



CHAZAMA BLOCK MANAGEMENT PLAN
NTCHISI FOREST RESERVE



PERIOD: 2014-2018

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ACRONYMS

BMC	- Block Management Committee
DFO	- District Forest Office/Officer
DoF	- Departement of Forestry
EU	- European Union
FD	- Forestry Department
FMU	- Forest Management Unit
GVH	- Group Village Head
IFMSLP	- Improved Forest Management for Sustainable Livelihood Programme
LFO	- Local Forest Organisation
NGO	- Non Governmental Organisation
TA	- Traditional Authority

1.0 INTRODUCTION

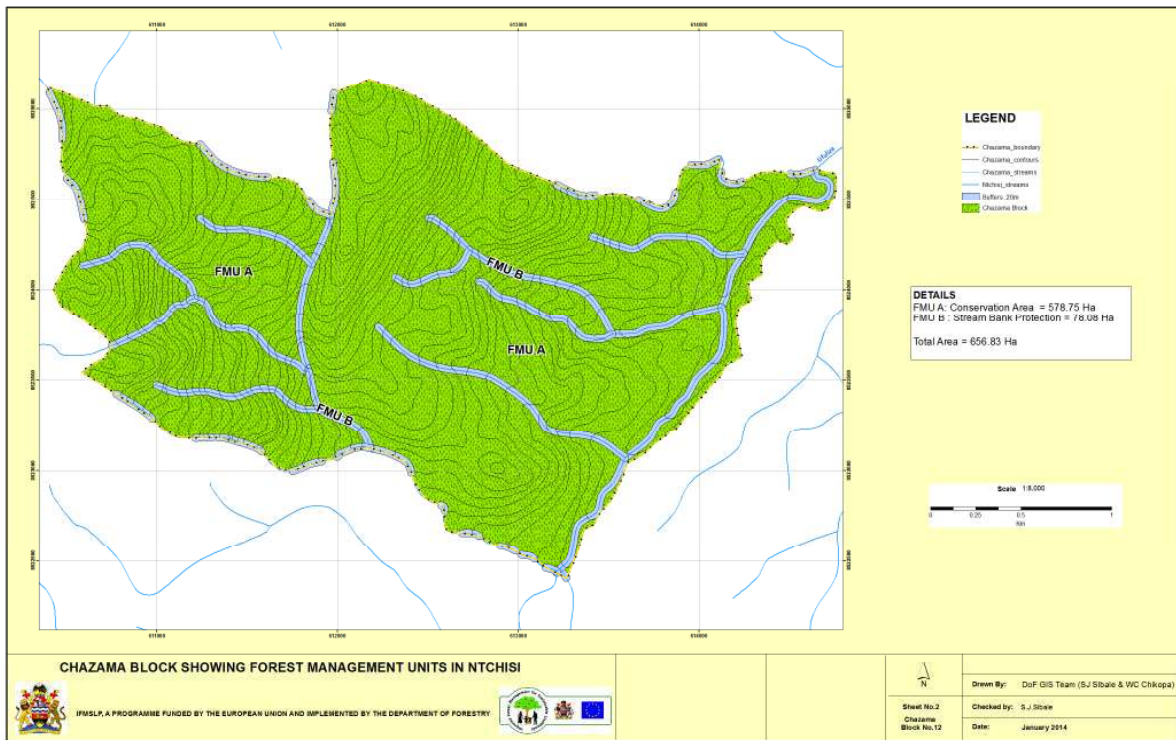
This document is the summary of a process from joint discussions, analysis, consultation, negotiation and planning by the community of Group Village Head [G.V.H.] Chazama and Traditional Authority[T.A.] Kasakula.

Facilitation in the development of this plan was undertaken by forestry extension workers from Department of Forestry [DoF]. This approach was adopted with the aim of empowering people of GVH Chazama make decisions and takes responsibility for and promotes collective action for protection, management and sustainable utilisation of their forest management block. This approach is in line with the Malawi National Forestry Policy of 1996, which recognises the need for communities to be given a greater role in the management of forests and access to forest resources both on public and on customary land.

The output of the process of planning, consultation and negotiation of this Block Management Plan was agreed by key stakeholders of Chazama area. The process was participatory with the aim of empowering people in a transparent and equity based approach.

