



MALAWI GOVERNMENT



NATIONAL AGRICULTURE POLICY



2024



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2024



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

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MALAWI

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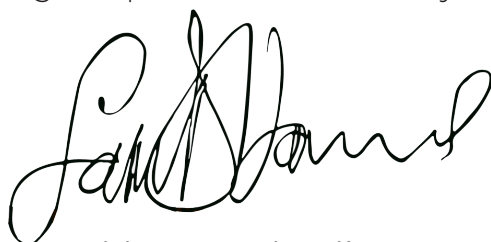
FOREWORD

The National Agriculture Policy 2024 (NAP 2024) has been developed to address challenges constraining the performance of Malawi's agricultural sector as identified in the country's long-term development vision, the Malawi 2063 (MW2063). In addition, it is aligned to both regional and international policy frameworks such as the Southern African Development Community's (SADC) Regional Agriculture Policy (RAP); the African Union's Agenda 2063; the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP); and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Policy builds on valuable lessons learnt and success stories registered during the implementation of the National Agriculture Policy 2016 (NAP 2016). In this regard, both the review of NAP 2016 and the Food Systems dialogues unearthed valuable lessons and success stories that informed the formulation of this Policy. Furthermore, the Policy draws significantly from the input of various stakeholders that were consulted during its development.

The implementation of this Policy is expected to significantly contribute to the attainment of Malawi's vision of becoming an inclusively wealthy and self-reliant nation through the operationalisation of focus areas and strategies under the agriculture productivity and commercialisation pillar in the MW2063 and its First 10-Year Implementation Plan (MIP-1). During the implementation of the Policy, the Malawi Government, through the Ministry of Agriculture, is committed to providing the leadership necessary for the transformation of the agricultural sector.

I, therefore, urge all stakeholders in the agricultural sector to partner with the Malawi Government in implementing this Policy by aligning their initiatives and interventions to it. This will ensure that we all pull in the same direction and facilitate the attainment of the targets spelt out in this Policy.



Honourable Samuel Dalitso Kawale, M.P.

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

PREFACE

The National Agriculture Policy 2024 (NAP 2024) is the second overarching Policy developed for the agricultural sector, after NAP 2016 which was implemented from 2016 to 2021. The NAP 2024 will be implemented in line with the lifespan of the Malawi 2063's First 10-Year Implementation Plan (MIP-1).

The Policy has been developed at a time when Malawi's agricultural sector faces challenges of low productivity, low mechanisation, increasing land degradation, limited diversification, declining land holding sizes, agricultural market inefficiencies, and negative effects of climate change. Nevertheless, Malawi has the required natural resources which, if efficiently and effectively put to use, can significantly contribute to the transformation of the sector. Furthermore, there are a number of regional and international programmes, as well as stakeholders in the sector that aim at promoting the country's agricultural development. Upon the successful implementation of this Policy, Malawi will undoubtedly achieve food and nutrition security, and the country's agricultural sector will be commercialised and diversified through the application of sustainable agricultural practices. As such, the Policy will contribute towards achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal number 2, which is zero hunger, and the MIP-1 target of growing the agriculture share of the GDP from 22.8% to 30% by 2030.

This Policy has, therefore, been developed to provide a framework within which efforts in the agricultural sector should be focused in order to address the existing challenges and unlock the sector's potential in catalysing economic growth and development. Consequently, the Policy identifies six priority areas, namely: Agricultural Production and Productivity; Food and Nutrition Security; Agricultural Commercialisation, Agro-processing and Value Addition; Sustainable Management of Land, Water and other Natural Resources; Agricultural Research and Innovation; and Institutional Development, Coordination, Capacity Strengthening and Risk Management.

During the development of this Policy, extensive consultations were conducted. Some of the stakeholders that were consulted include government ministries, departments and agencies, development partners, farmers and farmers' organisations, civil society organisations, non-governmental organisations, the academia and the private sector. All stakeholders are, therefore, encouraged to own the Policy and ensure that their activities are aligned with it.



