

**DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS WITH
COMMUNITIES TO OVERCOME
VULNERABILITY THROUGH ENHANCED
RESILIENCE (DISCOVER)**



YEAR TWO; FIRST QUARTER

NARRATIVE REPORT

For the period: October to December 2012

Submitted to:

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Table of Contents

1.0 Executive Summary	4
2.0 Background Information	5
3.0 Narrative summary	5
4.0 PROGRESS REPORT BY OUTPUT	7
5.0 Emergency occurrences and mitigation measures.....	28
6.0 Major Lessons learnt, Problems or Constraints	28
6.1 Major Lessons Learnt.....	28
6.2 Problems/Constraints and Action Taken.....	28
7.0 Management	29
8.0 Main Activities for the Next Quarter	31
9.0 UPDATED RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT	31
10.0 FINANCIAL REPORTING.....	31
11.0 TECHNICAL ANNEXES	31

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACCRONYMS

ACPC	Area Civil Protection Committee
ADC	Area Development Committee
CA	Conservation Agriculture
CBCC	Community Based Child Care Centre
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CPC	Civil Protection Committee
DCPC	District Civil Protection Committee
DFID	Department For International Development
DISCOVER	Developing Innovative Solutions with Communities to Overcome Vulnerability Through Enhanced Resilience
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ENA	Essential Nutrition Actions
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GVH	Group Village Head
HSA	Health Surveillance Assistant
IP	Implementing Partner
Kg	Kilogram
MIS	Management Information Systems
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NRBE	Natural Resource Based Enterprise
NRM	Natural Resource Management
PVCA	Participatory Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment
SMC	Senior Management Committee
TA	Traditional Authority
TMC	Technical Management Team
VCPC	Village Civil Protection Committee
VDC	Village Development Committee
VSL	Village Savings and Loans

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The DISCOVER project continued to make steady progress during the reporting quarter. The following paragraphs present key achievements of the project during the reporting quarter.

Output 1.0: Capacity of local authorities, communities and individuals to address and mitigate the impacts of climate change strengthened.

Training of Civil Protection Committees was conducted during the quarter. 448 CPC members were trained. Out of those trained, 261 were women.

The review of Disaster Risk Management plans and Contingency plans was initiated during the quarter. Nsanje district produced its contingency plans and Dedza district also concluded production of the Disaster Risk Management plan. These plans have been shared with the Department of Disaster Management Affairs.

Output 2.0: Capacity of communities and individuals to adapt their livelihoods to climate variability and the impacts of climate change and to manage disasters increased.

During the reporting quarter, 5,526 beneficiaries were given an assortment of seeds of drought tolerant and bio-fortifying crop varieties to plant. The objective is to diversify crop production and also increase adoption and utilization of drought tolerant crops and ultimately increase household food security. Beneficiaries have an obligation to repay and pass-on seed to others once they have harvested thus ensuring wider community benefits and mitigating against the development of a 'hand-out' culture.

The DISCOVER project trained 297 Village Extension Multipliers who are Volunteer Community Extension workers. The objective is to increase farmer access to information on agriculture by rural farmers. The trained Village Extension workers have trained 5,966 farmers during the quarter in various technical skills related to agricultural production.

During the quarter, 8 irrigation schemes were developed. The largest of these is the 47 ha. irrigation scheme that is being developed in the drought and flood prone district of Nsanje. 217 farmers embarked on crop production activities on irrigation schemes that were rehabilitated by the project during the quarter. These farmers have already harvested 24 metric tons of maize to supplement their household food and cash needs.

The project facilitated the formation of 122 Village Savings and Loans groups during the quarter. The groups have accumulated savings amounting to Mk8, 005,923 during the quarter. This brings the total value of accumulated savings to Mk9, 281,753 since the start of the project in April 2012.

DISCOVER sold 1,338 solar units during the quarter. This achievement was well ahead of the quarterly target of 875 units.

Output 3.0: Information sharing between stakeholders on DRM and climate change adaptation strengthened: improved information shared which builds on evidence and practical experiences.

The DISCOVER team conducted 4 awareness meetings during the quarter. A total of 12,768 people were reached with Disaster Risk Reduction information and information on climate change issues.

The project is collaborating with the University of Malawi to undertake research that will inform best practices in adaptation. Two research topics were identified by students from the University during the quarter. The project will support the students to undertake this research during the year.

The project team participated in 17 CPC meetings where Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate change matters were discussed.

Output 4.0: The early warning system for climate related disasters strengthened (slow and rapid onset disasters).

Major achievements under this output are as follows: training of 4 ACPCs and 41 VCPC in early warning, procurement and installation of early warning equipment in some districts and work had started in other districts on evacuation site preparation.

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

DISCOVER operates in the most vulnerable districts in Malawi. The number of people who had run out food increased during the period due to erratic rains during the previous planting period coupled with the increased cost of food items. The hunger situation has negatively affected implementation of programme activities because households who are without food spend much of their time undertaking activities which would enable them immediate access to food at the expense of participation in programmes that build long-term resilience. Such households also spend all or most of their income towards meeting their immediate food requirements at the expense of their other needs.

The reporting period marked the beginning of the main rainy season in Malawi. The onset of the first rains was generally delayed in all DISCOVER districts. Effective planting rains began to fall in December which poses a threat of a short rainy season although rainfall amounts may be larger than normal.

