income were calculated based on information provided during discussions with the block management committee and including a number of estimated variables. The domestic and commercial fee rates set by the block management committee are shown in Table 5. Note that in the case of fuelwood, different rates have been set for local people (domestic consumption) i.e. by households in the villages represented in the BMC; outsiders (domestic consumption) i.e. by households in villages outside the BMC; and commercial i.e. firewood collected for sale to nearby towns.

**Table 5: Collection/harvesting Fees For Different Products**

Product Name	Domestic	Commercial
Mapaso	MK 30.00	MK 100.00
Mathabwa	N/A	N/A
Mityangala	MK 10.00 per stick	MK20.00 per stick
Mgololo	MK 150 per pole	MK 250.00 per pole
Sito (for roofing)	MK 5.00 per sito	MK10.00 per sito
Vyaka	MK5.00	MK 20.00 per handle
Mphanda	MK20.00	MK50.00 per mphanda
Vipaso	Free	-
Mankhwala	Free	-
Nkhuni (dry)	Free	N/A
Nkhuni (green)	N/A	N/A
Mushroom	Free	-

**Table 6: Projected Annual Income from Domestic and Commercial Fees**

Product Name	Domestic sale (MK)	Commercial sale (MK)	Total income (MK)
Mapaso	18,000.00	710,000.00	728,000.00
Mathabwa	-	-	-
Mityangala	90,000.00	-	90,000.00
Mgololo	6,000.00	-	6,000.00
Sito (for roofing)	24,000.00	29,000.00	53,000.00
Mushroom	-	269,500.00	269,500.00
Nkhuni (green)	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>138,000</b>	<b>1,008,500</b>	<b>1,146,500</b>

These rates can be used to calculate the expected annual income from forest product harvesting.

The estimated total annual income is therefore about MK 1,146,500.00. To generate this income in a sustainable way (through sustainable forest management), various activities need to be undertaken by members of the community (including the block management committee). These are carried out on the basis of voluntary inputs by community and committee members. The nominal costs of carrying out these activities have been calculated in order to off-set them against the sale of wood products. Note that normally these costs would not be paid out as cash for labour. Table 7 shows the estimated annual cost of these activities as proposed in the block management plan.

**Table 7: Forest Management Costs**

<b>Operation</b>	<b>Work Rate</b>	<b>Daily rate (MK)</b>	<b>Nominal cost (MK)</b>
Boundary screefing (3.0 km of boundary)	60m per person day (once per year)	MK 300	15,000
Controlled early burning	75 person days	MK 300	22,500
Patrolling	10 person days per week	MK 300	156,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>193,500</b>

Based on the information from the previous tables, an estimated annual cash flow for Gudugudu co-management block is shown in Table 8. This assumes that under the co-management model, 60% of the commercial fees and all the domestic fees will be retained in the block management account. 10% of the commercial fees will be transferred to the Local Forest Management Board account and 30% will be transferred to the Forest Development Fund held at national level.

**Table 8: Estimated Annual Cash Flow for Gudugudu Block, Perekezi FR**

<b>Block Management Committee Account</b>	<b>MK</b>	<b>% of gross income</b>
Domestic permits	138,000	
Commercial permits	<b>1,008,500</b>	
Gross Income	1,146,500	<b>100 %</b>
Less shares to LFMB account and FDF (40% of commercial income)	403400	
<b>Gross income to Block Management Committee</b>	<b>687,900</b>	<b>60%</b>
Less nominal costs of forest management (labour inputs in kind)	193,500	
Effective Net Income	494,400	
<i>Average net income per ha</i>	<i>6420.77</i>	
<i>Average net income per household</i>	<i>2411.70</i>	
<b>Local Forest Management Board Account</b>		
Income from Gudugudu co-management block (10%)	114,650	
<b>Income to LFMB</b>	<b>114,650</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Forest Development Fund (FDF)</b>		
Income from Block 1b co-management Block (30%)	343,950	
<b>Income to FDF</b>	<b>343,950</b>	<b>30%</b>