Dickxie Verson Kampani

SECRETARY FOR AGRICULTURE

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AIP	:	Affordable Inputs Programme
ADMARC	:	Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation
AFNS	:	Agriculture Food and Nutrition Strategy
AIDS	:	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
APES	:	Agricultural Production Estimates Survey
CAADP	:	Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme
CGIAR	:	Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research
CISANET	:	Civil Society Agriculture Network
CONGOMA	:	Council for Non-Governmental Organisations in Malawi
CSA	:	Climate-Smart Agriculture
CSOs	:	Civil Society Organisations
CSR	:	Corporate Social Responsibility
DAES	:	Department of Agriculture Extension Services
DAHLD	:	Department of Animal Health and Livestock Development
DAPS	:	Department of Agricultural Planning Services
DARS	:	Department of Agricultural Research Services
DCAFS	:	Donor Committee on Agriculture and Food Security
DCD	:	Department of Crop Development
DNHA	:	Department of Nutrition, HIV and AIDS
DDPs	:	District Development Plans
DLRC	:	Department of Land Resources Conservation
DPs	:	Development Partners
DoI	:	Department of Irrigation
EAD	:	Environmental Affairs Department
EPA	:	Extension Planning Area
EP & D	:	Economic Planning and Development
FAO	:	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FOs	:	Farmer Organisations
FUM	:	Farmers' Union of Malawi
GBV	:	Gender Based Violence
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Product

GHGs	:	Greenhouse Gasses
GoM	:	Government of Malawi
GTA	:	Gender Transformative Approach
HGSM	:	Home-Grown School Meals Programmes
HIV	:	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICT	:	Information Communication and Technology
IHF	:	Integrated Homestead Farming
ILO	:	International Labour Organisation
IPM	:	Integrated Pest Management
ISFM	:	Integrated Soil Fertility Management
LDP	:	Livestock Development Policy
LUANAR	:	Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources
M&E	:	Monitoring and Evaluation
MCCCI	:	Malawi Confederation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry
MDAs	:	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MEPA	:	Malawi Environment Protection Authority
MEY	:	Maximum Economic Yield
MGDS	:	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy
MIP-1	:	Malawi 2063 First 10-Year Implementation Plan
MoA	:	Ministry of Agriculture
MoF	:	Ministry of Finance
MSY	:	Maximum Sustainable Yield
MVAC	:	Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee
MUBAS	:	Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences
MUST	:	Malawi University of Science and Technology
MW2063	:	Malawi 2063
MZUNI	:	Mzuzu University
NAP	:	National Agriculture Policy
NAPA	:	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NASFAM	:	National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi
NCCMP	:	National Climate Change Management Policy
NES	:	National Export Strategy
NGO-GCN	:	Non-Governmental Organisation Gender Coordination Network
NGOs	:	Non-Governmental Organisations
NMSNP	:	National Multi-Sector Nutrition Policy
NPC	:	National Planning Commission

PECGs	:	Pillar Enabler Coordination Groups
PPP	:	Public Private Partnerships
SADC	:	Southern African Development Community
SDGs	:	Sustainable Development Goals
SLM	:	Sustainable Land Management
MSMEs	:	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
TADs	:	Transboundary Animal Diseases
TLUs	:	Tropical Livestock Units
UNCBD	:	United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
UNCCD	:	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	:	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNIMA	:	University of Malawi
VGGT	:	Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure
WUA	:	Water Users' Association
YWVG	:	Youth, Women and other Vulnerable Groups

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Agricultural diversification	The process of expanding the range of agricultural products and activities within a farming system. It involves the cultivation of a variety of different crops, livestock, or non-traditional (not commonly consumed and marketed) agricultural products in order to reduce dependency on a single crop or commodity and to promote a more resilient and sustainable agricultural system.
Agricultural mechanisation	The adoption and utilisation of various mechanical tools, equipment, and machinery to enhance and improve agricultural activities.
Agricultural transformation	The deliberate and comprehensive process of improving and modernising the country's agricultural sector. It involves transitioning from degenerative farming practices to more productive, efficient, and commercially oriented agricultural systems.
Agriculture finance	The funding of production activities for agricultural products, especially financial resources required for the production unit, either at micro or macro level.
Agriculture inputs	The essential resources and materials that are used in agricultural production to enhance productivity, improve yields, and support sustainable farming practices. They include certified and high-quality seeds, improved animal breeds, fertiliser, land, agrochemicals, extension and advisory services, farm machinery and equipment, irrigation systems, and water management.
Agri-food systems	Comprised of multiple levels of food, crop, livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture value chains, including input supply, primary production, and post-harvest handling, processing, distribution, retailing, and consumption. Includes actors involved in each level of these value chains (farmers, agribusinesses, and consumers), the activities that the actors engage in, and the larger enabling environment. The enabling environment includes the policies, standards, and investments that affect sustainable production and market access.