3.0 NARRATIVE SUMMARY

DISCOVER continued to make a steady progress during the quarter in relation to set targets for various activities during the quarter. More than 90% of all activities planned for the quarter were implemented although a number of these were behind target largely due to cash flow delays due to late release of funds during the quarter.

Activities that demonstrated a significant direct contribution to the project goal during the quarter included Village Savings and Loans, irrigation and low carbon energy technologies i.e. stoves and solar lamps. During the quarter project beneficiaries that are members of Village Savings and Loans groups made substantial savings and had the opportunity to access credit to conduct small businesses. Farmers that had participated in irrigation farming in Salima district have already produced maize in excess of 24 metric tons. These households had additional food to take them through the hunger months of December to February the following year. The increased adoption of fuel efficient stoves by most households meant a reduction in fuel wood

usage by these households, access to cleaner cooking technology and more time saved from wood collection activities especially for women.

The DISCOVER project maintained a healthy collaborative relationship with government partners and other stakeholders at district level. District Council remained a key partner in this project during the quarter. DISCOVER also collaborated well with the Christian Aid-led consortium. This was demonstrated by a series of joint activities that were implemented especially in developing the programme Monitoring and Evaluation system. Communities have been receptive to the programme and continue to support efforts that can bear positive results in reducing their levels of vulnerability and poverty.

DISCOVER hosted a number of high profile visits to the project during the quarter. For example, Joy Hutcheon who is the Director General for Programmes, James Saville who is Human Resources Director from the UK and Sarah Sanyahumbi who is Head of DFID Malawi visited DISCOVER in Salima district.

DISCOVER conducted a series of lesson learning workshops with its partners during the quarter. One major lesson that was gathered from these sessions is that Village Savings and Loans (VSL) programmes could act as an entry point for large and complex livelihoods projects in rural communities.

4.0 PROGRESS REPORT BY OUTPUT

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
Output 1: Capacity of local authorities, communities and individuals to address and mitigate the impacts of climate change strengthened through 104 fully functional Village Civil Protection Committees (VCPCs), 17 Area CPCs and 5 District CPCs and 59,700 households aware of their impacts on and solutions for enhanced individual and community resilience to climate change.						
1.1	Assess the Capacity of districts to implement climate change adaptation and DRM activities					
1.1.1	Undertake an assessment of existing DRR and Climate Change policy documents, plans and levels of funding at district and community level to establish their existence and relevance, and recommend further actions	5 reports	1 report	0	0	The assessment was planned for Karonga district only and the process was initiated by conducting a desk review of the documents which that are outdated. The exercise will continue and be finalized during the next quarter.
1.2	Review the composition and responsibilities of DCPCs, ACPCs and VCPCs according to DoDMA regulations and provide training as appropriate.					
1.2.1	Train DCPC members	115 DCPC members	88 DCPC members	20 people (17 male and 3 female)-23%	20 people (17 male and 3 female)	Nsanje-the training was not conducted because the team was waiting for completion of; and adoption of DRM plan and training will be conducted during the next quarter. Balaka and Dedza, the district team was occupied with review of DRM plan and training will be conducted

¹ Give explanation for any delays/deviation from planned activity

*Any data representing people should be disaggregated by gender (male and female)

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
						during next quarter.
1.2.2	Train ACPC members	232 ACP members	178 ACPC members	107 people (22 male and 85 female)- 60%	107 people (22 male and 85 female)	Training conducted in all districts. Turn up for training was low since this is farming season. Balaka training not conducted because the trainers were engaged with management of the Farm Inputs Subsidy Programme.
1.2.3	Train VCPC members	1,145 VCPC members	761 members	321 people (148 male and 173 female)- 42%	321 people (148 male and 173 female)	The activity was not implemented in Dedza and Balaka because trainers were engaged in Farm Input Subsidy Programme. The Training is planned for next quarter.
1.3	Develop, update and review District DRM Development Plan (3 Year), District DRM Contingency Plan (Annual) and ACPCs and VCPCs Response/Action Plans (Annual)					
1.3.1	Develop, update or review District DRM Development Plan (3 Year)	5 DRM plans	2 DRM plans	0	0	The activity was planned for Balaka and Dedza districts. The review process for the DRMPs started in each of the target districts and will be completed in the next quarter. Priority was given to conclusion of the contingency plans.
1.3.2	Develop, update or review District DRM Contingency Plan (Annually)	5 Contingency Plans	3 Contingency plans	2 Contingency plans for Dedza and Nsanje districts- 67%	2 DRM plans for Dedza and Nsanje districts	2 Contingency plans for Dedza and Nsanje districts were developed during the quarter. Balaka district delayed in reviewing the contingency plan they needed to gather more baseline data for

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
						the review process. The review process in Balaka will be concluded during the next quarter.
1.3.3	Update district population covered by the District Plans (DRM and Contingency)	TBD	671,725 people	671,725 (322,334 male and 349,391 female) + Nsanje- 100%	671,725 (322,334 male and 349,391 female)	
1.3.4	Develop ACPCs Response/Action Plans	11 ACPC Response Plans	11 ACPC Response plans	7 ACPC response plans- 64%	7 ACPC response plans	Karonga and Balaka didn't develop ACPC response plans due to limited time to undertake the process.
1.3.5	Develop VCPCs Response/Action Plans	57 VCPC Response plans	57 VCPC Response plans	23 VCPC response plans- 40%	23 VCPC response plans	Karonga, Dedza, Balaka did not develop VCPC response plans due to a limited time to undertake the process.
1.3.6	Update ADC/VDC population covered by the ACPC/VCPC Response/Action Plans		93,532 people	93,532 people (48,637 female & 44,895 male)from 22,238 households	93,532 people (48,637 female & 44,895 male)from 22,238 households	
1.4	Development of District Hazard Vulnerability Maps, GVH Maps and Population Census Database					
1.4.1	Develop District Hazard Vulnerability Maps (Annually)	5 District Hazard maps	2 maps	0	0	DISCOVER is reviewing this activity to assess its appropriateness and sustainability. This activity will be piloted in Karonga and based on its success it might be replicated in other DISCOVER districts. .

