

**CO-MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR NDAJE/NKULA FOREST BLOCK
IN
LIWONDE FOREST RESERVE
MACHINGA DISTRICT**



February, 2014

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The communities of Ndaje/Nkula villages acknowledge financial support received from European Union through the *Improved Forest Management for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme (IFMSLP)* for developing this management plan. The community is also grateful to the Forestry Department represented by Machinga District Forestry Office for the technical expertise rendered to them during the development of the plan.

Special thanks should go to P. Muhosha (DFO), Y. Mtafya, (ADFO), K. Hamuza (ADFO-E), R. Master (FA) and D. Kamwendo (FG) for their commitment and dedication during the development of this plan.

SUMMARY

Ndaje/Nkula communities of Traditional Authority Nkula in Machinga district is one of the beneficiary communities under the *Improved Forest Management for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme* (IFMSLP). The community comprises of seventeen (17) villages with a total number of 1937 households. The villages include *Ndaje, M'balaka, Chaphuka, Chiundo, Kalanje, Nkula, Chimbanga, Wadi, Kwilapo, Mpoya, Laje, Masapi, Kalilima, Mtendeje, Njonda, Mateta* and *Lupanga*. These villages are working collaboratively with the Department of Forestry on the management and sustainable utilization of natural resources found in Ndaje/Nkula Forest Co-Management Block which is located within Liwonde Forest Reserve.

Under this Co-management agreement, Ndaje/Nkula shall have a regulated access to forestry products (both woody & non-woody). Besides, environmental services shall be sustained through protection of the catchment and other fragile areas within the Co-management block.

In respect to these, the communities with technical assistance from the District Forestry Office have developed a Participatory Forest Co-management Plan which encompasses ten management practices which will guide the proper management and sustainable utilization of forest products in the block. In addition, management practices for each product, patrolling, harvesting, activities and monitoring plans, eighteen (18) resource user rules and corresponding penalties to ensure regulated access of forest resources by all forest user groups have been put in place.

This management plan also gives detailed projected annual cash flow and financial projections as shown in the annexes 2, 3 and 4.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document is a Participatory Forest Co-management agreement Plan for Ndaje/Nkula Forest Block in Liwonde and Zomba/Malosa Forest Reserve which is between Ndaje/Nkula communities and the Malawi Government. The block is 759.11 ha and is located to the South of Liwonde Forest Reserve which is 24, 351.87 ha. The plan has been developed in line with the Strategic Forest Area Plan (SFAP) for Liwonde Forest Reserve. The main objectives of the Strategic Forest Area Plan are as follows:-

1. To rehabilitate and protect fragile areas within and outside the forest reserve.
2. To increase forest cover, productivity and value of forest products, to ensure continuous provision of local and national services.
3. To improve livelihoods of forest dependent communities through sustainable forest management and utilization.
4. To improve governance of forest resources through local institutions.

2.0 MANAGING AUTHORITY

Management of Ndaje/Nkula Forest Co-management Block shall be done by an officially registered Block Management Committee known as Ndaje/Nkula Block Committee from G.V.Hs Ndaje/Nkula in the area of Traditional Authority Nkula and in collaboration with the Department of Forestry through Machinga District Council. The committee comprises of 20 members drawn from G.V.Hs Ndaje/Nkula. For more details on roles and responsibilities of the managing authority refer to Annexes 9.

3.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE BLOCK

3.1 General Description

Ndaje/Nkula Forest Block is found in Liwonde and Zomba Malosa Forest Reserve and is located to the south of Machinga Boma at a distance of 5 Km. The block has a total area of 759.11 hectares, with gentle to steep slopes. It has seasonal rivers namely *Chagwa*, *Lisanjala*, *Chogawali*, *Mdikira*, *Kapuche* and *Mbawa*.

The block is generally characterized by brown to black soils mixed with sand. The block has a good managed forest cover dominated by Miombo woodland tree species as: *Nagungulu*, *Mkalati*, *Nkunkhu*, *Naphini*, *Mombo*, *Mpandula*, *Mchenga*, *Chitimbe*, *Muwanga*, *Nsolo*, *Chinama*, *Mtwana*, *Chipisyawago*, *Nlungwe*, *Mpalankhanga*, *Nsondoka*, *Thombozi* and *Chipembere*. The block has patches of bamboos in certain places and on top of the block there is a marshy area dominated by grass. The bigger part of the block (about 70%) is on steep slopes and the rest is on gentle slope and some parts have harvestable trees. However, the other part of the block has been severely destructed by human interferences like pit sawing and charcoal production.

3.2 Boundary

The Ndaje/Nkula block shares boundary with M'dere/Mlelemba block to the south and Chagwa River separates the two blocks. To the west it is bordered by Nkalo Block and separated by Kampalira stream. Map showing location and boundary of Ndaje Nkula block is on page 7.

3.3 Tenure

This block has been in the custody of Malawi Government since 1924 when Liwonde Forest Reserve was gazetted. However, the management authority shall be shared according to Co-management agreement between the community of G.V.Hs Ndaje/Nkula and Forestry Department (FD).