The plan includes resource use rules which are locally relevant and locally enforceable to assist in the protection, sustainable management and equitable sharing of forest benefits by the Chazama communities both the present and future.

Fig1. Location Map of Chazama Block



2.0 MANAGING AUTHORITY

The Local Forestry Organisation of GVH Chazama from TA Kasakula, Ntchisi is the one that will use this plan. The following is the list of villages under GVH Chazama: Chazama, Mbuluma, Foo, Mazima, Kazulamphonda, Mayambo, Damba 1, Mkumbwe, Kawamba, Solomoni, Mwanyumbu, Mikili and Mtambouyera. The LFO of this block has already been registered. The LFO is expected to use the plan in implementing activities under co-management agreement. 122 households are expected to manage and use the block.

3.0 FOREST AREA DESCRIPTION

3.1 General Description

Chazama block is situated 45 kilometers from Ntchisi boma with a coverage of 656.83 hectares. It borders Kasakula block to the north and Mponda block to the south. Several annual streams flow within the block of which some provide water for domestic use to the surrounding communities. These streams are Kanyerere, Chanjoka, Ngoni, Kanyungu and Lifuliza.

3.1.1. Vegetation

The forest block is dominated by *Brachystegia* woodland with a few pockets of shrubs mainly around the upper part of Chanjoka stream. Common species found in the block are Sanga, Mseza, Chiyere, Mombo, Mtondo, Kadale, M'mphandu, Thombozi and Mpoza.

3.1.2 Soils

Sandy clay soil is the type of soil found in the block.

3.2 Boundary

Most block boundaries are demarcated by streams and painting of rocks or trees where streams are absent. For instance, Kanyerere river demarcates Chazama and Mponda while Lifuliza demarcates the block and the customary land.

3.3. Tenure

The block is a state owned property since it is found in Ntchisi Forest Reserve which is a protected area. However community

of GVH Chazama has been engaged in co-management of the block to sustainably manage the resources while uplifting the living standards of such community.

3.4 FOREST USERS

The community of GVH Chazama are expected to benefit more from the block. The products expected to be obtained are woody and non woody forest products. Neighbouring communities will be allowed to access forest products through the block committee later because at present the assessment shows inadequate wood supply for commercial use. The block committee is mandated to issue permission to everyone wishing to collect products from the block.

3.5 MAIN USES

This Participatory Management Plan has been developed to ensure sustainability of forest resource while improving the lives of communities taking part in the management of the block.

Woody products like poles, timber and firewood are expected to be harvested from the block. On the other hand, non woody products like medicine, fruits, mushroom; wild meat and fibre will be benefited.

Paramount of all, the forest plays a role of conservation which will help to control soil erosion among many other ecological uses.

4.0 FOREST MANAGEMENT UNITS

The block has got two main forest management units.

FMU1: TOTAL PROTECTION

Its hectarage is 531.83ha.

This area covers all steep slopes and most of areas are river banks. It is meant for total protection.

FMU11: FIT FOR HARVESTING

This is an area of 125ha that has gentle slopes and is fit to be harvested. Such that harvested coupes shall be laid in this area and this is where wood, timber, poles, roof beams, and non-woody forest products for domestic purposes will be harvested.

4.1. Main Objectives of harvestable and Non harvestable

4.1.1 Non harvestable area

- To protect the catchment area, steep slopes and river banks from soil erosion.

4.1.2 Harvestable area-

- To produce quality timber, poles, bamboos and fuel wood
- To improve economical status of Chazama people through sales of forest products