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
1.4.2	Collection of GIS coordinates and develop GVH maps	60 GVH Maps	50 GVH maps	0	0	As above
1.4.3	Orientation of VCPCs on census data collection	83 VCPCs	35 VCPCs	0	0	As above
1.4.4	Develop population census data at GVH Level		24 GVHs	0	0	DISCOVER is conducting a Household Listing and registration exercise for all households in 104 GVH. Once this exercise is completed, it will assist in getting the population data according to age and gender. This exercise will be concluded during the first half of next quarter.
1.5	Establishment of community-based CPC managed storage facilities (cemented grain silos) to improve post-harvest storage and handling					
1.5.1	Develop tools to assess effectiveness of existing grain silos as an emergency mitigation strategy	1 Tool	1	0	0	The process of developing the tool was initiated during this quarter and will be completed in the next quarter. There is a general agreement within DISCOVER partners that the project should put more focus on Post-harvest management other than grain silos as DRR structures. The project will develop a clear strategy on how to promote this approach.
1.5.2	Training of community members in post-harvest storage and handling	318 members	0	0	0	The project is developing a strategy for the promotion of post-harvest management.
1.5.3	Construction and rehabilitation of the grain silos	7 Grain Silos	2 Grain silos	2	2	As above
1.5.4	Monitor the use of the grain silos and produce report to inform the pilot		0	0	0	As above

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
Output 2: Capacity of communities and individuals to adapt their livelihoods to climate variability and the impacts of climate change and to manage disasters increased: 16,000 households with improved, diversified crops, 4,150 farmers practicing Conservation Agriculture and greater dietary diversity in 29,000 households, 50,000 households using efficient stoves, 5.8 million trees raised, 16 000 individuals (with primary focus being on women based on lessons learnt that are less privileged in accessing such services) directly benefitting from VSL and microfinance services						
2.1	Promotion of crop diversification and drought/flood resistant crops					
2.1.1	Train focal persons/extension staff in targeting for crop production	69 staff	36 staff	41(29m;12f)	41(29m;12f)	
2.1.2	Conclude identification and registration of beneficiaries for seed and planting materials inputs	6,716 beneficiaries	3,216 beneficiaries	3,333 (1,265m; 2,068f)	3,333 (1,265m; 2,068f)	
2.1.3	Conduct light training on beneficiaries on crop husbandry practices	6,716 beneficiaries	5,216 beneficiaries	5,526(2,087m; 3,439)	5,526(2,087m; 3,439)	
2.1.4	Procure seeds and planting materials based on beneficiary preference of adaptable crop varieties	Maize 10400kg; Sorghum 1000kg; Pigeon peas 11730kgs; Rice 1800kg; Soya beans 3100kg; G/nuts 4900kg; Cowpeas 300kg; Pearl millet 3800kg	Maize 10400kg; Sorghum 1000kg; Pigeon peas 11730kgs; Rice 1800kg; Soya beans 3100kg; G/nuts 4900kg; Cowpeas 300kg; Pearl millet 3800kg	Maize 10400kg; Sorghum 1000kg; Pigeon peas 11730kgs; Rice 1800kg; Soya beans 3100kg; G/nuts 4900kg; Cowpeas 300kg; Pearl millet 3800kg.	Maize 10400kg; Sorghum 1000kg; Pigeon peas 11730kgs; Rice 1800kg; Soya beans 3100kg; G/nuts 4900kg; Cowpeas 300kg; Pearl millet 3800kg.	
2.1.5	Distribute seed and planting materials to beneficiaries	6,716	5,216	All the seeds that were procured were distributed to	All the seeds that were procured were distributed to 5,526	

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
				5,526 beneficiaries	beneficiaries	
2.1.6	Growing of diverse, drought and flood resistant crops		0	0	0	To be reported in second quarter
2.2	Improved Extension systems for lead farmers and farmer clubs (training and follow-up)					
2.2.1	Train VEMs in i.e. agriculture extension methods, livestock management, crops, soil and water conservation, conservation agriculture)	373 VEMs	273 VEMs	297 (202m; 95f)	297 (202m; 95f)	
2.2.2	Procurement of VEM training kits/package	406 kits	286 kits	103 kits	103 kits	Training kits were not procured in Karonga, Dedza, Salima. The procurement has been shifted to next quarter.
2.2.3	Equip VEMs with materials to help them train other farmers	406 VEMs	286 VEMs	175 (110m;65f)	175 (110m;65f)	Extra kits were procured in Year 1 but distributed during this quarter.
2.2.4	Provide coaching and mentoring support to VEMs (number of active VEMs)	134 reports	23 reports	23 reports	23 reports	
2.2.5	VEMs conduct training on selected beneficiaries for the different interventions.	6,716 beneficiaries	4,750 beneficiaries	5,966 (3188m; 2778f)	5,966 (3188m; 2778f)	
2.3	Establishment of seed banks and community seed systems					
2.3.1	Facilitate formation of village seed committees	60 seed committees	50 committees	50 seed committees	50 seed committees	
2.3.2	Training of seed committees in seed production, storage and marketing	60 seed committees	39 committees	39 committees (518 = 302m; 216f)	39 committees (518 = 302m; 216f)	
2.3.3	Establish community seed banks		44 community	0	0	Seed banks to be established during third