### 3.7 Management Plans for Each Use

#### FMU A

<b>Forest Product</b>	Honey
<b>Key Species</b>	Flowering trees such as <i>Syzygium cordatum</i> , and <i>Brachystegia</i> spp.
<b>Demand</b>	High
<b>Supply</b>	Low
<b>Problems/issues</b>	Lack of beehives means that supply is not met.  Beekeeping practices that have used traditional methods have been detrimental to the forest area – cutting of trees for hives, or harvesting honey.
<b>Management Practices</b>	Permission must be granted from the Block Management Committee and a registry kept of users.  Beehives shall use modern technology and no trees shall be cut for making hives or harvesting honey. Each beehive must



	be marked stating the name of the owner of the beehive.
<b>Allowable quantity per year</b>	<p>On obtaining permission the beekeeper is allowed to keep as many beehives as they want in the block.</p> <p>Any honey produced shall be solely owned by the beekeeper that shall be free to consume or sell as they see fit.</p>
<b>Fees royalties</b>	Once permission is granted the beekeeper shall pay K100 per year per beehive to the Block Management Committee.
<b>FMU B</b>	
<b>Forest Product</b>	Dry Fuelwood – for domestic use only
<b>Key Species</b>	Mtondo, Mhana, Mpapa, Kalama,
<b>Demand</b>	Dry Fuelwood – Very High
<b>Supply</b>	Dry Fuelwood – Medium
<b>Problems/Issues</b>	Dry Fuelwood – Theft
<b>Management Practices</b>	<p>Collecting firewood will be selective, only dry fuelwood will be collected from annual 77 ha coupes and shall take place from April to November each year.</p> <p>According to sample plot data there is an annual shortage of about 7,915 head loads of dry fuelwood in the Block to meet the domestic demand of surrounding villages. Interviewed villagers stated that some of the dry firewood is collected from open access customary woodland.</p> <p>Controlled early burning shall take place between May and June in harvested coupes after 3 years to promote successful regeneration of firewood species. Controlled burning shall be done every year in the remaining parts of the Block.</p> <p>No cutting of live trees shall be done.</p>
<b>Allowable area and quantity per year</b>	According to sample plot data about 102.7ha of fuelwood can be harvested for sale in each annual 77 ha, which corresponds to about 7,915 headloads to meet the demand.
<b>Permits</b>	No fees.

**FMU B**

<b>Forest Product</b>	Poles
<b>Key Species</b>	Msuku, Kabalukila, Katope, Kalama
<b>Demand</b>	Medium
<b>Supply</b>	Medium
<b>Problems/Issues</b>	Theft.
<b>Management Practices</b>	<p>Poles are trees suitable for the purpose which are not marked as timber, or medicinal trees. All trees suitable for poles shall be marked before fuelwood is harvested. Poles have to be piled and counted by species, before being taken from the Block.</p> <p>In the first three years after harvesting the coupes shall be protected against fire to allow for regeneration. After this controlled early burning shall take place.</p> <p>Every 2 years an assessment will be made of each harvested coupe to allow thinning of coppice shoots. Thinning will commence 5 years after harvesting of coupes.</p> <p>Cutting of trees shall be done at about 20 cm from the ground.</p>
<b>Allowable area and quantity per year</b>	<p>Poles can be extracted in FMU B according to coupe rotation (same coupes as for firewood).</p> <p>According to sample plot data approximately 7,100 mapaso pole trees can be harvested annually for commercial purposes (after domestic needs have been deducted) in each 77 ha coupe.</p>
<b>Fees</b>	<p>Mapaso pole-size trees for domestic use will attract a fee of K30 per pole and migololo pole-size trees K150. For mapaso this means an income of K18,000 and for migololo K6,000. Mapaso for commercial purposes will attract a fee of K710, 000 and migololo will not be sold since there is a shortage. This means an income of K710,000 for only mapaso and not Migololo</p>

**FMU B**

<b>Forest Product</b>	Timber
<b>Key Species</b>	Indigenous species such as: Chiyere, Katope, Mlewezi, Msuku,
<b>Demand</b>	High
<b>Supply</b>	Low
<b>Problems/Issues</b>	Theft, wastage and lack of Silvicultural management.
<b>Management Practices</b>	Trees for timber shall be marked and left during harvesting of firewood.
<b>Allowable area and quantity per year</b>	Timber sawing will be on selective cutting system within the coupe. There is a surplus of 1465 timber tree which can be sold per year.  No harvesting of Timber is allowed in the Block.
<b>Fees</b>	Each timber tree attracts a fee of K1, 000 per tree which gives an estimated income of K1, 465,000 if they were to be sold.

