

Session 3.

Environmentally Sound Design & Management (ESDM) in the Malawian Context

Technical presentation and dialogue

Summary

This session will offer a closer look at ESDM in Malawi given prevailing socio-economic and cultural considerations, including gender, education, and wealth. As discussed in the previous session, one of the development ‘best practices’ for achieving ESDM is designing activities that account for the policy and social context. Participants will have the opportunity to consider particular aspects of the Malawian culture that may facilitate—or hinder—the successful application of the principles of ESDM.

These important dimensions should be factored into the design and implementation of all USAID-funded activities in Malawi. Beyond facilitating ESDM, cultural attributes may also be used to promote specific environmental compliance requirements. The session will conclude with a group discussion allowing for further exploration of the most compelling topics.

Objective

Understand the potential advantages and limitations of pursuing ESDM-based development outcomes given the predominant cultural, social and economic context in Malawi.