4.2. Specific objectives of harvestable and non harvestable

4.2.1 Non harvestable

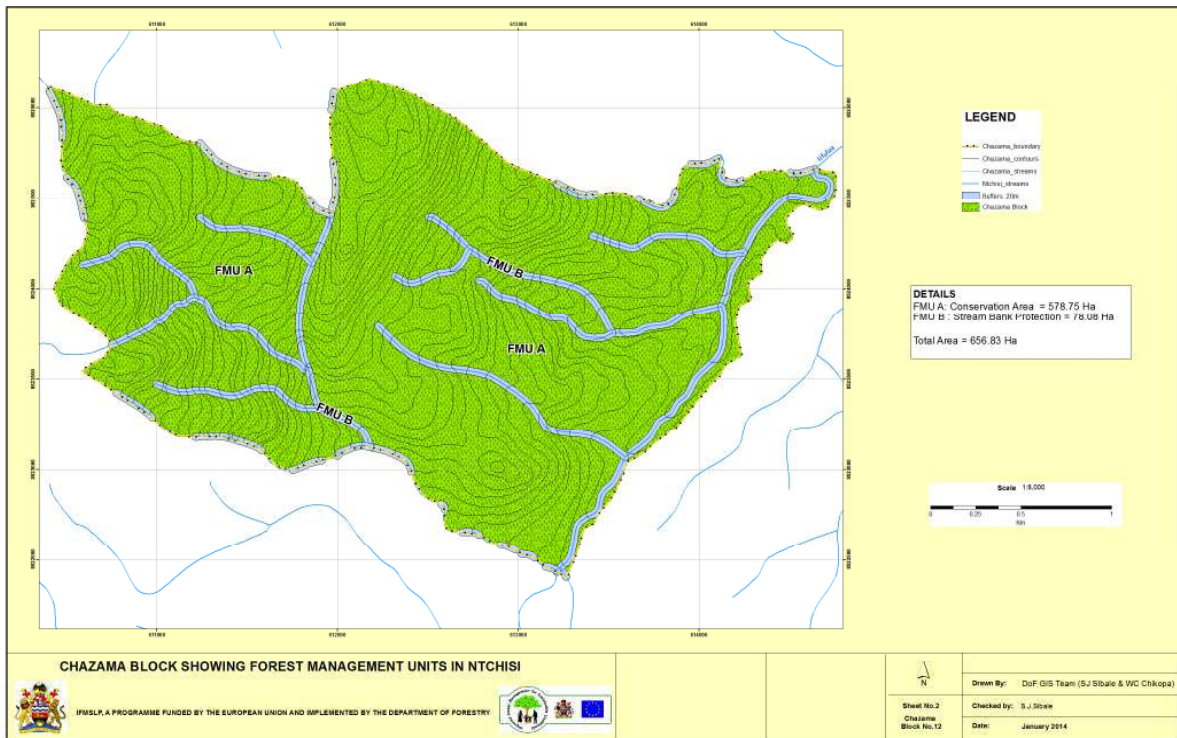
- To conserve water flow in all rivers and streams coming from the block for domestic use.
- To protect steepy slopes

- To protect conservation of fauna and flora.

4.2.2 Harvestable area

- To promote production of quality timber, wood and poles.
- To promote production of non woody forest products: grass, honey, medicine and fruits for domestic use and sale

Fig 2 Harvestable and Non harvestable area



5.0 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

5.1 Overall Objective

To manage, protect, conserve and utilize both woody products i.e poles, firewood, timber and non-woody products like mushroom, fruits, herbs and thatch grass for domestic and commercial use in a sustainable way.

5.2 Specific Objectives

- To ensure sustainable supply of wood products i.e firewood, poles, timber for domestic as well as for sale.
- To supply non-wood products ie mushroom, herbs, fruits, thatch grass, honey for food and sale.
- To manage regenerants so as to ensure maximum ground cover and replace harvested poles, timber, firewood, roof beams, rafters.
- To protect rivers/streams from siltration and ensure clean water sources.

6.0 RESOURCE USE RULES

Resource use rules below have been developed by the relevant community with technical support from Ntchisi District forest office team. They are intended to be used for participatory management of Chazama Block with regards to forest resource protection, sustainable management, and utilization (table 6.1)

TABLE 6.1 Resource Management Rules for Chazama Block

NO	RESOURCE RULE	SPECIFICATION	PENALTY
1	No one is allowed to cut down trees without authority from the block committee.	Block committee to regulate harvesting.	Anyone found guilty of cutting down trees shall pay a fine of K15.000 or one goat.
2	No one is allowed to collect firewood in the block without permission from the block committee	Collection of firewood shall be controlled by the block committee.	Anyone found guilty of collecting firewood without permission shall pay a fine of K500.00 or one chicken.
3	Grass shall be collected freely everywhere if ever available at no cost.		No penalty
4	For Traditional medicine only plant part shall be	The block committee to monitor collection.	Anyone found guilty of cutting tap roots or main