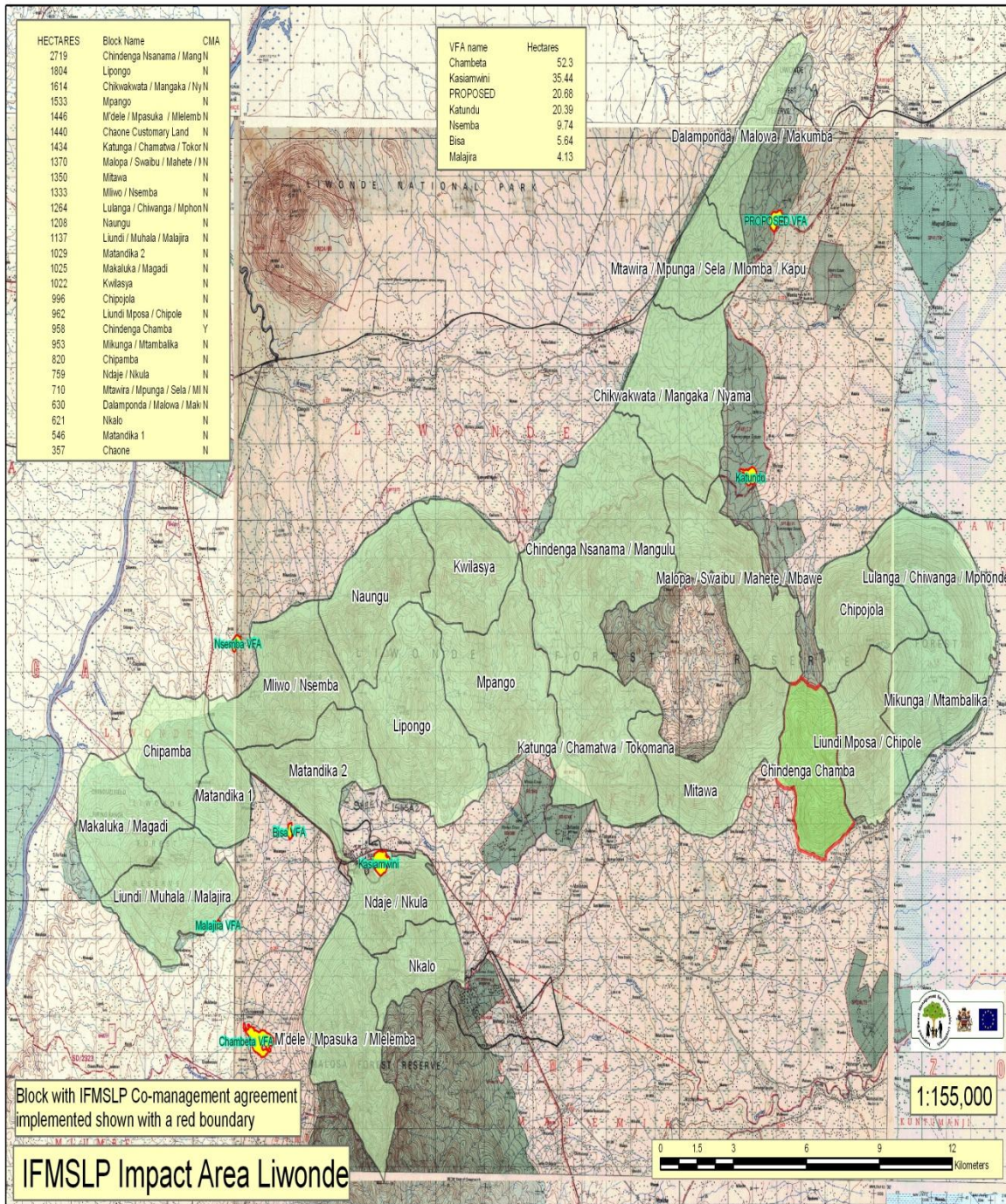
3.4 Forest users

The main users of this block are the communities of G.V.Hs Ndaje/Nkula which has a total of 1937 households with 8154 people that will benefit from the block. The forest user groups include: Firewood, Mushroom, Fruits, Honey, Poles, Fibre and Grass collectors, Curio makers and pit Sawyers. Other users include neighbouring communities, travellers, and people from urban centres who shall have access after obtaining permission from the Block Management Committee.

3.5 Uses

The block has potential of providing woody and non-woody forest products such as curios, timber, firewood, poles, cooking sticks, wooden spoons, mortars and pestles, medicines, grass, fruits, mushroom, bamboos, honey and game meat. It also offers environmental services like protection of catchment and fragile areas.

Map showing location and block boundary of Ndaje Nkula in Zomba Malosa Forest Reserve



4.0 FOREST MANAGEMENT UNITS

The Ndaje/Nkula Block has three unique Forest Management Units (FMUs) as described below.

4.1 Forest Management Unit 1

This forest management unit comprises of both indigenous and eucalyptus tree regenerants and grasses with a total area ofhectares. The unit is partially flat and also dominated with *Masuku* (*Uapaca kirkiana*). It is located beneath the Forest Block bordering the customary land. However, the area is being overexploited for charcoal production.

4.2 Forest Management Unit 2

This area is located above unit 1 and composed of a mixture of densely mature and immature indigenous tree species like *Mtwana*, *Chipisyawago*, *Nlungwe*, *Mpalankhanga*, *Nsondoka*, *Mpandula*, *Mombo*, *Mchenga*, *Naphini*, *Nsolo*, *Thombozi*, *Chitimbe*, *Muwanga*, *Nsolo* and *Chinama*. The area has mature trees that can be used for both timber and firewood either for commercial or domestic purposes and ishectares. Trees in the area are being illegally cut for pit sawing and charcoal production.

4.3 Forest Management Unit 3

This is an area with well matured but short trees; however; the area is non-harvestable since it acts as water catchment areas for rivers and streams such as *Chagwa*, *Lisanjala*, *Chogawali*, *Mbawa* and *Nkakuche*. The area isha

Map showing FMUs in Ndaje Block

5.0 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

5.1 General objective

The main objective is “To improve the livelihoods of the communities living in G.V.Hs. Ndaje/Nkula through management and sustainable utilization of forest resources and services.”

5.2 Specific objectives

1. To sustainably provide fuel wood, timber and poles for both domestic and commercial purposes.
2. To protect regenerants after harvesting so as to improve forest cover.
3. To protect rivers and stream banks and other fragile areas.
4. To sustainably utilize Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) such as mushroom, honey, medicine, fruits thatch grass, game meat, soil, fibre and bamboos

N/B: The specific objective 1 is applicable to **FMUs 2 and 3**; objective 2 is applicable to **FMU 1 and 2** while objective 3 is applicable to **FMU3** and objective 4 is applicable to all **FMUs**.

6.0 MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The following are the appropriate management practices that have been developed in order to guide the management and harvesting system of the forest resources in the block.

PRACTICE	DESCRIPTION
Protected Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●All fragile areas in the block shall be protected from harvesting activities like stream banks, sources of streams and very steep slopes.
Fire protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Fire protection and management shall be a priority in the block to avoid damaging the regenerates.
Harvesting with Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●A considerable number of trees to act as standards shall be left in each coupe in order to allow them grows into large sizes and support other uses e.g. timber, medicine and fruits. ●260 trees shall be retained per hectare.
Timber standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Timber trees will be reserved for standards and included in the management practices. ●These trees can be harvested in the next rotation
Thinning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Thinning shall be done 7 – 10 years after harvesting or when the coupe becomes dense ●Tree density shall be reduced to about one third up to half. ●Thinning materials shall be used for different purposes e.g. fibres, small poles and fuel wood. ●Thinning records shall be kept for reference purposes.
Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Regeneration shall be by coppicing, root shoots and planting ● Fibres shall not be collected from regenerations.
Cutting (Harvesting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Harvesting shall be done during the dry season, (July – September) ●Trees shall be cut close to the ground (15cm) to enhance coppicing
Early burning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Early burning shall be done soon after rainy season to prevent fierce bush fires and stimulate regeneration
Seed trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●The standards shall produce seed sufficient to support genetic variation
Fruit trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Fruit trees shall be reserved until they become unproductive when they shall be used for other woody products.