**FMUA, B, C, D and E**

<b>Forest Product</b>	Mushrooms
<b>Key Species</b>	All types of mushroom
<b>Demand</b>	High
<b>Supply</b>	High
<b>Problems/issues</b>	Damage to soils and vegetation reduce the availability of mushrooms during growing period.
<b>Management Practices</b>	Anyone collecting mushrooms must obtain a permit from the Block Management Committee.  Harvesting can be done in all FMUs where mushrooms are available.  Harvesting of mushrooms must be done carefully to prevent any damage to the ecosystem. Stalks should be snapped off gently at the base.  Collectors should only take mushrooms that have matured, young mushrooms shall not be removed.
<b>Allowable quantity per</b>	There is no limit to the amount of mushrooms collected by

<b>year</b>	surrounding villagers involved in Block.
<b>Fees royalties</b>	Those outside (non members) shall pay K50 per permit which allows collection of 1 basket.

**FMU C**

This is an area of streams. No cutting of trees shall be done in this zone. An area of 20 metres both sides shall be left intact for conservation of streams. The total area for the unit is 70ha.

**FMU D**

This is an area of roads with its buffer which is not to be cut. The buffer covers an area of 50m from the roadside round the block. This unit is 160ha.

**FMU E**

This is an area of water catchment protection. The unit is 8 ha. Most of the streams start from this unit.

### 3.8 Activity Plan

NO	ACTIVITY	TASK	RESOURCES	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	TIME FRAME
1	Harvesting of coupes for firewood, poles and timber.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marking of coupes</li> <li>• Marking for poles and timber trees</li> <li>• Cutting of firewood trees</li> <li>• Stacking in m<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Transportation to roadside</li> <li>• Recording of volumes</li> <li>• Issuing of permits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pangas, axes, bowsaws, chainsaws, oxcart, measuring tapes, paint for demarcation, books for record keeping</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gudugudu Block Management Committee, community members, Front Line Staff</li> </ul>	April-November
2	Boundary/fire break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slashing</li> <li>• Screefing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hoes, slashers, axes, pangas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gudugudu Block Management Committee and community members</li> </ul>	April-May
3	Enrichment planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of sites</li> <li>• Marking for pitting and actual pitting</li> <li>• Controlled burning</li> <li>• Planting</li> <li>• Weeding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hoes, axes, ropes, picks, planting trowel, containers, pangas and tape</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Block Management Committee and community members, Front Line Staff</li> </ul>	December-April
4	Nursery establishment and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site identification</li> <li>• Terracing</li> <li>• Seed sowing</li> <li>• Pot filling</li> <li>• Watering</li> <li>• Pot/out</li> <li>• Pot cultivation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursery equipment: watering canes, hoes, shovels, rake, wheel barrow, polythene tubes and seed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Block Management Committee, community, members and Forestry Front Line Staff</li> </ul>	August-December
5	Controlled burning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patch burning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pangas, slashers, hoes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community members</li> </ul>	April-May
6	Seed procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seed collection</li> <li>• Seed processing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Containers, hooking sticks, rudders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gudugudu Block Management Committee and community members, Forestry Department</li> </ul>	December-May
7	Transportation of seedlings from the nursery to planting site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Containers, oxcart, wheelbarrows</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community members</li> </ul>	December-April
8	Conduct meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Papers, ballpoints, note books</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gudugudu Block Management Committee, community, members and Forestry Front Line Staff</li> </ul>	January-December

*Perekezi Forest Reserve Co-Management Plan for Gudugudu Block*

9	Community training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct training of community members on forestry skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gudugudu Block Management Committee, community, members and Forestry Front Line Staff</li> </ul>	May-June
10	Reduce illegal activities in the Block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct patrols</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pangas, identification cards for patrolling community members, receipt books, rubber stamps</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gudugudu Block Management Committee and community members</li> </ul>	January-December
11	Silvicultural activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coppicing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Axes and pangas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community members and Front Line Staff</li> </ul>	June-July
12	Collection of non-wood forest products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fruits, Honey, Mushrooms, Medicine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beehives, bee suits, hive tools, hoes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community members</li> </ul>	January-December
13	Forest protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection against destructive fire</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pangas, hoes, shovels, axes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gudugudu Block Management Committee community members</li> </ul>	When required

