



MALAWI *Apatseni Mwayi Atsikana Aphunzire (AMAA)* FACT SHEET

CONTENTS

1. Project Overview
2. Construction Details
3. General Environment - Machinga District
4. Site Specific Information - Matanda
5. Socio-Economic and Environmental Issues

1. PROJECT OVERVIEW

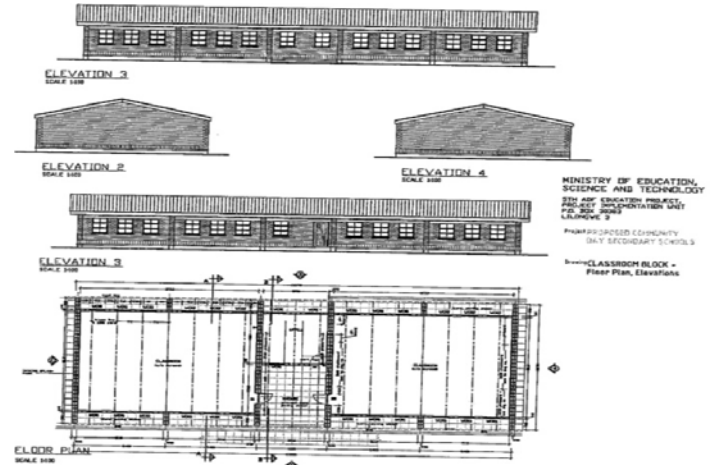
The goal of AMAA is to increase enrollment and retention of adolescent girls in secondary schools, and influence negative perceptions about the value of educating girls. With media and gender as cross-cutting issues, the program will foster a girl friendly and supportive school environment; increase girls' access to secondary education by constructing Community Day Secondary Schools (CDSS) in remote communities and by constructing a girl's dormitory near a CDSS; enable teacher availability in these remote CDSS by providing materials and guidance to communities to construct houses for teachers; and, ensure land rights for CDSS, dormitory, and teacher housing sites are attained through informed, transparent, and equitable means.

2. CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Construction of Community Day Secondary Schools (CDSS). Ten new CDSSs (half in Machinga District) will hold 200 students each with at least half being girls. All schools will have a total of four buildings: two classroom blocks; a laboratory; and one for staff administration. Latrines and a water source will be constructed when current access for planned beneficiaries is insufficient.

Construction of Teachers' Houses. Houses for teachers will be constructed by community with designs calling for the houses to have six rooms with a short corridor: three bedrooms, a kitchen, a dining room, and a lounge.

Construction of a dormitory. A one room 56-bed female dormitory is to be located next to a CDSS in Mzimba North District that will be divided up into cubicles housing two beds each and two ablution blocks that contain five toilets and five showers each.



3. GENERAL ENVIRONMENT

Global Climate Change Vulnerabilities Impacting Malawi

Climate variability and change are already affecting Malawi. Cycles of floods and droughts have increased in the last two decades, accompanied by an increased incidence of dry spells, intense rainfall events, and pest and disease outbreaks, as well as a poor inter-annual distribution of rainfall. Temperatures are expected to rise by 1-3 °C by 2050. Wet season rainfall is increasing, but its onset is trending later and likely to end earlier.

Machinga District Conditions

Machinga is a district in the Southern Region of Malawi that has an increasing population living in rural, agrarian communities. Completion of secondary school is low with just one in 15 men and one in 30 women completing it. The most prominent health care service is a District Hospital in Liwonde but numerous health clinics are scattered throughout the district.



Epidemics/Natural Dangers: Cholera is present in Machinga even if there are no current outbreaks. The last outbreak was in December 2015. Earthquakes, floods, drought, strong winds, hailstorms, and landslides are natural disasters that have afflicted in Machinga in recent decades and likely pose future dangers.

Protected Areas: Machinga District is home to large parts of Liwonde National Park, Liwonde Forest Reserve, and Malosa Forest Reserve, has parts of four bodies of water within its boundaries: Lake Chilwa, Lake Chiuta, and the Upper Shire River, and hosts a variety of wetlands in the southeast and northeast.



4. SITE SPECIFIC INFORMATION - Matanda

The Matanda CDSS construction site (~19,810m²) is located at the southern edge of Machinga district and does not border any protected areas. Government reserves are >5km from the site. The community's main cultural site and graveyard are <100m from the CDSS along the construction vehicle route on the main road adjacent to the CDSS. The existing primary school is located across the main dirt road. The central part of the community is ~500m away. Eight compounds (of two to three buildings each) surround the CDSS and six buildings are on the CDSS site that are used by the primary school's headmaster and deputy headmaster.

This site's land is gently sloped at approximately 4% on either side of the land's crest in the middle of the property. The land is currently being farmed for maize and cassava. Young blue gum trees (dia. of 15-20cm) are scattered (not grouped) about the property with a few young, but fruiting, mango trees. The soil is clay.