Agro-industrialisation	The process of transforming agricultural activities and rural economies from a system mostly oriented to primary production to one that includes different types and levels of value addition beyond primary production. This involves integration of primary production system with industrial practices and technologies and leads to the development and expansion of agro-based industries, value-added processing, and the utilisation of agricultural resources to create a more diverse, sustainable and advanced agricultural sector.
Agricultural technology adoption index	A measure of the extent or intensity of adoption of an agricultural technology as affected by various determining factors like infrastructure, access to extension services, access to finances, and farm size.
Anchor farms	Large-scale agricultural enterprises or agribusinesses in the form of big aggregate farms and/or cooperatives that best unleash the potential production and productivity of commercial smallholder farmers to generate surplus raw materials for industrialisation. These serve as focal points or “anchors” for promoting agricultural development and facilitating value chain integration.
Aquaculture	The farming of aquatic organisms including fish, molluscs, crustaceans, and aquatic plants.
Aquatic foods	Animals, plants, and microorganisms that are farmed in and harvested from water, as well as cell and plant-based foods emerging from new technologies.
Aquatic value chains	Value chains linked to animals, plants and microorganisms that are farmed in and harvested from water.
Biofortification	The process of increasing the nutritional value of crops by enhancing the levels of essential vitamins and minerals in their edible parts. It involves agronomical selection and breeding of crops to improve their nutrient composition, making them more nutrient-dense, and providing additional health benefits to those who consume them. In our case, biofortification does not include genetic modification.

Biotechnology	The application of biological systems, living organisms, or derivatives thereof, to make or modify products or processes to achieve man’s objectives. There are two main categories of biotechnology; traditional and modern. Traditional biotechnology refers to a number of ancient ways of using living organisms to make new products or modify existing ones. Examples of traditional biotechnology techniques include selective breeding, hybridisation and fermentation. On the other hand, modern biotechnology entails a number of techniques that involve the intentional manipulation of DNA, cells and living tissue in a predictable and controlled manner to generate changes in the genetic make-up of an organism or produce new tissue. Modern biotechnology techniques include recombinant DNA techniques (rDNA or genetic engineering), tissue culture and mutagenesis
Blue economy	The sustainable and equitable economic growth that is driven by oceans, seas, lakes, rivers, floodplains, and other water bodies, including underground water. It encompasses a range of productive sectors, including fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, transportation, shipbuilding, energy, bioprospecting, and underwater mining and related activities.
Capture fisheries	The harvesting of fisheries resources from natural water bodies, such as lakes and river systems, by using various fishing gear and vessels.
Cash crops	Crops that are primarily grown for commercial purposes and intended for sale in domestic and international markets.
Climate resilience	The capacity of a system to absorb stress and maintain functionality in the face of external stresses imposed upon it by climate change by adapting, reorganising, and evolving into more desirable configurations that improve the sustainability of the system, leaving it better prepared for future climate change impacts.
Climate-smart agriculture	An integrated approach to managing landscapes — cropland, livestock, forests, and fisheries — that addresses the interlinked challenges of food security and accelerating climate change, and aims to simultaneously achieve sustainable increases in agricultural productivity and income, and reducing and/or absorbing emissions.