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
			seed banks			and fourth quarter.
2.3.4	Assist community members with seed from seed banks			0	0	
2.4	Introduction of small-scale irrigation schemes					
2.4.1	Undertake prefeasibility studies on additional new irrigation schemes	10	0	0	0	Implementation of these activities was suspended during the quarter. The project concentrated on developing 8 sites where feasibility studies had been concluded.
2.4.2	Conduct detailed irrigation feasibility studies on additional new irrigation schemes	5	0	0	0	As above
2.4.3	Procurement of construction materials for schemes where feasibility studies have been concluded	TBC	0	0	0	As above
2.4.4	Rehabilitation/ Construction of prioritized irrigation schemes	12 schemes	8 schemes	8 schemes	8 schemes	Some schemes are still under construction (1 Karonga, 1 Nsanje, 1 Salima)
2.4.5	Train farmers in group dynamics and group cohesion and water management	533 farmers	50 farmers	23 (14 male and 9 female)	23 (14 male and 9 female)	Training only took place in Nsanje, but also planned for Salima
2.4.6	Production of crops under small scale irrigation schemes	40% irrigable land	0	8 ha; 217 beneficiaries harvested 24,000 kgs maize; (165 f, 62 m)	8 ha; 217 beneficiaries harvested 24,000 kgs maize; (165 f, 62 m)	The period was dedicated to construction of irrigation schemes, but some farmers started using the rehabilitated schemes
2.5	Introduction of Conservation Agriculture					

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
2.5.1	Train extension staff in CA	88 staff	21 staff	21 staff (5 female; 16 male)	21 staff (5 female; 16 male)	
2.5.2	Identify farmers to participate in CA	1,556 farmers	376 farmers	376 farmers (126 female and 250 male)	376 farmers (126 female and 250 male)	
2.5.3	Discuss and agree on modalities for supporting farmers with inputs	1 CA strategy	1 draft strategy	1 draft	1 draft	Strategy to be discussed at next TMC
2.5.4	Procure and distribute CA inputs	TBD	1900 kg of OPV maize; 4700 kg of Urea and 4700 kg of 23:21:0+4S fertilizers	1900 kg of OPV maize; 4700 kg of Urea and 4700 kg of 23:21:0+4S fertilizers	1900 kg of OPV maize; 4700 kg of Urea and 4700 kg of 23:21:0+4S fertilizers	
2.5.5	Conduct on-farm training on identified farmers in CA	1,556 farmers	856 farmers	856 farmers (260 female and 596 male)	856 farmers (260 female and 596 male)	
2.5.6	Monitor performance/productivity of crops under CA	TBD	0	0	0	Will be reported in next quarter after harvest
2.6	Improved management of existing livestock and provision of small livestock and community based livestock breeding					
2.6.1	Identify households that will benefit from the livestock project.	936 households	736 households	790 (409m, 381f)	790 (409m, 381f)	
2.6.2	Formation of livestock committees	66 livestock committees	54 livestock committees	54 livestock committees	54 livestock committees	
2.6.3	Train livestock committees in livestock production and management of pass on scheme	66 livestock committees	54 livestock committees	21 committees (266 members comprising	21 committees (266 members comprising	Training not carried out in Dedza and Balaka because trainers engaged in Farmers Input Subsidy Programme.

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
				150male; 116 female)	150male; 116 female)	Training will be carried out in next quarter.
2.6.4	Facilitate the signing of MOUs between beneficiaries and partner agencies	936 households	536 households	0	0	In Dedza and Balaka waiting for training of committees,
2.6.5	Training of farmers that will demonstrate willingness to participate in the livestock project	936 households	736 households	390 (224 male; 166 female)	390 (224 male; 166 female)	Due to FISP.
2.6.6	Procure and distribute livestock to farmers that show willingness and capacity to manage livestock	TBD	1,689 goats	456 goats (380 female goats & 76 male goats)	456 goats (380 female goats & 76 male goats)	Training of farmers did not take place in Dedza and Balaka and neither did the signing of MOUs.
2.7	Implement nutrition interventions					
2.7.1	Train extension staff and HSAs in nutrition (Essential Nutrition Actions -ENA), hygiene and sanitation	207 EWs & HSAs	89 EWs & HSAs	68 (49m; 19f)	68 (49m; 19f)	Nsanje will train in next quarter
2.7.2	Conduct community awareness on nutrition and PD Hearth	178 meetings	92 meetings	63 meetings (13,148 people attended- 9,671 female and 3,477 male)	63 meetings (13,148 people attended - 9,671 female and 3,477 male)	
2.7.3	Identify and train more community based nutrition promoters (Health Outreach Volunteers)	514 HOVs	110 HOVs	110 HOVs (64 female and 46 male)	110 HOVs (64 female and 46 male)	
2.7.4	Facilitate the implementation of nutrition and health activities (e.g. nutrition education sessions, mother to child care practices, cooking demonstrations)	TBD because this target comprises	TBD because this target comprises various activities	47 cooking demonstrations (2,979 people -	47 cooking demonstrations (2,979 people - 2,854	