7.0 RESOURCE USE RULES

No.	Resource rules	Specification	Penalty
1	No cutting of trees is allowed within 50m on either side along the stream banks	Cutting will only be done 50m away from the stream bank on both sides.	Anyone found guilty of cutting trees along the stream banks shall pay a fine of K10, 000 for each felled tree. The tools and felled tree shall be confiscated.
2	No one is allowed to open a garden or settle in the block	Settling or opening a garden shall not be done	Anyone found guilty shall pay a fine of K25, 000. The crops and structures shall be destroyed.
3	(a)- No setting of bush fires shall be allowed in the block (reserve)	Setting of fire in the block shall be carried out by BMC during controlled early burning.	Anyone found guilty of the offence shall pay a fine of K50, 000. If she/he fails to pay shall be given a piece of work to do in the block or being taken to court for trials.
	(b)- Everyone shall participate in fire fighting in the block	Fire fighting is compulsory to every member except under valid reasons	Every person found guilty of refusing to participate in fire fighting in the block shall be taken to the traditional court which will give a fine of K3, 000.00.
4	No one shall produce charcoal in the block	Charcoal production shall not be allowed.	Any person found guilty of such an offence shall pay a fine of K30, 000. Charcoal and tools shall be confiscated and the suspect be taken to court if she/he fails to pay the fine.
5	No unauthorised pit-sawing shall be allowed in the block	Pit sawing shall only take place in demarcated coupes under permission from the Block Committee	Any person found guilty of an offence shall pay fine of K10, 000 per felled tree. The planks and tools shall be confiscated. If she/he fails to pay the stipulated fine, they shall be dragged to court for trials.

6	No unauthorised collection of firewood shall be allowed.	Firewood collection shall be allowed upon getting a permission/permit from the Block Committee.	Anyone found guilty of an offence shall pay a fine of K500 per bundle. The firewood shall be confiscated and sold.
7	No unauthorised collection of fibre shall be allowed	Fibre collection shall be done to branches of mature trees upon getting a permission from the Block Committee	Anyone found guilty of an offence shall pay a fine of K500 per bundle. The fibre shall be confiscated and sold.
8	No one shall be allowed to cut trees without permission and no one shall be allowed to cut regenerants.	Cutting of trees for any purpose shall be done in demarcated coupes only upon getting permission from the Block Committee. A 15 cm stump height shall be accepted when felling trees in the coupes.	If anyone found guilty of the offence shall pay a fine of K10,000, 000 per tree and K1000 for each regenerant.
9	No unauthorised collection of medicine shall be done in the block.	Collection of medicine shall be allowed upon getting permission from the BMC.	Any person found guilty of an offence shall pay a fine of K20, 000.
10	No unauthorised collection of thatch grass shall be done in the block.	- Collection of thatch grass shall be done upon getting permission from the BMC.	Any person found guilty of an offence shall pay a fine of K1000/bundle.
11	No unauthorised hunting shall be allowed	Hunting shall be allowed upon obtaining permission from the block committee.	Anyone found hunting shall pay a fine of K5, 000 and tools shall be confiscated.
12	No unauthorised collection of sand, stones and soil shall be allowed from the block	Collection of sand, stones and soil shall only take place with permission from the block management committee	Anyone found guilty of an offence shall pay a fine of K35,000 per tonne of stones

13	No unauthorised collection of mushroom shall be allowed from the block	Collection of mushroom shall be done upon getting permission from the BMC.	Anyone found guilty of an offence without permission shall be fined K1000.
14	No unauthorised cutting of bamboos shall be allowed in the block.	Cutting of bamboos shall be regulated by the block management committee	Anyone found cutting bamboos without permission shall be fined K50 per bamboo.
15	No unauthorised disposal of pollutants of any kind in the block shall be allowed.	The block management committee needs to be consulted before disposing any kind of pollutants in the block	Any found guilty of an offence shall pay a fine of K25, 000.00. Failure to pay the fine shall lead the culprit to be dragged to court for trials.
16	No unauthorised grazing of animals shall be allowed in the block.	Grazing shall only be done in areas set aside by the BMC upon getting permission from it.	Anyone found guilty of an offence shall pay a fine of K1, 000 per animal.
17	No unauthorised hanging of bee hives shall be allowed in the block.	Hanging of bee hives shall only be done upon getting permission from the BMC.	Anyone found guilty of an offence shall pay a fine of K2, 000.
18	No unauthorised cutting of fruit trees.	Cutting of fruit trees be done upon getting permit from the committee	Anyone found guilty of an offence shall pay a fine of K10, 000.

8.0 MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR EACH PRODUCT

8.1 Woody Products

Name of product: Firewood

Key species: *Nagungulu, Mchenga, Mtwana, Balitsa, Chinama, Mpakasa, Chipisyawago, Mpapa, Nthethe, Mayongo, Mbanga, Mpalanganga, Chitimbe, Thombozi, Phingo, Lungwe, Mombo, Mmemberera and Muwanga*

Demand: High

Supply: Low

Problems/Issues:

1. Illegal harvesting
2. Bush fires
3. Charcoal burning

Management practices:

1. Harvesting of firewood for sale and domestic purposes shall be done in demarcated coupes. The leftovers from other products such as timber, poles and curios shall be collected as firewood.
2. Collection of firewood in demarcated coupes shall be monitored by the BMC.
3. 15cm stump height shall be strictly observed when cutting trees.
4. Controlled fire shall be used as a management tool in the harvested coupes in-order to promote regenerants.
5. Firewood shall be either stacked in mendles or collected as head loads at a fee stipulated under fees and royalties.
6. All dry wood shall be collected as firewood in both harvestable and nonharvestable areas.
7. Firebreak construction and maintenance

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 5 088 head loads of indigenous fuel wood per year for domestic purpose and 1 176 head load per year for commercial purposes.
- 288 cubic metres of indigenous per year from the block for domestic purpose per year and 776 cubic metres of indigenous per year for commercial purposes.

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to firewood collectors.

Fees/royalties:

- 1 Commercial Use: K200 per head load and K1500 per cubic metre for indigenous tree species.
- 2 Domestic Use: The permit shall be K100 per head load and K1000 per cubic metre for indigenous trees.

Name of product: Poles (Big or Small)

Key species: *Mpandula, Nkunkhu, Nlungwe, Mtwana, Thombozi, Naphini, Mkalati, Nagungulu, Mchenga, Balitsa, Chinama, Mpakasa, Chipisyawago, Mchenga, Msolo Mchenga, Mtwana, Balitsa, Chinama, Mpakasa and Chipisyawago*

Demand: High

Supply: Low

Problems/Issues:

1. Bush fire
2. Poor harvesting practices
3. Illegal harvesting

Management practices:

- 1 Harvesting of indigenous poles for sale and domestic purposes shall be done in demarcated coupes only. The leftovers from poles shall be collected as firewood.
- 2 Collection of poles in demarcated coupes shall be monitored by the BMC. Otherwise, Penalties shall follow those doing illegal harvesting.
- 3 15cm stump height shall be strictly observed.
- 4 Fire shall be used as a management tool in the harvested coupes in-order to promote regeneration.
- 5 Dead, diseased, deformed trees and those not suitable for poles shall be used as firewood in order to provide growing space to small trees.
- 6 Protection from wildfires

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 130 Indigenous big poles shall be allowed per year for domestic use and 750 big poles for commercial per year.
- 4000 indigenous small poles shall be allowed per year for domestic use and 15000 small poles for commercial per year.