	collected and not cutting tap roots or main roots nor bark ringing.		roots or bark ringing shall pay a fine of 1 (one) goat or K15,000
5	Mushroom shall be collected everywhere but have to carry in containers from home	The block committee shall ensure that anyone in need of mushroom has carried containers.	Anyone found damaging trees to make containers shall pay a fine of K1,000 or 1 chicken
6	Fruits shall be collected that have fallen on the ground or tree shaking	The block committee should monitor collection.	Anyone found damaging trees for fruit collection shall pay a fine of 1 chickens or K1,000
7	Those who have got permits to graze animals should use rotational grazing and permit is K500 per cattle per year.	The block committee shall make frequent follow-ups to grazers.	Anyone found guilty of not using rotational grazing shall pay a fine of K3,000.00 or 3 chickens.
8	Those who have got permits to graze should not carry tools/equipments, no setting of fire for cookings	Frequent follow-ups by block committee to grazers shall be carried out.	Anyone found guilty of carrying tools, equipment or setting fire for cooking when grazing shall pay a fine of 4 chickens or K4,000
9	Those who need to produce	The block committee shall	Anyone found guilty of installing

	honey,should not use traditional bee hives.	regulate the process.	traditional bee hives shall pay a fine of I goat or K15,000
10	Noone is allowed to collect herbs from the block without authority from the block committee.	The block committee to regurate collection	Anyone found guilty of collecting without permission shall pay a fine of K1000 or 1 chicken.

7.0. FOREST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CHAZAMA BLOCK

7.1 ACTION PLAN

The following activities shall be undertaken on annual basis.

TABLE 7.1. ACTION PLAN

Type of work	When	Responsible	Requirements	What to see (Indicator)
Demarcation of block boundaries	June to July	Committee, VHS, Extension workers and Whole community	Paint, slashers, panga knives, brushes and paraffin	Paint markings
Patrolling	June onwards	Committee, VHS, Extension workers and some communities	Panga knives and slashers	Reports
Controlled early burning	June to July	Committee, VHS and whole community	Matches, panga knives, slashers and watering cans	Burnt patches.
Writing	June	Block	Pens, paper and	Reports

reports.	onwards.	committee	ruler	
Establishment of coupes	May to November	Block committee, extension workers & VHs	Paint Brush Batteries Turpentine/Paraffin Pangas	No. of coupes demarcated
Reviewing constitution & Management Plan	January	Committee, VHs, Extension workers and Whole community	Stationery Community meal	Updated constitution & management plan

7.2. PATROLLING PLAN

Patrols will be conducted by people from the following G.V.Hs in conjunction with DoF staff; Chazama, Mbuluma, and Kazulamphonda.

Table 7.2 Patrolling plan

PLACE	WHO	RESOURCES	TIME FRAME
From Ngoni up to boarder with Chifwerekete	VH Chazama, some communities, block committee & extension workers	Panga knives, Note books and pens	June ongoing
From Kanyerere up to boarder with Chifwerekete	committee, VH Mbuluma, his people and Extension workers	Panga knives, Note books and pens	June ongoing
From Kanyungu up to Kaliramade boarder	Block committee, VH Kazulamphonda, his people and Extension workers	Panga knives, Note books and pens	June ongoing
The programme keeps ongoing			

7.3 MONITORING & EVALUATION PLAN

TABLE 7.3. MONITORING & EVALUATION PLAN

Objective	What to measure	How to measure	Indicator	Responsibility	Resources	Time Frame
To ensure sustainable supply of firewood, timber, poles for domestic as well as for sale.	Number of head loads of firewood and number of trees for timber and poles.	Counting	Number of head loads, bundles of firewood, number of trees for timber and poles.	Block committee and extension workers	note books and pens	Through out the year
To ensure sustainable supply of non timber forestry products i.e. thatch grass, fruits,, medicine and mushroom.	Number of bundles of grass, containers of fruits and mushrooms and bunches of medicine	Counting	Number of bundles of grass, pails of fruits and mushroom and bunches of medicine.	Block committee and extension workers	note books and pens	Through out the year
To protect fragile areas i.e. steep slopes and river banks	Number of trees along river banks, Rivers filled with clean water through out the year.	Counting and observation	Number of trees along river banks, clean and sufficient water in rivers through out the year.	Block committee and extension workers	note books and pens	Through out the year

8.0. MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR EACH USE

Harvesting of products in Chazama block shall be done in coupes and main harvestable product is firewood. Branchystegia species (Mseza) are the commonly species found in the block and there are other species like Sanga, Msolo, Thombozi, Mphandwa, Kadale, Kamphoni, , Mng'ona, Chiyere, Mombo, Mkulo.