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
		various activities		2,854 female and 125 male)	female and 125 male)	
2.7.5	Conduct monitoring visits to Health Outreach Volunteers	112 visits (at least one visit to each volunteer)	24 visits	39 visits	39 visits	Target exceeded to provide backstopping support to newly trained volunteers
2.7.6	Support child health day event	5 events (1 per district)	1 event	1 child health day event	1 child health day event	
2.7.7	Train extension staff/HSAs on PD Hearth	202 EWs/HSAs trained	65 EWs/ HSAs	57 EWs/HSAs (27 m, 30 f)	57 EWs/HSAs (27 m, 30 f)	
2.7.8	Procurement of PD Hearth materials (salter weighing scales)	102 salter weighing scales	8 scales	0	0	To be carried out next quarter
2.7.9	Facilitate PD Hearth sessions	391 PD hearth sessions	99 sessions	138 sessions	138 sessions	<p>Target exceeded due to high demand. A total of 71hearth sessions were held in Dedza and 67 held in Balaka. A total of 358 children were admitted in Dedza (166 male and 192 female. Out of these, 286 children (112 male and 174 female) graduated with over 200g weight gain. About 50 children graduated in Dedza with constant weight and 22 registered weight loss.</p> <p>In Balaka, a total of 113 children were admitted (43 male and 70 female) out of which 105 (38 male and 67 female) children graduated with weight gain of</p>

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
						above 200g. 8 children had constant weight after the hearth sessions.
2.7.10	Link CBCCs to PD Hearth Volunteers	43 CBCCs	4 CBCCs	10 CBCCs		Target exceeded because growth monitoring takes place in CBCCs and the child with under nutrition can easily be identified and linked to PD Hearth session
2.8	Mitigation works and adaptation initiatives – river bank stabilization					
2.8.1	Basin survey and technical assessment of critical intervention sites together with DCPC, Water Development and Public Works staff.	19 survey	2 surveys	1 survey	1 survey	Survey for Salima will be conducted in next quarter
2.8.2	Induction of field Staff on engineering dictates	25 staff	5	0	0	Target shifted to second quarter due because District Public Works Staff were busy monitoring LDF project
2.8.3	Training participating CPCs in project supervision and record keeping	158 CPC members	48	0	0	
2.8.4	Execution of works in coordination with Public Works Department and ACPCs and DCPC.	14 sites	2	0	0	
2.8.5	Develop in coordination with Public Works Department and ACPCs and DCPC maintenance management plans for the executed works.	12 review meetings	1	0	0	
2.9	Sustainable community forest management, tree planting and agro forestry (fruit trees)					
2.9.1	Identify additional natural village forest areas	39 forest areas	21 forest areas	12 forest areas	12 forest areas	
2.9.2	Form Village Forest Area committees	79 VFACs	21 VFACs	21 VFACs	21 VFACs	
2.9.3	Facilitate development of Village Forest Area management plans	39 VEM plans	11 VEM plans	11 VEM plans	11 VEM plans	

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
2.9.4	Training of VFA Committees in forest management	79 VFACs	21 VFACs	21 VFACs (760 members; 385 m, 375 f)	21 VFACs (760 members; 385 m, 375 f)	
2.9.5	Procurement and distribution of tree seeds (agro-forestry) and fruit trees seedlings	TBD	146,500 tree seeds and seedlings	108,808 tree and fruit seedlings planted	108,808 tree and fruit seedlings planted	
2.9.6	Procure GIS gadgets for village forest area demarcation	12 GIS gadgets	10 gadgets	0	0	Procurement process in progress
2.9.7	Tree planting (communal woodlots etc)	2.28 million trees	95,000 trees	71,308 trees	71,308 trees	Due to delayed rainy season
2.9.8	Facilitate the management natural regeneration of village forest area	TBD	10 ha	10 ha	10 ha	
2.9.9	Conduct reforestation campaigns	93 reforestation campaigns	65 campaigns	32 campaigns (2465 people; 1361 f, 1104 m)	32 campaigns (2465 people; 1361 f, 1104 m)	
2.10 Stove production and marketing						
2.10.1	Stove camp (March 2013) -Refresher training for field staff, stove promoters and partners, opportunity to share best practices	15 organizations	15 organizations	0	0	To be carried out next quarter
2.10.2	Mobilization & Formation of Stove production groups	25 production groups	5 production groups	6 production groups	6 production groups	
2.10.3	Procure training and quality control materials i.e Paddle moulds	10 paddles	10 paddles	10 paddles	10 paddles	
2.10.4	Disseminate communication, training and promotion materials i.e paddle mould manual, kiln construction manual, stove posters, ER	12000 user manuals; 8000 posters; 2000	7,000 calendars (800 kiln manuals, 800	7,000 calendars(800 kiln manuals, 800	7,000 calendars(800 kiln manuals, 800 paddle mould	