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to pole collectors

Fees/royalties:

- Commercial users shall pay K500 per big pole of indigenous.
- Domestic users shall pay K300 per big pole of indigenous.
- Commercial users shall pay K60 per small pole of indigenous.
- Domestic users shall pay K50 per small indigenous pole.

Name of product: Timber

Key species: *Msopa, Mlombwa, Mtutumuko, Mlonde, Nagungulu, Mtondo, Nsolo, Mvunguti, Mbawa, , Masuku, Mtwana, Mkalati, Ntangatanga, Mchonya and Mkweranyani.*

Demand: High

Supply: Medium

Problems/Issues:

1. Burning of charcoal which has led to depletion of larger trees
2. Unlawful harvesting which has hampered the growth of regenerants.
3. Bush fires which has also hampered the growth of regenerants.
4. Illegal harvesting.

Management practices:

- 1 Harvesting of timber for sale and domestic purposes shall be done in demarcated coupes only after 30 years period of rotation. The leftovers from timber shall be collected as firewood.
- 2 Collection of timber in demarcated coupes shall be monitored by the BMC.
- 3 15cm stump height shall be strictly recommended when cutting timber trees above the ground level in the harvestable coupes.
- 4 Only trees whose diameter at breast height of more than 20 cm shall be harvested in the coupes.
- 5 Fire shall be used as a management tool in the harvested areas in patches in-order to promote regeneration.

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 44 trees shall be allowed per year for domestic use and 20 trees per year for commercial from selective felling only.

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to Pit-sawyers from within and outside the community.

Fees/royalties:

- Commercial users shall pay K10, 000 per tree.
- Domestic users shall pay K5, 000 per tree as a buying price.

8.2 Non-Woody Forest Products

Name of product: Mushroom

Key species: *Utenga, Chipatwe, Usinda, Nakadyongolo, Nakatomoni, Ulundi, Nakasache and Utale.*

Demand: High

Supply: Low

Problems/Issues:

1. Poor harvesting practices
2. Bush fires

Management practices:

- Harvesting of mushroom shall be done in all places where it is available in the block through authorization from the BMC.
- Monitoring of mushroom harvesting shall be done by the block committee.

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 200 baskets per household per season for domestic and 25 baskets for commercial uses

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to mushroom collectors from within and outsiders.

Fees/royalties:

- K300 per basket for commercial and K100 per basket for domestic mushroom collectors.

Name of product: Fruits

Key species: *Mbulukututu, Nthema, Masuku, Mateme, Ndawa, Mtonongoli, Mlundira, Mapoza, Nthudza, Nagungulu, Nthementheme and Matonga*

Demand: High

Supply: Low

Problems/Issues:

1. Bush fires
2. Poor harvesting practices
3. Inappropriate way of extracting medicinal herbs
4. Illegal harvesting

Management practices:

- 1 Only matured and ripen fruits shall be harvested.
- 2 Fruit tree growing areas shall be protected from fires.
- 3 Harvesting of fruits shall be done using recommended harvesting methods (collection of fallen fruits, climbing up the tree and using long hooked sticks).
- 4 Collection of fruits in the block shall be monitored by the block management committee.

Allowable Quantity per year:

- Collection of fruits shall be based on how the season is.

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to fruit collectors.

Fees/royalties:

- K500 per basket for commercial and K100 per basket for domestic users.

Name of product: Fibres

Key species: *Mombo, Mchenga and Mphandula*

Demand: High

Supply: Low

Problems/Issues:

1. Bush fires
2. Poor harvesting practices

Management practices:

- 1 Fibres shall be collected from big tree branches.
- 2 Bush fires shall be controlled and regulated in areas where regenerants are growing.

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 4 Bundles of fibres shall be allowed per household per year for domestic.

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to fibre collectors from within and outsiders on an agreed fee by the block committee.

Fees/royalties:

- Commercial fibre collectors shall pay a fee of K300 per bundle while domestic users shall pay K100 per bundle.

Name of product:	Thatch grass
Key species:	<i>Kamphe (tsekera), Sanu, Thyothyo and Wandolo</i>
Demand:	High
Supply:	High
Problems/Issues:	Bush fires

Management practices:

- 1 Thatch grass collection shall be done between May and June.
- 2 Only matured grass shall be recommended to be harvested.
- 3 Bush fires shall be prohibited in areas where thatch grasses grow in the block.
- 4 Awareness meeting shall be intensified to the communities adjacent to the block before controlled early burning operation starts.

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 20 bundles of thatch grass per household shall be allowed per year and 100 bundles for commercial users.

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to thatch grass collectors.

Fees/royalties:

- Thatch grass shall be collected for free

Name of product:	Bamboos
Key species:	Local Species
Demand:	High
Supply:	Low

Problems/Issues:

1. Careless cutting of bamboos
2. Poor harvesting practices
3. Bush fires

Management practices:

- 1 Only matured bamboos shall be recommended for harvest.
- 2 Bush fires shall be prohibited in areas where there are bamboos in the block.

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 1000 and 500 bamboos per year shall be allowed for domestic and commercial uses respectively.

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to bamboo collectors.

Fees/royalties:

- Commercial bamboo collectors shall pay a fee of K30 per bamboo while domestic users shall collect bamboos at K20 per bamboo.

Name of product: Honey

Key species:

Demand: High

Supply: Low

Problems/Issues:

- Careless cutting of trees
- Bush fires.
- Lack of modern bee hives

Management practices:

- Hanging of bee hives for both commercial and domestic purposes shall be done in non-harvestable areas only.
- Hanging and harvesting of honey shall be monitored by the BMC.
- Remaining products from harvested honey shall be processed into Candle wax and floor polish.
- In areas where bee hives are hanging, fire shall be strictly excluded to avoid damages.
- Only standard bee hives shall be permitted to be hanged in the block

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 20 bee hives per household per year for domestic and 50 bee hives for commercial shall be allowed to be hanged in the block for one commercial farmer.

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to groups or individuals involved in bee keeping

Fees/royalties:

- Commercial bee keepers shall pay a fee of K1000 per each bee hive per year.
- Domestic honey producers shall pay a fee of K250 per each bee hive per year

Name of product: Medicine

Key species: *Mwabvi, Nchonya, Thombozi, Mtutumuko, Kankhande, Mwanamphepo, Chinama, Chiumbu, Mlombwa, Mdimba, Nkandankhuku, Palibekanthu, Chipisyawago, Msiyeniapite, Chilumbe Mtonga, Nsondoka and Chiungunire.*

Demand: High

Supply: High

Problems/Issues:

- Bush fires
- Poor harvesting methods
- Careless cutting down of trees.