Commercial agriculture	Market-oriented agricultural production in which more than 50% of production is marketed. Producers with a commercial orientation strategically cater for various customer demands and actively seek out profitable markets. The overarching aim of commercial agriculture is to increase farm profits per hectare
Contract farming	A binding written arrangement between a farmer and an off-taker, or a farmer, an off-taker and any third party, prior to the production of any crop, in which the off-taker agrees to purchase such crop from the farmer.
Degradation	Deterioration or decline in the quality, productivity, and sustainability of agricultural land, natural resources (soil, water, and air), and ecosystems (flora, fungi and fauna).
Dietary diversity / diversification	The consumption of a variety of foods from different food groups such as staples, legumes, nuts, fruits, vegetables, animal-source foods (meat, fish, eggs), dairy and fats and oils.
Eutrophication	The process of excessive nutrient enrichment, particularly nitrogen and phosphorus, in bodies of water, such as lakes, rivers, and ponds.
Farmer	An individual or entity involved in primary agricultural production such as crop cultivation, livestock rearing, or fish production for commercial or subsistence purposes.
Farmer organisations	Formal associations or groups of farmers who come together voluntarily to collectively represent, advocate for, and advance the interests and welfare of farmers.
Fishery	Elements of a natural aquatic resource (e.g., strains, species, populations, stocks, assemblages) which can be legally caught by fishing (including the methods used). The definition of this term sometimes also includes the habitat of such resources, as well as people involved in exploiting the resources.
Fishing gear	Any configuration of equipment/tool used to capture aquatic resources including fish, such as nets, hooks, fish traps, and spears.
Food crops	Crops that are primarily cultivated and harvested for human consumption, providing essential nutrients, calories, and sustenance to the population.

Food security	Exists when all people, at all points in times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food (and water) to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. The pillars of food security include availability, access, utilisation, and stability.
Food systems	Encompasses the whole cycle of food production and consumption activities, including agriculture input supply, agriculture production, food processing, marketing (wholesale and retail), consumption, storage, preservation, and return to agriculture input supply.
Gender	Roles, behaviours, activities, and attributes that a given society at a given time considers appropriate for men, women, girls and boys. In addition to the social attributes and opportunities associated with being male and female and the relationships between them. These attributes, opportunities and relationships are socially constructed and are learned through socialisation processes. They are context-specific or time-specific and changeable. Gender determines what is expected, allowed, and valued in a woman, a man, a boy and a girl in a given context. In most societies, there are differences and inequalities between females and males in responsibilities assigned, activities undertaken, access to and control over resources, as well as decision-making opportunities.
Gender-based violence	Is violence directed towards someone because of their gender, it is rooted in gender inequality, and it is a human rights violation. It can affect both males and females, but majority of the victims are women and girls. It can involve physical, verbal, emotional, sexual and psychological abuse, threats, coercion and deprivation.
Gender transformative approach	A program and/or intervention that creates opportunities for individuals to actively challenge gender norms, promote positions of social and political influence for women in communities, and address power inequities between persons of different genders. It creates an enabling environment for gender transformation by going beyond just including women as participants. A typical example is the Household Approach.

Greenhouse gases	Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere, such as carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gases. In agriculture, domestic livestock such as cattle, swine, sheep, and goats produce methane as part of their normal digestive process. Methane is also produced when animal manure is stored or managed.
Hazardous work	Refers to jobs or occupations that involve a high level of risks to the health and safety of workers.
High value produce	Crops, livestock, or fisheries that have a relatively high market value and can generate significant incomes and profits for farmers and agribusinesses.
Inclusivity	Ensuring that all individuals, particularly women, the youth, persons with disability and other disadvantaged people, have equal access to and benefit from the available opportunities, resources, and services.
Innovation system	The interlinked set of people, processes, assets, and social institutions that enable new ideas, products and procedures.
Integrated catchment management	A holistic and inclusive approach of integrated resource use. It considers the entire catchment area, including its land, water, and other natural resources, as interconnected components of a system.
Irrigation code of practice	A set of guidelines to help practitioners comply with recommended irrigation standards and requirements.
Land tenure security	Land tenure is the relationship between people and land, and the rules that govern how land is used, controlled, and transferred. It can be based on laws, customs, or a combination of both. Land tenure security refers to assurance that a person's land rights will be acknowledged and remain unchanged in the event of competing claims on the use of the land.
Large-scale farmers	Farmers with a total landholding of more than 50 hectares.
Livestock	Domesticated animals reared in an agricultural setting to support livelihoods and generate incomes.
Marginalised group	A segment of society that experiences systematic disadvantages, discrimination, and/or limited access to resources, opportunities, and decision-making processes.