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
	contracts	stove production booklets	paddle mould manuals, 800 bucket mould manuals)	paddle mould manuals, 800 bucket mould manuals)	manuals, 800 bucket mould manuals)	
2.10.5	Training of groups in stove production - quality control, business and marketing, group dynamics, record keeping etc	25 production groups	9 groups	6 groups (180-members comprising 158 females and 22 males)	6 groups (180-members comprising 158 females and 22 males)	
2.10.6	Develop district environmental management plan for clay sources & other environmental effects form stove production	5 EM plans	0	0	0	
2.10.7	Identify and train community stove promoters	45 promoters	32 promoters	32 Promoters (17 male and 15 female)	32 Promoters (17 male and 15 female)	
2.10.8	ToT of Stove Production using a paddle mould	50 stove producers	50 stove producers	51 Stove Producers (33 female and 18 male)	51 Stove Producers (33 female and 18 male)	
2.10.9	Facilitate the production of stoves and access to stoves by the households	15000 stoves produced (3000 per district)	1200 stoves	2,471 stoves	2,471 stoves	
2.10.10	Facilitate stove promotion activities (e.g. market demos, open days etc) integrated with DISCOVER activities.	30 promotion sessions (at least 6 sessions per district with estimated	1 open day per district	4 open days (11,197 people-3,794 male and 7,403 female)	4 open days (11,197 people-3,794 male and 7,403 female)	

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
		attendance of 2000 per session)				
2.10.11	Sells and user training	13 production groups	4 groups	4 Groups (123 members – 16 male and 107 female)	4 Groups (123 members – 16 male and 107 female)	
2.10.12	Develop stove production and sales monitoring system	1	1	1	1	
2.10.13	TA and QC visits	10 visits (2 sites per district)	3 visits	3 visits	3 visits	
2.11	Establish Village Savings and Loans groups (VSL) in those areas and with those groups considered too vulnerable and high risk to access microfinance services					
2.11.1	Awareness meetings	434 awareness meetings	116 awareness meetings	127 awareness meetings	127 awareness meetings	
2.11.2	Formation of groups	434 VSL groups	116 VSL groups	122 VSL groups	122 VSL groups	
2.11.3	Training of groups in VSL	434 VSL groups	116 VSL groups	122 VSL groups (2,476 members; 303 m, 2,173 f)	122 VSL groups (2,476 members; 303 m, 2,173 f)	
2.11.4	Performance group monitoring	6,533 members	1,740 members	2,231 members (1,968 f, 263 m)	2,231 members (1,968 f, 263 m)	
2.11.5	Business training of VSL groups	300 VSL	50 VSL groups	99 VSL groups(1,241	99 VSL groups(1,241 members; 1,054 f,	

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
		groups		members; 1,054 f, 187 m)	187 m)	
2.12	Micro solar entrepreneurship					
2.12.1	Raise awareness with existing entrepreneurs - through VDC meetings, VSL group meetings, stove production groups and other project awareness meetings	82 awareness meetings	24 awareness meetings	38 awareness meetings	38 awareness meetings	
2.12.2	Identifying entrepreneurs	94 entrepreneurs	60 entrepreneurs	60 entrepreneurs	60 entrepreneurs	
2.12.3	Training of entrepreneurs	94 entrepreneurs	60 entrepreneurs	14 entrepreneurs(12 male, 2 female)	14 entrepreneurs(12 male, 2 female)	
2.12.4	Dispatching of solar equip	46,309 solar units	875 solar units	1,338 solar units	1,338 solar units	
2.12.5	Establish centralized micro-solar repairing centres	5 repairing centres	1 repairing centre	1 repairing centre	1 repairing centre	
2.12.6	Follow up/support visits to entrepreneurs	145 visits	60 visits	7 visits	7 visits	
2.12.7	Monitoring sales	1 monitoring tool	1 monitoring tool	1 monitoring tool	1 monitoring tool	
2.12.8	Rolling out of Sunny money way schools campaign programme	4 campaigns	3 campaigns	3 campaigns (96 people; 18 f, 78 m)	3 campaigns (96 people; 18 f, 78 m)	
2.12.9	Identify and train Primary Education Advisors	23 Primary Education	19 Advisors	19 Advisors	19 Advisors	

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
		Advisors				
2.17	Promote sustainable natural resource based enterprises such as bee-keeping, mushroom production, fruit grafting and commercial seedling production, eco-tourism, fish farming etc					
2.17.1	Assess & prioritize NRM based enterprises at GVH level	19 NRM enterprises	22 enterprises	14 NRM enterprises	14 NRM enterprises	
2.17.2	Formation of groups per identified enterprise	18 groups	10 groups	9 groups	9 groups	
2.17.3	Training of groups on NRBE	18 groups	10 groups	6 groups	6 groups	
2.17.4	Promote production of natural resource based enterprises	TBD	0	0	0	
2.18	Establish, register, strengthen and consolidate Marketing Associations					
2.18.1	Identify commodities and markets	5 reports	1 report	2 reports	2 reports	
2.18.2	Formation of marketing groups at GVH level	17 marketing groups	1 groups	2 marketing groups	2 marketing groups	
Output 3: Information sharing between stakeholders on DRM and climate change adaptation strengthened: improved information shared which builds on evidence and practical experiences with 300,000 people reached with improved and relevant information.						
3.2	Conduct public awareness activities including engaging theatre for development drama groups and producing radio programmes					
3.2.1	Identification of drama groups and bands at community level	17 drama groups	13 groups	14 groups	14 groups	
3.2.2	Train drama groups in Theatre for Development approach	17 drama groups	10 groups	4 Groups (42 members – 20 male	4 Groups (42 members – 20 male	Karonga, Dedza and Balaka will carry out in the next quarter