Management practices:

- Removal of roots, barks and leaves shall be done with minimal damage.
- After collecting root as medicine, the dug side shall be filled up to avoid drying of a tree.
- Only one root shall be removed for medicinal use per tree.
- Medicinal trees shall be protected from bush fires in all demarcated coupes by ensuring that early burning is done at the beginning of each dry season.

Allowable Harvesting Quantity per year:

1 Bag shall be collected per herbalist per year.

Who can be issued with permits?

- Permits shall be issued to herbalists on an agreed fee by the Block Management committee through the treasurer.

Fees/royalties:

- For commercial purpose the permit shall be MK150/ entry into the block and K100 for domestic users.

Name of product: Game animals and Birds

Key species: Game animals-*Kalulu, Gwape, Pusi, Nguluwe, Nyani and Njiri*
Birds- *Nkhwali, Kam'tema, Nkhanga and Njiwa*

Demand: High

Supply: Medium

Problems/Issues:

1. Bush fires
2. Illegal hunting
3. Bad hunting practices

Management practices:

- 1 Hunting of animals shall be regulated by the BMC.

- 2 Controlled early burning shall be encouraged to prevent bush fires
- 3 Nets shall not be allowed when hunting birds.
- 4 Natural regeneration shall be promoted in-order to increase forest cover.
- 5 Use of pollutants for fishing shall be prohibited and is punishable.
- 6 Use of un-recommended tools for hunting shall be prohibited

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 12 permits shall be issued per year for domestic and 10 commercial game hunters respectively

Who can permits be issued to?

- Permits shall be issued to hunters

Fees/royalties:

- Commercial hunters shall pay a fee of K1000 as a permit while domestic hunters shall obtain a permit of K100.
- Domestic birds' hunters shall pay a fee of K100 per permit and K200 for commercial hunters.

Name of product: Stones

Key types: *Nagaga, (quarry stone) and Lumbwe.*

Demand: High

Supply: High

Problems/Issues:

1. Increased soil erosion
2. Unregulated collection of stones

Management practices:

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

Allowable Quantity per year:

- 200 tonnes per year shall be allowed for commercial use while 100 tonnes for domestic.

Who can permits be issued to?

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

Fees/royalties:

- A fee of K1000 and K700 per tonne for both commercial and domestic respectively..

9.0 ACTIVITY PLAN

Activity	When	Who will do it	Requirement
Patrolling	January –December (twice a week)	Committee members and all communities	Panga knives, exercise books, pens
Fire break screefing	April – June	Committee members and all communities Extension worker	Hoes, slashers and panga knives
Controlled early burning	April – June	Committee members and all communities Extension worker	Box of matches
Thinning(Singling)	April – August	Committee members and all communities Extension worker	Panga knives
Ground preparation (in Eucs plantation)	October - November	Committee members and all communities	Hoes, picks, axes, panga knives and ropes
Tree planting	December – March	Committee members and all communities Extension worker	Hoes, slashers, pangas and planting trowels
Weeding	As soon as the weeds appear	Committee members and all communities	Hoes, slashers and pangas knives
Seed collection	July – September	Committee members and all communities	Sacks
Committee meetings	Twice a month	Committee members	Exercise books, pens
General meetings	Once in every two months	Committee members and all communities	Exercise books, pens
Issuing of permits	January to December	Committee	Permits, pens and exercise books

NB .All activities are to be done participatory by community members. It will be the responsibility of the block committee to decide the number of individuals to be involved in every activity

10.0 PATROLLING PLAN

1. Block management committee shall conduct patrols twice a month
2. Selected members of the block committee shall conduct patrols twice a week
3. Joint patrols between the BMC and FD staff shall be done quarterly
4. All confiscates will be disposed off by the BMC

11.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

This shall be done in order to assess the progress of all the activities being implemented.

What will be monitored	Who will do the monitoring	What will be the indicators	What are the methods	When will the monitoring be conducted
Patrolling	Committee and community members	Reduced number of malpractices	Written progress reports (records)	Throughout the year
Firebreak maintenance	Committee and community members	Area/Distance screefed	Site visits and reports	April- May
Controlled early burning	Committee and community members	Number of hectares burnt	Site visit and reports	April- June
Thinning (Singling)	Committee and community members	Number of hectares thinned	Site visit and reports	April – August
Ground preparation	Committee and community members	Area prepared (hectares)	Site visit, reports and supervision	October – November
Tree planting	Committee and community members	Number of trees planted Hectares planted	Field visit, reports and supervision	December – March
Weeding	Committee and community members	Hectares weeded	Site visit and reports	April- May
Seed collection	Committee members	Amount of seed collected/Species	Supervision and records.	July – September
Committee meetings	Committee	Minutes	Checking of minute books Interview members	Every three months
General meetings	Committee and community members	Minutes	Checking of minute books Interview members	Once every two months

NB. All activities are to be done participatory by community members. It will be the responsibility of the block committee to decide the number of individuals to be involved in every activity

12.0 FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

12.1 Annual Cash Flow

In accordance with the data collected, estimated annual cash flow for Ndaje/Nkula Block is tabulated below. Under the Co-Management model, it is proposed that 60% of the gross income accrued from commercial permit fees will go to the communities. 10 % will be transferred to the Local Forest Management Board account while 30% will be deposited in the Forest Development Fund account held at national level through Machinga District Forestry Office. All the money (100%) obtained from domestic permits will be deposited in the Block Forest Management Committee account.

Refer to annex 2 and 3 for the estimated annual cash flow and financial projections on activity

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Households and Population Data

Total households 1937 and population for GVHs Ndaje/Nkula is 8154 people

NO	NAME OF VILLAGE	NO OF H/HS	MEN	WOMEN	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL POPULATION
1	Ndaje	349	297	151	175	209	832
2	Nkula,	420	199	221	224	302	946
3	M'balaka	99	110	169	149	183	611
4	Chaphuka	45	30	70	87	103	290
5	Chiundo	56	33	57	37	48	175
6	Kalanje	87	72	98	109	128	407
7	Lupanga	36	31	61	87	109	288
8	Chimbalanga	31	32	63	56	84	235
9	Wadi	23	16	20	33	43	112
10	Kwilapo	98	171	231	236	296	934
11	Mpoya	233	193	281	267	289	1030
12	Laje	209	182	263	238	271	954
13	Masapi	34	32	44	78	102	256
14	Kalilima	122	99	124	187	197	607
15	Tendeje	21	16	21	33	42	112
16	Njonda	30	27	33	39	51	150
17	Mateta	44	36	45	56	78	215
Total		1937	1576	1952	2091	2535	8154

Annex 2: Estimated Management Cost

No	Activity	No of people involved	Number/ area	Daily wage/ rate	Total Amount Required
1	Boundary screefing	30	4,000m	K2000/1000m	K8,000.00
2	Controlled Early burning	15	15 ha	K 3000/ha	K45,000.00
3	Patrolling	20	1333.37 ha	K3000/person (for 10 days)	K60,000.00
4	Re -afforestation	45	2 ha	K3000/ha	K6,000.00
5	Weeding	45	2 ha	K3500/ha	K7,000.00
	TOTAL	330			K126, 000.00

NB; The estimates are in line with specific conditions where communities may not be coming forward to undertake certain activities; a condition which will leave the committee with no option but to employ casual workers.