### **3.9 Patrolling Plan**

- The Block Management Committee shall appoint community members to conduct weekly patrols according to established patrol schedule
- Members of the Block Management Committee shall undertake patrols every two months – a patrol schedule shall be prepared at the beginning of every year
- All license or permission holders shall report any illegal activities that they observe during the course of their work. Failure to do so will result in cancellation of their right to utilize the forest

### **3.10 Monitoring Plan**

Monitoring of activities and fees/licenses are included in sections 3.7 and 3.8. Furthermore, the following issues shall be observed:

- Quarterly reports shall be produced by the Block Management Committee that includes information on all activities according to the Activity Plan and the financial management of the Block.
- Records shall be kept by the Block Management Committee.
- Regular review meetings shall be held together with FD.
- Field visits by FD, Village Headman and Block Management Committee should be conducted on a regular basis.

### **3.11 Financial Issues**

Any payment made to the Block Management Committee shall be used as per the constitution of the Block Management Committee.

#### **4. Management Authority and Time Frame**

The forest resources of Gudugudu Block in Perekezi Forest Reserve shall be managed by the Block Management Committee, together with Forestry Department Staff, for GVH Chikomeni Thole II villages, which fall under Traditional Authority Mzikubola. The Block Management Committee is an official body registered with the M'belwa District Assembly.

The management plan of Gudugudu will be operational after endorsement by relevant stakeholders and will be monitored monthly. Reviewing period will be after 3 years.

## **Annex 1**

### **Gudugudu Block Constitution and By-Laws**

**NAME:** Gudugudu Co-Management Block Committee

**ADDRESS:** C/O Kaulankhutu FP School  
P.O. Box 238  
Mzimba.

#### **PURPOSE/OBJECTIVE:**

- To get our benefits from the block to improve our livelihoods
- To manage our forest products in the block on sustainable basis
- To empower the committee and the communities to protect, manage and control the utilization of natural resources in the block in a transparent and equitable manner

#### **COMPOSITION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:**

The committee shall be composed of:

- Chairperson
- Vice chairperson
- Secretary
- Vice secretary
- Treasurer
- Vice treasurer
- Committee members

#### **FUNCTIONS OF MANAGING COMMITTEE:**

1. To guide the village communities sustainable management of Natural Resources.
2. Co-operate with development committees in the area
3. Propose the management plans and present them to the community for scrutiny.
4. Produce financial accounts records of community funds, showing all transactions.
5. Issue permits on forest products from the Block 1b Committee.
6. Create and promote I.G.A's related to forest related activities.



**ELIGIBILITY:**

- All citizen of GVH Chikomeni Thole II
- All people aged 18 years and above
- People from outside but who have stayed in the area for more than 3 years.

**PERIOD FOR TERM OF OFFICE:**

Any person elected, shall hold the office for two (2) years only, and 2 terms is the maximum period once the person can be re-elected

**DISQUALIFICATION OF THE OFFICE BEARER:**

Any office bearer shall be removed from the office upon failure to discharge his or her assigned duties. This will be done after warning such person more than three (3) consecutive times.

- If found guilty of theft
- Does not meetings for 3 times consecutively without valid reason given.
- Causes confusion in the committee

The community shall have the powers to remove any person from the office upon approval of the committee.

**SUBMISSION OF AN APPEAL AFTER BEING DISQUALIFIED / REMOVED FROM OFFICE:**

Any person upon his/her removal from the office is allowed to make an appeal through the committee to the communities.

**LEAVING THE OFFICE BEFORE EXPIRY DATE:**

Any person who intends to leave the office before his/her expiry date due to unforeseen obstacles shall do so but is requested to give a one month notice.

**DISSOLUTION OF THE COMMITTEE:**

Upon failure to perform or discharge the duties the wider community shall converge a meeting and dissolve the incumbent committee and elect new office bearers.

**ELECTION PROCESS:**

Election shall be conducted once every two years unless the incumbent committee faces dissolution.