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
				and 22 female)	and 22 female)	
3.2.3	Develop messages with Drama and band groups	16 messages	3 messages	3 messages	3 messages	
3.2.4	Conduct awareness/sensitization campaigns on DRR and Climate Change issues.	121 awareness meetings	8 awareness meetings	4 meetings (12,768 people-4,351 male and 8,417 female)	4 meetings (12,768 people-4,351 male and 8,417 female)	The remaining campaigns will be carried out in the next quarter
3.6	DRR and Climate Change Research and Learning Opportunities					
3.6.1	Identify two research areas in DRR and Climate change for further research	2 research topics	2 research topics	2 research topics	2 research topics	The research will be undertaken as part of MSc studies by students from the University of Malawi
3.7	Knowledge and information sharing with national and district level institutions and other stakeholders on climate change and DRM					
3.7.1	Participate in District CPC meetings and any meetings in DRR and Climate Change	23 CPC meetings	17 CPC meetings	17 CPC meetings	17 CPC meetings	
Output 4: The early warning system for climate related disasters strengthened (slow and rapid onset disasters): 55 communities covered by a community-based early warning system with trialed evacuation plans						
4.1	Establish Community Based Early Warning System					
4.1.1	Document key early warning signs for flood and drought prone areas (scientific and indigenous)	5 reports	4 reports	1 report	1 report	
4.1.2	Develop early warning system for each area together with CPC members	5 reports	5 reports	1 report	1 report	

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
4.1.3	Train CPC on early warning	54 CPCs	50 CPCs	4 ACPCs; 41 VCPCs (441 members- 297 males and 144 females)	4 ACPCs; 41 VCPCs (441 members- 297 males and 144 females)	
4.1.4	Procure equipment (rain gauge, phones, megaphones, first aid kits)	At least 1 kit per VCPC	24 First Aid Kits; 26 Senior Power Packs Solar Light Systems; 9 Rain Gauges; 96 Cell Phones	24 First Aid Kits; 26 Senior Power Packs Solar Light Systems; 9 Rain Gauges; 96 Cell Phones	24 First Aid Kits; 26 Senior Power Packs Solar Light Systems; 9 Rain Gauges; 96 Cell Phones	
4.1.5	Training of Upstream VCPCs on EWS data collection. Interpretation and effective communication	38 VCPCs located upstream in areas that are flood prone	11 VCPC	5 VCPCs (5 members – 5 females and 9 males)	5 VCPCs (5 members – 5 females and 9 males)	
4.2	Evacuation Site Preparation, Preparedness and Conducting Evacuation Simulation Exercises					
4.2.1	Train VCPCs on evacuation site preparedness and planning	105 VCPCs	28 VCPCs	5 VCPCs (46 members- 43 male and 3 female)	5 VCPCs (46 members- 43 male and 3 female)	Not carried out in Salima and Nsanje
4.2.2	Conduct simulation exercises with communities	105 simulation exercises	28 exercises	5 exercises	5 exercises	Not carried out in Salima and Nsanje
4.2.3	Identify evacuation centres/sites	19 centres	15 centres	15 centres	15 centres	

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
4.2.4	Procurement and distribution of evacuation site equipment	TBD	26 Senior Power Packs Solar Light Systems	26 Senior Power Packs Solar Light Systems	26 Senior Power Packs Solar Light Systems	
6.1	Conduct DISCOVER Baseline Survey and Annual Assessments/Reviews					
6.1.1	Revise Program log frame incorporating baseline targets	1 revised log frame	1 revised log frame	1 revised log frame	1 revised log frame	
6.1.2	Conduct DISCOVER District lesson learning sessions	5 District Learning Sessions	5 District Learning Sessions	5 district learning sessions	5 district learning sessions	
6.3	Develop Database System/MIS					
6.3.1	Develop the database system (MIS)	1 MIS	1 MIS	0	0	Ongoing, to be finalised in quarter 2
6.3.2	Training M&E staff on the use of the database system (MIS)	5 staff	5 staff	0	0	Ongoing, to be finalised in quarter 2
6.4	Develop/design data collection & reporting system					
6.4.1	Design field level data collection and reporting templates for field staff, VEMs, community volunteers	TBD	10 templates	10 templates	10 templates	
6.4.2	Training of M&E Staff in the use of the reporting templates	5 staff	5 staff	5 staff (all male)	5 staff (all male)	
6.5	Produce Program work plans and reports					
6.5.1	Produce annual consolidated consortium work	1 Annual Work	1 Annual Work	1 Annual Work	1 Annual Work plan	

Activity #	Activity	Target for the Year	Planned Quarter Target	Achievement for the Quarter	Cumulative Result for the year	Remark / explanation of variance ¹
	plan & budget	plan & budget	plan & budget	plan & budget	& budget	
6.5.2	Conduct Internal audits of partners accounts	4 internal audits per partner	1 internal audit per partner	0	0	Not done because recruiting internal auditor
6.5.3	Produce and submit consortium quarterly reports to DFID (both narrative, financial and Cash flow request)-25th of the month.	4 reports	1 report	1 report	1 report	
6.5.4	Consortium Program Management (Coordination, Review & Monitoring Visits)					
7.1	Facilitation of coordination meetings at district, partner, PMU and consortia level					
7.1.1	Facilitate Senior Management Committee (SMC) meetings	8 SMC Meetings	2 meetings	2 meetings	2 meetings	
7.1.2	Facilitate Technical Management Committee (TMC) Meetings	4 meetings	1 meeting	1 meeting	1 meeting	
7.2	Conduct review meetings					
7.2.1	Conduct district quarterly review meetings	16 District review meetings	4 District review meetings	4 district meetings	4 district meetings	
7.2.2	Conduct consortium level annual review meetings	1 consortium review meeting	1 consortium review meeting	1	1	
7.3	Conduct program monitoring visits to Discover districts & partner organizations					
7.3.1	Conduct monitoring visits to Discover Districts	5 visits	5 visits	5 visits	5 visits	

5.0 EMERGENCY OCCURRENCES AND MITIGATION MEASURES

There was an armyworm outbreak in Dedza district that affected over 340 hectares of crop during the quarter. The army worm attack was largely due to the erratic rainfall experienced during the quarter. However, the outbreak was contained within 3 days with support from community members, DISCOVER project and the District Agriculture Office.