Annex 3: Estimated Annual Cash Flow

Benefit sharing will be based on calculations on commercial permits. All money collected from domestic permits shall be deposited into Block Forest Management Committee Account as shown below:

Estimated Annual Cash Flow for Ndaje/Nkula Block		
ACCOUNT	AMOUNT (Mk)	PERCENTAGE (%)
INCOME		
(a) Domestic permits	K12, 921, 800	52.1
(b) Commercial permits	K11, 921, 500	47.9
Gross Income	K24, 843, 300	100
Money into Local Forest Management Board (LFMB) Account from Commercial permits	K1, 192, 150	10
Money into Forest Development Fund (FDF) Account from Commercial permits	K3, 576, 450	30
Block Forest Management Committee Account from Commercial permits	K7, 152, 900	60
Money into Block Committee Account (Domestic & 60% of Commercial permits)	K20, 074, 700	
Money to be used for the management of the block	K126,000	
Average income per household	K7227.67	
Estimated management costs	K126,000	20
Community Development	K8, 029, 880	40

Annex 4: Estimates of Available Forest Resources

Based on three sample plots data

Product Name	Use	Total/0.04 ha	Total/ha	Available in 2 ha	Available in 2 Coupes
Firewood	For fuel wood	60	1430	2860	80080
Timber	For construction	1	27	54	1176
Rafters	For roofing	11	295	590	16520
Ridge pole	For roofing	2	50	100	2800
Fruits	For eating	3	125	250	6250
Medicine	Herbal	6	150	300	7500

Notes: Estimates based on three 20m x 20m sample plots inside the block. A 2 ha coupe is the suggested annual harvesting area. Fruit trees shall be reserved until they become unproductive when they shall be used for other woody products.

Annex 5: Requirements for Forest Product for Domestic Use

The total number of households in GVH Ndaje/Nkula is 1937. Therefore, the table below calculates the annual domestic forest product requirements of these households

Product Name	Use	Per H/H/yr (Mean)	Annual requirements for the 1937 H/Hs
Firewood	For fuel wood	2 head loads/HH/week	102 024 head loads
Rafters	For roofing	80 head loads/HH/yr	2400 rafters
Ridge pole	For roofing	3 big poles/HH/year	130 big poles
Bamboos	For construction and craft making	6 bamboos/HH/yr	3000 bamboos
Fruits	For eating	3 baskets per/HH/yr	2983 baskets
Fibres	For construction	2 bundles/HH/yr	1962 bundles
Thatch grass	For roofing and fencing	20 baskets/HH/yr	19620 bundles
Mushroom	For relish	20 baskets/HH/yr	1937 baskets
Game animal and birds	For relish	22 permits	18 permits for game
Soil	Building houses	2.5 tonnes	10 tonnes
Stones	For various activities	2.5 tonnes/HH/yr	10 tonnes

Annex 6: Harvesting Plan for Woody Products

Product	Available in Harvestable Coupe/year (Block)	Domestic Demand for the whole community	Available in the village (VFA)	Total Products Available (Block + VFA)	Surplus Available for Commercial Harvesting
Firewood	110 672	102 024	1120	111 792	+9768
Timber	42	40	6	48	+8
Poles/rafters	2489	2400	60	2549	+149
Ridge poles	150	130	40	190	+60

Note

The calculations for the harvesting plan were found basing on

Total number of households in Ndaje/Nkula = 1937

Total harvestable area in the block = 2 ha

Rotational period = 30 years

Annex 7: Revenue Projection from Woody Products

Product Name	Domestic requirement		Commercial requirement		Frequency	Quantity/ year	Annual Calculations	
	HH	Permit	HH	Permit			Domestic	Commercial
Firewood	1937(969)	K150/ head load	120	K200/ head load	5088 head loads per year for domestic use	5088 head loads (domestic) per year	K763,200	K235,600
					1176 head loads per year (commercial)	1176 head loads per year (commercial)		
	20	K2,000/ cubic metre indigenous	50	K 2,500/ cubic metre	1 cubic metre/hh/month for domestic use and 5 cubic metres /hh/month for commercial	240 cubic metres/yr (domestic) 776 cubic metres/yr (commercial)	K4, 800,000	K1,940,000
Poles- Indigenous (a)big poles	150	K200/big pole (indigenous)	10	K500/big pole (indigenous)	1 big pole/hh/year for domestic	150 big poles (indigenous)/year for domestic use	K30,000.00	K300, 000.00
					5 big poles/person/yr for commercial use	600 big poles (indigenous) for commercial use/ year		
(b)small poles (indigenous)	230	K50/small pole (indigenous)	100	K60/small pole (indigenous)	80 small poles /hh/year for domestic	18400 small poles/year for domestic use (indigenous)	K920,000.00	K900, 000

					150 small poles for commercial use per year	15000 small poles/yr for commercial use (indigenous)		
Timber	20	K3000/tree	20	K10,000/tree	2 tree/hh/yr for domestic use	40 trees for domestic use/year	K120,000.00	K4000,000
					3 trees/person per year for commercial	40 trees for commercial use/year		
TOTAL FOR WOODY PROUCTS							K6,633,200	K7,375,600

Annex 8: Revenue Projection from Non-Woody Products

Product Name	Domestic requirement		Commercial requirement		Frequency	Quantity/ year	Annual calculations	
	(H/Hs)	Permit	(H/Hs)	Permit			Domestic	Commercial
Mushroom	1937	Free	100	K 50/basket	1937 baskets /hh/season for domestic use	1937 baskets/year for domestic use		K25, 000.00
					5 baskets /customer/season for commercial use	500 baskets/customer/year for commercial use		
Medicine	30	K 50/permit	30	K 100 permit	3 permits per/HH/year	90 permits per/HH/year		K 36,000.00
					12 permits per /HH/year	360 permits per /HH/year		
Fibres	100	K100/bundle	25	K300/bundle	2 bundles/hh/yr for domestic use and 5 bundles/hh/yr for commercial use	200 bundles for domestic use per year and 125 for commercial	K20, 000.00	K37,500.00
Fruits	100	Free	20	K50	3 permits /hh/ season and commercial	5811 baskets for domestic use and 60 baskets for commercial		K3,000.00
Thatch grass	722	Free	20	K150/bundle	20 bundles/hh/yr for domestic use and 30 bundles/hh/yr for commercial use	19620 bundles for domestic use and 300 bundles for commercial		K90,000.00
Soil	10	K700 per tonne	10	K 1000 per tonne	1 tonne/year/HH	10 tonnes/year for domestic	K7, 000	K10,000.00
					1 tonnes per year/HH/commercial	10 tonnes per year/HH/Commercial		