The rotational age of Branchystegia is 15 years if the resource is in abundance. This period has been chosen in order to give enough time for tree regeneration to meet sustainable use since out of the total area of 656.83ha, only 125ha is harvestable. This gives a picture that harvestable period is 8.3ha per year.

8.1 Management Plan for firewood

Forest product: Firewood – Key product

Key species: Chiyere, Mombo, M'mbanga, Ming'ona, Mtondo, Kadale, M'mphandwa, Msuku, Mipoza, Mseza, Mlombwa,

Demand: High

Supply: Low

Problems/Issues: Theft, Wild fires and inadequate supply.

Management practices:

- Harvesting of fuel wood shall be done in demarcated coupes only
- Area of harvest is limited to 8.3ha. from which 4 coupes of 2ha/ per year.

The basis for this is a rotation period of 15 years.

- Harvesting Coupes will be marked clearly in dry season (May-November).
- Harvesting will be done in dry season.
- A minimum of 80 trees in each 2ha coupe shall be left standing in each coupe.
- Trees suitable for producing seed mother trees and those that are key species for timber but not yet matured shall be left standing in a coupe.
- Time for controlled early burning is June and July to avoid harmful bush fires.

Permits

All communities of GVH Chazama and neighbouring villages will be allowed to collect firewood, timber, roof beams, as long as permission has been granted from the block Management Committee.

Fees and Royalties

- Headload of firewood for domestic purposes will be at K50.00 each while outsiders is K200
- One mandle will be sold at K700 for domestic, for commercial will be K1500
- Trees for planks for domestic purposes will be sold at K8,000 per tree
- For commercial purposes, it shall be K12,000 per tree.
- Roof beams for domestic use will be at K500 per each and for sale will be at K1,000 each

- Poles for domestic use will be at K50 each while commercial at K80 each
- Rafters for domestic use will be at K70 each while commercial at k150 each

Area of Harvest

The above mentioned Forestry products will be collected in FMU2 in the annually harvestable area of 8.3ha making a total of 4 coupes .

8.2 Management plan for medicine

- (a). Forest Product: Medicine
- (b). Key species: Chigaga, Mdima, Mpetu, Kadeonasi, Mbawa, Mng'ona, Mlombwa, Msase, M'mwaye, Dululu, Futsa, Msolo, , Kanganalupsya, Kawidzi.
- (c). Demand: High
- (d). Supply: Low
- (e). Problems/issues:
 - Poor methods of harvesting and
 - Wild fires
- (f). Management Practices:
 - To harvest only plant part and not cutting tap roots or main roots nor bark ringing.
 - To conduct controlled early burning before grass is completely dry possibly in June and July.
 - Traditional doctors should seek permission first before entering into the block.
- (g). Area based harvest map: Whole block where available.

(h). Allowable quantity: Will depend upon the availability but not more than a 50 kg bag sack.

(i) Permits

- Anyone who needs to collect medicine must meet with the block committee to get permission
- Anyone from Chazama(GVH) and neighbouring villages are allowed to get permission.

(j) Fees and royalties

Domestic purposes will be K150 while for commercial is K7,000

8.3 Management plan for Fruits

(a) Forest Product – Fruits

(b) Key species – Mviru, Nthudza, Nthundu, Masuku, Mgunkhumwala, Maula, Maye, Kasokolowe, and Mkhundi.

(c) Demand –High

(d) Supply - Low

(e) Problems/ Issues – Scarcity of some key species.

- Careless cutting down of trees.
- Wild fires.

(f) Management Practices

- Controlled early burning.
- Avoid cutting down of trees carelessly.

(g) Area of Harvest – Whole block

(h) Allowable quantity – Shall depend upon the supply.

(i) Permits

- Anyone in need of fruits should seek permission from the block committee before entering into the block.

(j) Fees and royalties

- Collection is free.