A borehole is located on-site that is used for the primary school and is ~15m in depth. The nearest latrines have pits estimated to be 3m in depth. The nearest surface water body, a year-round river, is >2km away and at an elevation more than 3m below the proposed

construction site. The water table at site is unknown but estimated, based on elevation, distance to surface water, and depth of adjacent borehole, to be low enough to not be of concern.

Local materials to be used are clay and sand. Clay will be sourced on site. Community members currently source sand from the middle of a river (not the banks), which is 0.5m deep at most during the dry season and does not contain any wildlife other than small fish. Construction routing will be along the main road. Wood will be purchased from a company in Liwonde.

GEMS II engaged in land tenure discussions in June of 2017 with the Matanda community. During the discussions, it was discovered that the proposed CDSS land is partly owned by the primary school, but 70 percent of the land was being used by four people. Each of the four people had been given alternative land where they could grow their crops. One person had not yet seen the allocated alternative piece of land but the rest had. Two of them were satisfied with the pieces of land that they had been allocated and were ready to move as soon as possible. The remaining one thought that she has been given only half of the size of the land that she currently owns.



5. Socio-Economic and Environmental Issues

Land Tenure

The land designated for the CDSS had been set aside by community leaders for decades to become a school one day. During the interim years, the primary school used the land to construct a home for the headmaster and community members had used the empty land in the meantime for agricultural purposes, likely with the permission of community leaders. Given the use of the property by four community members at the time of handing over the land for the CDSS construction, it was

apparent the livelihoods of these people would be impacted by the loss of their use of this land. This loss is a direct cause of USAID funding the construction of the CDSS. To ensure this loss was mitigated, USAID worked with the implementing partner and community to see that reasonable “in-kind” (i.e. new land) compensation was provided to these project affected people (PAP). Land Tenure Agreement documents were prepared in the local language for the PAP to provide their declaration that they had given up their right to the CDSS land and have received commensurate land elsewhere in the community.

LAND TENURE AGREEMENT FORM

Ine.....ndikutsindikiza kuti ndapereka malo okula.....ha ku boma la Machinga kuti pamangidweCommunity Day Secondary School.

Ndikutsikimiza kuti kuyambira lero pa tsiku la21..... mwezi waJune..... m'chaka cha2017..... malowa sali mmanja mwanga ndipo sipadzapezeka tsiku lomwe ndizalese chitukuko chomanga Community Day Secondary School.

Wosainira: [Redacted]
 Mboni: [Redacted]
 Date: 21/06/2017

Wosainira Kuimira District Council:
 Mboni: [Redacted]
 Date: 22-06-17

Wosainira Kuimira Save the Children:
 Mboni: [Redacted]
 Date: 21/06/2017

Handwritten signatures and stamps are visible on the form, including a date stamp of 21 JUN 2017 and a stamp for the Machinga District Council.

Malawi Government Approval

Applicable and appropriate partner country environmental and social laws, policies, and regulations must be followed for the implementation of any USAID project. Malawi’s Environment Management Act (EMA) of 1996 stipulates that the Director of the Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) has the delegated authority to manage any Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for projects the Director determines to necessitate one. The EMA also has in its annexes that school and dormitory construction does not merit a mandatory EIA, however the developer/implementer of the project must submit a Project Brief to the Director of the EAD to determine if the project requires any further assessment or monitoring.

When the Project Brief for the Matanda construction project was sent to the EAD, the Director responded requesting further documentation called an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) that consisted of details found in the Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) as well as in the Environmental

Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP). Upon receipt of this information, also to include the costs of monitoring mitigation activities, the Director of the EAD would provide his approval for the project to be implemented.

Resource Extraction

Sand: As the community currently extracts sand from a nearby stream, it was assumed that sand for construction activities would also be removed from the same stream. Given the large amount of sand needed for construction of school buildings and latrines (estimated to be a volume of over six shipping containers full), this stream would be irreparably altered and significantly impact the ecosystem at the site of extraction and downstream. To avoid such impacts, conditions were made that the construction team would source sand, first, from in-land sand pits away from streams and ecologically sensitive areas and, second, from numerous streams so as to diminish the overall impact on any one given stream. If sourcing were to come from streams, then a riverine ecosystem specialist would be contracted to aid in locating stream areas that could have negative impacts mitigated.



Timber: The implementing partner noted that timber would be purchased from a private company in a nearby town. As some private companies in developing countries obtain timber illegally thereby contributing to forest degradation and overall deforestation, it must be assured that would is not sourced wantonly or in areas of ecological importance. Since such assurances are extremely difficult to come by, it was agreed that any purchased timber must have been originally felled with appropriate licenses provided by the Malawian government. In this way, the responsibility of assuring that purchased timber is not contributing to deforestation shifts to the Malawian regulatory body overseeing the licensing of timber extraction.