Stones	10	K1500 per tonne	10	K2500/ tonne	1 tonnes per /yr/HH domestic and 2 tonnes/yr for commercial use	10 tonnes per year/HH and 20 tonnes for commercial use per year	K15,000.00	K50,000.00
Game animals	12	K100/ permit	15	K500/permit	2 permits per year for domestic use and 2 permits for commercial use per year	12 permits for domestic hunters and 10 for commercial	K2,400.00	K15,000.00
Birds	3	K100/ permit	6	K200/permit	2 permits for domestic users and 5 permits for commercial users	6 permits for domestic hunters 30 for commercial	K600.00	K6,000.00
Bamboos	300	K20/bamboo	150	K30/bamboo	5 head loads of bamboos/hh/yr for domestic use and 10 head loads of bamboos per year for commercial	1500 head loads of bamboos for domestic use and 1500 head loads for commercial	K30,000.00	K45,000.00
TOTAL FOR NON-WOODY PRODUCTS							K75,000.00	K317,500.00

Annex 9: Summary Table of Fees and Royalties

Block Name: Ndaje Nkula Block Machinga

Product	Unit	Fee Rate	
		Domestic (MK)	Commercial (MK)
Fuel wood Indigenous	Head load	150	200
	Cubic metres	2000	2500
Indigenous small poles	Each	50	60
Indigenous big poles	Each	200	500
Timber	Tree	3000	10000
Stones	Tonne	15000	2500
Soil	Tonnes	700	1000
Wild fruits	Permit	Free	50
Mushrooms	Baskets	Free	150
Thatch grass	Bundles	Free	50
Game animal	Permit	100	500
Birds	Permit	100	200
Bamboo	each	20	30
Medicine	Permit	50	100
Fibre	bundle	100	200

Annex 10: Constitution for Ndaje Nkula Block Management Committee

Name of LFO: Ndaje/Nkula Block Management Committee (Lisanjala Block)
Name of the Block: Ndaje/Nkula
Address: C/O Machinga LEA School
TA Nkula
P.O. Box 17, Machinga
Contact numbers: 0997 233 642(Chairperson)
0995 838 044 (Secretary)

1.0 OBJECTIVE

To collaboratively manage forest resources for increased productivity of forest based products that meet the needs of communities of Group Village Headmen *Ndaje, M'balaka, Chaphuka, Chiundo, Kalanje, Nkula, Chimbalinga, Wadi, Kwilapo, Mpoya, Laje, Masapi, Kalilima, Mtendeje, Njonda, Mateta* and *Lupanga* as well as promoting the conservation of fragile areas.

2.0 STRUCTURE

- There shall be an elected managing committee comprising of twenty (20) office bearers such as Chairperson and vice, Secretary and vice, Treasurer and other fifteen members.
- These members shall be elected proportionately from the seventeen (17) mentioned in 1.0.
- Community members from the above twelve villages shall be automatic members of Ndaje/Nkula block. To this effect, elected members from the above twelve villages shall be representatives of different interested user groups in the Block.
- All Village Heads in the stated villages and the Group village Headmen Ndaje/Nkula shall be ex-officials of the Block Management committee.
- The wider community members shall be automatic members of the Block Management Committee.

3.0 ELECTIONS

- Elections shall take place in a free and fair manner in consultation with the ten village heads and the two Group Village Headmen. Seventeen (17) community members (representatives) from each of the twelve villages shall contest for executive membership of the Block Management Committee. Village headmen shall accompany their contestants to the elections as observers.
- Elections shall take place after every three years except when the whole committee is dissolved or some members are disqualified, dismissed or have resigned.
- Elected office bearers shall run a term of three years and will be eligible to stand for another one term basing on efficiency and effectiveness.
- The entire Block Management committee shall be dissolved after conniving and committing a serious crime or conducting business not in a transparent manner. Since Community members have a stake in the management of the Block, they have the right to summon the Block Committee to the Group Village head as BMC advisor to clarify issues pertaining to management of their block.

4.0 ELIGIBILITY OF MEMBERS

4.1 Eligible members shall only be:-

- Citizens from the stated seventeen (17) villages
- Committed & dedicated members from the seventeen (17) villages
- People with no criminal record
- Non-drunkard(s)
- Visionary

4.2 Termination of Membership

Members shall be eliminated only if:-

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

4.3 Disqualification/Dismissal of Members

A member shall be disqualified/ dismissed if:-

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

4.4 Substitution of Members

Substitution of a member shall take place only if:-

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

4.5 Rights & Responsibilities of Members

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

- Rights/Freedoms of Members
- Right of Association
- Freedom of Speech in giving suggestions at meetings of the Committee
- Right to be elected to any position of the Block Management Committee
- Right to know anything concerning the Block Management Committee
- Right to benefits accrued from Block or any other sources
- Responsibilities/Duties
- Participate in all Committee undertakings
- Lead the Committee in different aspects
- Taking care of Committee property
- Represent the Block Management Committee in other forums

5.0 SPECIFIC ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1 The Chairperson shall:

1. Call management meetings and preside over deliberations of such meetings.
2. In consultation with local leaders call meetings for wider community.
3. Be signatory of Institution's account

5.2 The Secretary shall:

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

5.3 The Treasurer shall

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

5.4. Committee members shall

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

5.5. The Group Village Headman and village headmen shall:

17. Mobilise their subjects on development activities of the Block.
18. Assist to settle disputes which the Block Management committee has failed to settle.
19. Advise the Block Management committee where necessary.

5.5 The Forestry Department shall:

20. Provide technical support on all activities of the Block Management Committee.
21. Assist the Block committee in solving disputes that are beyond capacity of Group Village Level.
22. Observe elections of office bearers of the Block Management Committee.
23. Assist in resource use regulation and law enforcement.

5.6 General members shall:

24. Be required to take part in tree planting, early burning, thinning, fire break maintenance of the Block and any other activity as may be determined by the managing committee.
25. Elect their representatives into the Block committee.
26. Call for dissolution of the committee or disqualification of an elected member in the case of corruption.