- Anyone found without permission shall be confiscated and pay a fine of

K100.00

8.4 Management plan for mushroom

(a) Forest Product: Mushroom

(b) Key species: Ndelema, Chipindi, Kanjawala, Manyame, Chisuku, Mphofu

- Anyone from GVH Chazama and neighbouring villages are free to get

©. Demand: High

(d). Supply: Low

(e). Problems/Issues: Wild fires

(f). Management practices:

- Avoid cutting down of trees carelessly
- Controlled early burning before grass is completely dry – may, June and July.

(g). Area of harvest: Whole block

(h). Allowable Quantity: - Depend upon the supply

(i). Permits

- Anyone in need of mushroom should get permission from the block committee
- Anyone from Chazama block and outsiders are free to get permission to collect mushroom.

(j). Fees and Royalties

- Anyone found without permission shall be confiscated and pay in fine of K100.
- Collection is free.

9.0 BENEFIT SHARING ARRANGEMENT

Revenue realized from sales of produce from the block shall be distributed as outlined in table 9.1 below

Table 9.1 Revenue distribution

Revenue source level	Category of fees	Type of account	Signatories	Funds use	Remarks
Forest reserve Account	Permit fees for Domestic use	Block committee Account	Elected Block Committee Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry management eg buying equipments • VDC development eg buying necessities for sick people, old people and the orphans • Business. • Emergencies ie illnesses & funerals. • Assist committee to access training • Continue with savings. 	<p>100% realized from fees for domestic deposited into this account.</p> <p>Forest products harvested with permits issued by BMC.</p>
	Permit fees for commercial use	Block committee Account	Elected Block committee members and countersigned by DFO	As above	<p>30% of revenues deposited into Forest Development Fund.</p> <p>10% into Local Forest Management Board Account.</p> <p>60% into Block committee Account.</p>

10.0 FINANCIAL ISSUES

It is assumed that the Block Management Committee will issue harvesting permits for different products at different rates depending on use . Estimated domestic permit fee income was calculated based on the information given during consultation with the block management committee. In reference to common customary land prices, and economic standard of the community the domestic fee rates set by the block management committee are shown in table 4 in the Annex.

Estimated annual income is therefore Mk375,000(100%) from domestic permit fees. There is no commercial sales.

To make this income sustainable most activities have been proposed to be done by community members together with block management committee. These shall be carried out without being forced. The normal costs of carrying out these activities have been calculated in order to set them against permit fee income.

NOTE: These costs shall not be paid out as cash for labour.

ANNEX 1 –List of Tables

Table 1: Showing the estimated cost of these annual activities

Forest management cost

ACTIVITY	WORK RATE	RATE PER PERSON (MK)	AMOUNT
Demarcation of block boundaries (15km)	50m per person per day	Mk 300	Mk 90,000
Patrolling	2,688 days	Mk 100	268,800
Controlled early burning	280 days	Mk 100	K28,000
TOTAL			MK 386,800

ANNUAL CASH FLOW

Based on the information from the previous tables, estimated annual cash flow for Chazama block is shown in table 2. This assumes that under co-management model, all domestic permit fees will be retained in the block management account and there is no commercial permits at present due to shortage of forest products.

Table 2: Showing estimated annual cash flow for Chazama block.

Block management committee account	MK	% of Gross income
Domestic permit	375,000	100%
Commercial permits	-	
Gross income	375,000	100%
Less share to LFMB account(10%) of commercial income		
Less costs of forest management (labour, inputs)	112500+386,800 =499,300	
Effective net income	-124600	
Average net income / ha		
Average income per house hold		
Local Forest Management Board Account	0	
Income from Chazama block	375,000	
Less share to Forestry Department (30%)	-	
Balance	375,000	Domestic permits only 100%

Table 3: Showing total supply in annual coupes

PRODUCT	TOTAL SUPPLY / HA	TOTAL SUPPLY IN ANNUAL COUPES
Rafters	50	400
Poles	30	240
Roof beam	3	24
Firewood	10 headloads	80 headloads
Timber	5 trees	40 trees
Fibre	2	16
Medicine	xx	xxx
Mushroom	xx	xxx
Fruits	xx	xxx

Table 4: Showing projected income from permit fees

FOREST PRODUCT	DOMESTIC/ SALE	SUPPLY	PRICE	NO. OF PERMITS	PRICE PER PERMIT	TOTAL NO. OF PERMITS
Domestic Sales	2400	K50	25	K1,250	10	K12,500
Domestic Sales	240	K500	5	K2,500	5	K12,500