The elections shall be done through voting process.

**MEETINGS:**

Block meetings shall be conducted at the block site once at the end of the month.

**QUORUM:**

The meeting shall be conducted when half of the members are present including the chairperson and the secretary. Some sections of the constitution shall only be amended upon reaching two thirds  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority and above.

**PENALTIES:**

Any person who willfully (without valid reasons) fails to attend meeting shall be liable to pay K50.00 penalty fee.

**RECORD KEEPING:**

- Any sales of forestry produce shall be accompanied by receipts. No receipts no sales.
- The committee shall permit the sales of the forest produce from the block 1b and the treasurer shall receipts.
- The secretary at all the time record all the minutes of the meeting deliberations and keep them safely.
- The treasurer shall keep up dated financial records and in a transparent manner and be able to produce them anytime they are required.

**MANAGEMENT OF GUDUGUDU BLOCK:**

Forest produce allowed to be collected from the block include:

- firewood
- poles
- timber
- dry firewood
- mushroom
- medicine
- grass
- mapala (caterpillars)

**PROHIBITED OPERATIONS IN THE BLOCK:**

- setting fires harmful bush fires – uncontrolled fires
- tree cutting without a permit
- prospecting and gemstone mining without permit
- honey collection without a permit
- charcoal burning

**OFFENCES AND PENALTIES:**

Anybody involved in the following offences shall be liable for the following penalties:

- |                               |   |             |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------|
| - Burning charcoal            | - | K 5, 000.00 |
| - Setting fires               | - | K 7, 000.00 |
| - Collecting honey            | - | K 300.00    |
| - Collecting firewood (ngolo) | - | K 5, 000.00 |

- Collecting poles - K 5,000.00 per pole

**BENEFIT SHARING:**

All benefit accrued from forest products shall be used to manage the block. This will be kept in the bank account. Members of the block and vulnerable groups will also benefit the benefit sharing will relate to the daily individual inputs as indicated in the daily attendance register.

The benefits shall be shared according to the % below:

- Block 60%
- LFMB 10%
- Government 30%

**SOURCES OF INCOME:**

- Sales of firewood from the block
- Sales of poles from the block
- Licensing of other products from the block.

## Annex 2.

### Agreed Roles and Responsibilities for Implementation of Gudugudu Block

Stakeholder	Roles and responsibility
Village headman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calling for community gathering on developmental issues</li> <li>• Making village meetings</li> <li>• Solving village cases</li> <li>• Receiving village developments</li> <li>• Receiving and keeping strangers</li> </ul>
Block 1b Management Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managing the block according to management plan</li> <li>• Making village nurseries</li> <li>• Screefing Block 1b boundaries</li> <li>• Receiving forestry visitors</li> <li>• Patrolling in the village forest area</li> <li>• Coordinating forestry matters to the village people</li> </ul>
Chairperson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calling meetings</li> <li>• Making committee meetings</li> <li>• Opening and closing meetings</li> <li>• Representing the village head in his absence</li> <li>• Looking after nurseries</li> </ul>
Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recording meeting minutes and reading them</li> <li>• Keeping records of meetings items</li> <li>• Writing letters to where they are supposed to.</li> <li>• Writing what is coming in and going out</li> </ul>
Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping funds raised and items</li> <li>• Record keeping</li> <li>• Recording cash coming in and out --Keeping records of whatever they are having</li> </ul>
Committee member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helping in all committee discussions</li> <li>• Intermediator between the committee and the community</li> <li>• Doing all the work which may be there together with the committee and the community</li> </ul>
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planting trees</li> <li>• Screefing Block 1 b boundary</li> <li>• Helping in fire fighting</li> <li>• Committee election</li> <li>• Helping in doing nursery work</li> </ul>
VDC/ADC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They call for village development</li> <li>• Making village rules</li> <li>• They are intermediary between village and Assembly</li> </ul>
TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcoming developmental issues</li> <li>• Making rules of the village</li> </ul>

**Annex 3. Names of Members of Gudugudu Block Management Committee**

Chairman	:	Shamelonex Shaba
Vice Chairman	:	Austin Mkandawire
Secretary	:	Mary Banda
Vice Secretary	:	Raphael Shaba
Treasurer	:	Aliness Shaba
Vice Treasurer	:	Charles Shaba
Members	:	Dickson Chipeta Francisco Mazayi Steven Shaba Florence Mtonga

**Annex 4. Co-Management Agreement  
(Forestry Act, 1997 Section 25)**

THIS AGREEMENT is made the ..... day of .....