6.0 FUNCTIONS OF THE BLOCK COMMITTEE

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

28. Managing board shall meet once a month with a wider committee for feedback or consensus.
29. Quorum of management meeting shall be third quarter of Block Committee members.
30. Decision shall be reached by voting.
31. Block Committee, GVH, VHs shall develop resource use rules, penalties and sanctions.
32. Review of the constitution shall be made after two years.
33. The block committee shall be registered at the DFO as a Local Forestry Organization.
34. The managing committee shall steer all activities of the Block in collaboration with the Forestry Department and with consultations with all the seventeen (17) villages' heads and the group village headman.
35. Block Management committee shall with consultations with Forestry Officers issue permits and licenses to people for the purpose of accessing products in the Block.
36. The Block Management Committee shall upon thorough consultations with the wider community review the Block Management Plan after two years. The reviewed versions shall be presented to the local leadership, other interested stakeholders and the wider community.

7.0 BLOCK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FINANCES

7.1 Sources of Finances

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

- Licenses from Forest User groups/Clubs
- Loans from lending institutions such as village savings and loans
- Sales of Forest Products & services

7.2 Other Sources

- Tree seedling raising & sales
- Other feasible businesses

8.0 BENEFIT SHARING

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

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

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

NOTE:

- Forest Management activities shall include Block boundary screefing, Slashing, Controlled early burning, Monitoring activity implementation, conduct forest patrols, Plot and coupes' demarcation, licensing of forest produce, maintenance of road network adjacent to the block and others.

- Micro-Credit scheme shall provide soft loans to eligible communities of Ndaje/Nkula to boost small-scale businesses with an intention of increasing households' income levels. The loan will attract an interest of 20% per return. There will be a sub-committee headed by the BMC treasurer to manage the loans. The loans will only be given to organized groups (10 members per group) to ease repayment.

11 NAMES OF NDAJE/NKULA BLOCK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

No	Name	Position	Sex	
			Male	Female
1	Chimwemwe Stephano	Chairperson	✓	
2	Jamison Sandikonda	Vice Chairperson	✓	
3	Patuma Masache	Secretary		✓
4	Tina Chigala	Vice Secretary		✓
5	Cecilia Chakhame	Treasurer		✓
6	Rhoda Dinala	Member		✓
7	Rose Rihaka	Member		✓
8	Gladys Chitenje	Member		✓
9	Ida Katete	Member		✓
10	Sainabu Kamtande	Member		✓
11	Lucia Adam	Member		✓
12	Ellen Banda	Member		✓
13	Mercy Chiwaula	Member		✓
14	Ida Paulo	Member		✓
15	Stenala Nanyoma	Member	✓	✓
16	Abudu Nguluwangu	Member	✓	
17	Martin William	Member	✓	
18	Chinangwa Roben	Member	✓	
19	Ida Mmela	Member		✓
20	Mussa Sayesi	Member	✓	

Annex 11: Co-management Agreement Template (Draft)

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

THIS AGREEMENT is made theday of.....
BETWEEN Director of Forestry, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Management, hereinafter referred to as the Government, and local residents of *Ndaje, M'balaka, Chaphuka, Chiundo, Kalanje, Nkula, Chimbalanga, Wadi, Kwilapo, Mpoya, Laje, Masapi, Kalilima, Mtendeje, Njonda, Mateta* and *Lupanga* villages of Traditional Authority **Nkula** and District **Machinga** represented by **Ndaje/Nkula Forest Block Management Committee** as the Local Forest Organization (herewith described as LFO) and known also as the block management committee.

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

NOW IT IS HEREBY AGREED as follows:

1. The Government shall upon being satisfied with transitional arrangements recognize the joint authority of the LFO to protect, manage, control and utilize sustainably the forest resource for the benefit of the local community of, *Ndaje, M'balaka, Chaphuka, Chiundo, Kalanje, Nkula, Chimbalanga, Wadi, Kwilapo, Mpoya, Laje, Masapi, Kalilima, Mtendeje, Njonda, Mateta* and *Lupanga* 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 annexed block co-management plan.

LFO OBLIGATIONS

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

- f) Revenue accruing from the forest resource shall be equitably utilized by the community in accordance with the LFO Constitution and as per agreements reached at general assemblies of the LFO
- g) 10% of the share of revenue accruing from the issue of commercial harvesting permits and licenses (i.e. those permits and licenses not issued for domestic or subsistence purposes) shall be deposited into the account of the Local Forest Management Board of **Liwonde/Malosa Forest Reserves**, 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 account of the DFO of **Machinga** District for it's transferred by the DFO to the national level Forest Development Fund, 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 utilised by the LFO for the purposes of forest development and management. This includes utilisation of the funds inside and outside the area of the co-management block.
- j) The LFO shall make accessible records of accounts and licenses issued to the Director of Forestry or his/her representative, the District Commissioner or his/her representative upon receiving notification from the Director of Forestry or District Commissioner.
- k) The LFO shall represent and accountable to the community and operate in accordance with the agreed constitution.

FORESTRY DEPARTMENT OBLIGATIONS

4. In particular the District Forestry Officer and his delegated representatives shall;
 - a) Provide technical expertise to support the joint implementation with the LFO and the timely revision of the attached block co-management plan
 - b) Advise and assist with monitoring local accountability mechanisms including, conduct of meetings, elections, by-elections, record keeping, financial accounting, and reporting.
 - c) Provide a basic set of office resources for the LFO (on signature of this agreement) comprising cash books; minute books; duplicate license forms; headed paper and an official LFO stamp or unique mark, plus other necessary items in order to support the set-up of a transparent and well documented forest management and local licensing system.
 - d) Assist the coordination of forest law enforcement activities between the LGO, traditional Leaders, local community policing forums, local police officers and the District Magistrate in accordance with annexed co-management plan.
 - e) With the LFO jointly monitor the block demarcated in the co-management plan to ensure management is in accordance with this Agreement and in accordance with Standards & Guidelines for Participatory Forestry in Malawi.
 - f) Jointly with the LFO countersign any permits and licenses being for the commercial utilization and harvesting of forest products (non-domestic use) in accordance with block co-management plan
 - g) In line with licensing procedures issue conveyance certificates against verified documentation to ensure legal transportation of forest products.
 - h) Provide in collaboration with other partners, legal, organisational, 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 LFO, traditional authorities and other members of the community.

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

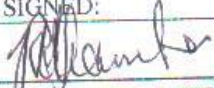

DEMARCATIION AND BOUNDARY

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

DISPUTES

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

13. SIGNED:

 DIRECTOR OF FORESTRY (or DFO)	
Dated.....	13-02-14
AND	
C STEPHANO CHAIRPERSON, LOCAL FOREST ORGANISATION:	
Dated...19...-02...-14	
WITNESSES:	TIA NKULA
 VILLAGE HEADMAN	TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY
Dated...19...-02...-14	Dated...19...-02...-14

 DISTRICT COMMISSIONER
Dated.....


 2014 -02- 19
 PR. VATE BAG 1
 MACHINGA