Firewood	Domestic Sales	800 H/loads	K50/H/load	10	K500	8	K4,000
Trees for timber	Domestic Sales	400	K8,000	3	K24,000	13	K312,000
Fibre	Domestic Sales	160	K200/Bundle	5	K1,000	3	K3,000
Medicine	Domestic Sales	1,000	-K3,000	1	K3,000	1,000	K3,000
						Total	35,802,400

Table5: Showing quantity of forest products for sale

Product name	Domestic permit	Commercial permit	Total income (MK)
Rafters	28,000		28,000
Poles	12,500		12,500
Roof beams	12,500		12,500
Firewood	4,000		4,000
Timber	312,000		312,000
Fibre	3,000		3,000
Medicine	3,000		3,000
Mushroom			
Fruits			
Totals	375,000		375,000

ANNEX 11 CONSTITUTION OF CHAZAMA BLOCK

To protect, manage and sustainably use forestry products found in Chazama block

To uplift livelihood of people surrounding the block.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The committee shall be comprised of 18 members and these are as follows: the chairman and vice, the secretary and vice, the treasure, five committee members. Group village headmen and village heads shall also be with them.

THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE

Qualities

- Should know how to read and write..
- Should be a hard worker.
- Should be able to talk in public.
- Should be able to hear other people's views.

Duties

- To conduct meetings.
- To maintain peace within the committee as well as the wider community.
- To make sure that the constitution is being followed.
- To coordinate information amongst committee, GVHs, village heads and the wider community.

SECRETARY AND VICE

Qualities

- Should be able to read and write.
- Should be a hard worker.
- Should be a kind person.

Duties

- To write and keep records of minutes of meetings
- To write letters to call for meetings.
- To take attendance of meetings.
- To write reports.

TREASURER

Qualities

- Should be able to read and write.
- Should not be a drunkard person.
- Should be an honest person.
- Should have enough to keep goods for the block.

Duties

- To keep goods for the block members.
- To take note of incoming and outgoing goods.
- To report about the proceedings of income to the committee as well as the wider community.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Qualities

- Should be able to talk on the public.
- Should be able to resolve issues.
- Should be a member, born in GVHChazama.

Duties

- To settle disputes.
- To monitor the function of the constitution.

DISQUALIFICATION OF OFFICE BEARERS.

- After its term (3years).
- Absenteeism from meetings and other activities for more than 3 consecutive days without valid excuses
- If one has stolen goods of the block members.
- If one is unable to follow the constitution.

TERM OF OFFICE

- The community of GVHChazama has agreed that elections shall be conducted after 3 years.
- After 3 years the Group Village Headmen shall call for a meeting of the whole community to elect other office bearers.

DISQUALIFICATION OF MEMBERS

- If one has stolen goods of the institution.
- If someone continues on breaking the institutional rules after being warned.

FUNCTIONS OF ELECTED MEMBERS

- To make sure that there is peace amongst block members.
- To form action plan.
- To make sure that the block is well managed.
- To share benefits among block members with the aid of the Group village headmen and Village heads.

DISQUALIFICATION OF THE BLOCK COMMITTEE

- After 3 years of service.
- If they are lazy.
- If they have stolen either goods or money of the institution

ELIGIBILITY OF MEMBERSHIP

- Every member born in GVH Chazama is free to join.

THE RIGHT TO APPEAL

Any member has the right to appeal if not being satisfied with the judgment. From the committee, one can go to the village head, if fails, can go to the GVH, if fails, can go to the TA, if fails again, can go up to the high court.

FUNCTIONS OF THE WIDER COMMUNITY

- To participate in all activities of block management.

- To elect office bearers.
- To formulate and amend the constitution.
- To attend meetings.

FUNCTIONS OF THE TRADITIONAL LEADER (TA)

- Shall be advisor to the institution and assist settling of disputes.
- Shall be one of the signatories of block management plan and agreement.

Quorum for a meeting

- Half of the executive committee to be present
- Representative all villages must be present whenever BMC meets wider community. (50% of the wider community is enough)

Accounts/financial management

- The block management committee will have an account
- The treasurer will receive the money issue a receipt and Record the transaction in ledger books
- Payments made by BMC to be counter signed
- The money collected shall be used for the following
 - (h) Micro-credit scheme 20%
 - (ii) Assist during funerals 10%
 - (iii) Assist the needy, orphans, aged and the Aids/Hiv affected 15%.