There were no other major occurrences in the other districts during the quarter worth reporting that would require mitigation measures.

6.0 MAJOR LESSONS LEARNT, PROBLEMS OR CONSTRAINTS

6.1 Major Lessons Learnt

1. Need for a complete MIS and M&E system.

The need for a complete MIS and M&E system became apparent during the quarter. While this element would have no significant impact on the project during the first year, the requirement for data management system is greater now than ever. This requires that LTS and Implementing Partners should fast-track the development of the system.

2. Household listing and beneficiary listing

DISCOVER has learnt the necessity of the household listing data. There is a greater possibility of “double or duplicate counting” of project beneficiaries in the absence of the household list. The project is taking this activity as a priority and plans to conclude household listing in all 104 GVHs during the second quarter. DISCOVER partners realise that to conduct this exercise, it requires a significant investment in time and resources.

3. Networking and collaboration

Good networking and collaboration has helped the project to achieve a greater progress across many planned activities during the quarter. Government departments have been key in the delivery of trainings and also in providing technical expertise in the implementation of the project activities. It is important to invest in capacity building of partners to increase stakeholder participation in the project. The establishment of the District Coordinating Committee ensures ownership of the project by District Council.

6.2 Problems/Constraints and Action Taken

No.	Problem/Constraint	Solution	Action Taken
	The increasing need for humanitarian	IPs participate in the	

1	response due to food shortage (hunger) among the targeted beneficiaries is hampering proper implementation of program interventions. The affected households spend more time undertaking activities which enable them to source food items at the expense of program implementation.	Humanitarian response programme to help beneficiaries access food while they are engaged in the long-term resilience building project.	GOAL Malawi, Concern Universal are participating in the Emergency Food Aid and Social Cash transfer Programme in Dedza, Ntcheu and Nsanje districts.
2	Slow and lengthy procurement procedures that delayed procurement of seed inputs	Constant liaison with procurement authorities to expedite the process.	Initiate the procurement process in good time
3	Emergency Cash Response activities assigned to alternative NGO in TA Pemba-Salima district, where DISCOVER activities take place. Balancing relief and development activities with the same beneficiaries.	Collaborate with NGO in the implementation area	Provide office support to NGO implementing Cash response Introduce NGO to the communities being targeted and explain the different approaches to supporting vulnerable households. Share household targeting lists
4	Delayed onset and erratic distribution of rainfall.	Delay distribution of crop inputs until rainfall is well established across the target areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lagged distribution of planting materials and crop seeds. Continuous monitoring of rainfall patterns to inform agricultural activities.

7.0 MANAGEMENT

#	Activity	Achievement for the Quarter	Remark
1	Staff Capacity Building & Recruitment		
1.1	Staff Training	5	The DISCOVER Programme Manager attended a course in

			Leadership Change and Building Resilience in the UK, 3 staff members from CU attended a course on stores management, and 1 staff member from Self Help Africa attended a course in stove production.
1.2	Staff Movement/Recruitment	SHA swapped Project Managers from Lilongwe to Karonga and vice versa. The Finance officer was not confirmed and new finance and administration officer was recruited.	Both the new Manager and the new Finance and Administration officer completed their orientation and fully relocated to Karonga. The objective is to improve management capacity of the project at field level.
		An Internal Auditor was recruited for DISCOVER to replace the incumbent due his inability to work in a consortium set-up	
		COOPI recruited the following staff members during the quarter: Field officer, Natural Resources Officer, Capacity Building Officer relocated to Lilongwe and reassigned to newly created post for CCA/DRM at DRR Centre (20% time working under DISCOVER).	
		Goal Malawi- The Agronomist (Chimwemwe Kachepa) resigned from her position during the reporting period. The project is in process of identifying her replacement. The contract for the Head of Programmes expired at the end of December 2012 and was not renewed.	
2	Workshops	DISCOVER staff members attended 3 main workshops during the quarter. These were in the following topics: National Contingency Planning Workshop, Climate Change mainstreaming in	

		District Planning Frameworks, DISCOVER Learning review workshop.	
3	Equipment Purchased	No new equipment was purchased during the quarter	
4	Development of Technical Reports/Booklets	The PVCA report was edited during the quarter and is ready for printing. A DISCOVER leaflet was drafted and will be printed for sharing with stakeholders.	

8.0 MAIN ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

Refer to detailed Year 2, Quarter 2 Work plan

9.0 UPDATED RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT

Refer to detailed risk assessment and management matrix-Annex

10.0 FINANCIAL REPORTING

To be reported separately. Any additional explanatory notes required on major deviations from the budget.

11.0 TECHNICAL ANNEXES

Any other relevant information should be included in technical annexes- minutes from important meetings, field visit reports, Pictures, ToRs, Agreements signed, Tools developed, change stories etc