BETWEEN Director of Forestry, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Management, hereafter referred to as the Government, and local resident of Jaji Shaba, Mateyo Shaba, Mjojo Mhlanga, Manunda Mchemela, Malambika Shaba, Mandala Mazaye, Kandavweke Shaba and Nezala Shaba of Traditional Authority Mzikubola in Mzimba District represented by **Gudugudu 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 the transfer of management authority and ownership of forest resource of **PEREKEZI FOREST RESERVE – Gudugudu Block** , in order to promote forest management and the enhancement of livelihoods of the forest adjacent communities.

**NOW IT IS HEREBY AGREED as follows**

1. The Government shall upon 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 communities of Jaji Shaba, Mateyo Shaba, Mjojo Mhlanga, Manunda Mchemela, Malambika Shaba, Mandala Mazaye, Kandavweke Shaba and Nezala Shaba villages.
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 the Co- Management Plan.

**LFO OBLIGATION**

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 Management Plan.
- b) The LFO shall enforce the powers that have been devolved to them by the Government in the Forest Rules 2001 – Part III Village Forest Areas (6), 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 to issue permits and Licenses for forest produce for the benefit of the local community forest resource – rights holders of the aforementioned village(s) as set out in the annexed management plan.
- d) To assist the District Forestry Officer with the issuing of conveyance certificate from the District Forestry 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.
- f) Revenue accruing from the forest resource shall be equitably utilised by the community in accordance with the LFO Constitution and as per agreements reached at General Assembly 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 accounts of the Local Forest Management Board of PEREKEZI 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 accounts of the Forest Development and Management 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 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 Forest department shall;

- a) Provide technical expertise to support the joint implementation with the LFO and the timely revision of the Co-Management Plan.
- b) Advice and assist with monitoring local accountability mechanisms including, conduct of meetings, elections, by-elections, record keeping, financial accounting and reporting.
- c) Provide a basis 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 item 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 the Co-Management Plans.
- 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, organization, marketing and other forms of support to the LFO as appropriate.
- i) Organize 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 Act 1997, Forest Rules 2001, and Local Forest Organisation Registration Agreement.

## **COMMENCEMENT, DURATION AND TERMINATION**

5. This Agreement shall come into effect when signed by Director of Forestry, representatives of the parties, and shall be binding indefinitely subject to clause 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;
  - a. Negligence or failure to protect, manage and control the co-management block.
  - b. If the LFO commits any serious breach of the agreement.
7. The powers stipulated in clause 6 above, shall not be exercised unless the Government has tried all efforts to resolve or correct the situation amicably.
8. In cautioning the local community the Director of Forestry shall cite the shortcoming 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;
  - a. If there is serious breach of this agreement.
  - b. If for any reason the community finds itself unable or unwilling to continue with the activities of the designated forest area.
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 Block.

#### **DEMARCATON AND BOUNDARY**

11. Division or delineation of forest areas shall be as displayed on the map contained in the Co-management Plan

#### **DISPUTES**

12. In the event of any dispute arising under the Forest 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.

Perekezi Forest Reserve Co-Management Plan for Gudugudu Block

Perekezi Forest Reserve Co-Management Plan for Gudugudu Block

**13. SIGNED**



Dr. DENNIS KAYAMBAZINI  
DIRECTOR OF FORESTRY

Dated: 17/06/2013

AND

CHAMELONEX SHABA  
CHAIRPERSON LOCAL FOREST ORGANISATION (GUDUGUDU BLOCK)

Dated: 10-6-2013

WITNESS: Eliza chirwa

Robbing Shaba  
VILLAGE HEADMAN/WOMAN

Dated: 10-6-2013

\_\_\_\_\_  
DISTRICT COMMISSIOER

Dated:.....

Inkosi Mankubala  
TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

Dated: 10/06/13

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRPERSON, LOCAL FOREST  
MANAGEMENT BOARD

Dated:.....