(iv) In management of the Block 30%

- Micro -credit scheme to attract a 20% Interest.

Policy on equality

- All members except the lame, sick, aged to take part in all activities regardless of being male or female.
- Cost and benefit sharing to be equal among all members.

BOOK KEEPING (RECORD KEEPING)

- The BMC shall have the following books
 - a) Minute book
 - b) Receipt book
 - c) Permit book
 - d) Patrol book
 - e) Register
 - f) Offence and fine book.

Amendments of Constitution

This Constitution shall be amended every year through submission of proposed change to the general body or general body to the committee.

Benefit Sharing

The available benefits do include monies and forest products .These shall be shared equally and every member is entitled to receive them.

This shall be facilitated by the BMC and endorsed by the wide community

COMMENCEMENT OF THE BY-LAWS

The Chazamaconstitution and by-laws will come into operation after all the signatories have signed.

SIGNATORIES

SIGNATORY
DATE

.....

..... ..

BLOCK CHAIRPERSON

.....

.....

GROUP VILLAGE HEAD

.....

.....

TA

.....

.....

DFO

.....

.....

DC

11.0 CO-MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

(Forestry Act, 1997 Section 25)

THIS AGREEMENT is made theday of.....
BETWEEN Director of Forestry, Ministry of Energy and Mines, hereinafter referred to as
the Government, and local residents of village(s) of
Traditional Authority.....and District

.....
Represented byas the Local Forest
Organisation (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
.....block offorest 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 recognise
the joint authority of the LFO to protect, manage, control and utilize sustainably the
forest resource for the benefit of the local community of
.....
Village.
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 Forest Reserve, with transfers being made on a quarterly basis
- (h.) 30% of the share of revenue accruing from the issue of commercial harvesting permits and licenses (i.e. those permits and licenses not issued for domestic or subsistence purposes) shall be deposited into the Forest Development Fund Account Number 1 with such transfers being made on a quarterly basis.
- (i.) It is expected that 60% of the funds available to the LFO after sharing the proportions specified in (g) and (h) will be utilised by the LFO for the purposes of forest development, management and operating costs. 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 be accountable to the community and operate in accordance with the agreed constitution.

FORESTRY DEPARTMENT OBLIGATIONS

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

- (e.) With the LFO jointly monitor the block demarcated in the co-management plan to ensure management is in accordance with this Agreement and in accordance with Standards & Guidelines for Participatory Forestry in Malawi.
- (f.) Jointly with the LFO countersign any permits and licenses being for the commercial utilisation 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.) Organise in collaboration with other partners, relevant training courses to enhance organisational, technical and management capacity of Local Forest Boards, LFO, traditional authorities and other members of the community.
- (j.) Recognise and actively support the protection and policing measures taken by the FMB, LFO and the community in accordance with the Forest Act, 1997, Forest Rules 2001, and Local Forest Organisation Registration Agreement.

COMMENCEMENT, DURATION AND TERMINATION

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

DEMARCATION AND BOUNDARY

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

DISPUTES

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

CHAZAMA (NTCHISI)

13. SIGNED:

[Signature]

DIRECTOR OF FORESTRY

Dated... 26-02-14

AND

C. SIKALIBTI



CHAIRPERSON, LOCAL FOREST ORGANISATION

Dated... 2/4/2014

WITNESSES:

[Signature] Chazama

STA. KASAKULA [Signature]

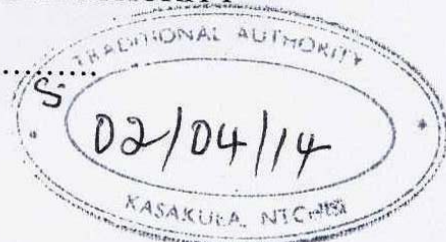
VILLAGE HEADMAN/WOMAN

Dated... 2/4/2014

TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

Dated.....

[Signature]



DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Dated.....



Annex 1

BLOCK PERMIT
ITEMS REQUIRED PERMIT

PRODUCT	UNIT	FEE	
		DOMESTIC	COMMERCIAL
Timber			
Poles			
Fuel wood			
Medicine			
Fruit			
Wild relish			
Wild animal meat			