Medium-scale farmers	Farmers with a total landholding of between 5 and 50 hectares.
Maximum economic yield	The value of the largest positive difference between total revenues and total costs of fishing (including the cost of labour and capital) with all inputs valued at their opportunity costs.
Maximum sustainable yield (in fisheries)	The highest theoretical equilibrium fishery yield that can be continuously taken (on average) from a fish stock under existing (average) environmental conditions without significantly affecting the reproduction process. Also referred to sometimes as potential yield.
Nutrition	The intake of food and water, in relation to the body's dietary needs considering state of health, age, sex, and lifestyle. It is also the science that interprets the interaction of nutrients and other substances in food in relation to the maintenance, growth, reproduction, health, and disease of an organism.
Nutrition security	Is achieved when secure access to an appropriately nutritious diet is coupled with a sanitary environment, adequate health services and care to ensure a healthy and active life for all household members.
Nutrition-smart agriculture	Nutrition-smart agriculture is a set of agricultural and agro-processing technologies and practices that contribute to the improvement of nutrition and increase of the farm and agribusiness-level productivity and revenue. Biofortification is an example of a NSA technology, while cultivation of a home garden is an example of a NSA practice – both can increase the nutrient content of food available to a household or individual.
Nutrition surveillance	Monitoring the state of health, nutrition, eating behaviour, and nutrition knowledge of the population for the purpose of planning and evaluating nutrition status, policy and programmes. Especially in low-income countries, this may include factors that may give early warning of nutritional emergencies.
Pollution	The introduction of harmful substances, contaminants, or pollutants into the environment as a result of human practices, processes or inputs through agriculture and other economic activities. Components of the environment include soil, water, air, and biodiversity.

Prioritised value chains	Specific agricultural or agribusiness value chains that are given special attention, support, and resources by governments, development agencies, or other stakeholders due to their strategic importance or potential for economic growth, job creation, poverty reduction, and/or other policymaker goals.
Produce	Farm products in their original harvested state
Production	Refers to the total quantity of agricultural goods produced within a certain district, region, or country over a specific period of time.
Productivity	Refers to the quantity of agricultural output produced per unit input such as land, labour, and capital.
Sexual abuse	The actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions. It includes sexual slavery, pornography, child abuse and sexual assault.
Sexual exploitation	The actual or attempted abuse of someone's position of vulnerability (such as a person depending on you for survival, food rations, education, transport, or other services), differential power or trust, to obtain sexual favours, including but not only, by offering money or other social, economic, or political advantages. It includes trafficking and prostitution.
Shock-sensitive social protection	Options for improved effectiveness of social protection (e.g., the Social Cash Transfer Programme) through eliminating seasonal effects on consumption (e.g., by stabilising purchasing power, or through the direct provision of food such as school feeding)
Smallholder farmers	Farmers with a total landholding of less than 5 hectares; who primarily rely on family labour for farming activities.
Small and medium enterprises	Enterprises that employ fewer than 100 people.
Social marketing	The design, implementation, and monitoring of programmes designed to influence the acceptability of social ideas and that embeds planning, pricing, communication, distribution, and marketing research considerations.
Structured markets	Organised and regulated trading platforms or systems that facilitate transparent, fair, and efficient transactions in agricultural commodities.

Stunting	Deterred growth and development measured in shortness for age, calculated by comparing the height-for-age of a child with a reference population of well-nourished and healthy children.
Subsistence agriculture	Agricultural production intended to provide enough food for the farmer and his or her household, with less than 25% marketable surplus.
Sustainable land management	The use of land to meet human needs (agriculture, forestry, conservation), while ensuring the long-term socioeconomic and ecological functions of the land
Sustainable/sustainability	The ability to meet present needs and aspirations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It involves balancing economic, social, and environmental considerations to ensure long-term well-being and the preservation of natural resources and ecosystems.
The Ministry	In this document, this refers to the Ministry of the Government of Malawi responsible for Agriculture and Irrigation. At the time of writing, this Ministry is called the Ministry of Agriculture.
Tropical livestock units	A measure used to quantify and compare livestock production and carrying capacity by converting different types of livestock into a common unit, such as one cow. In rural agrarian-based economies, livestock represent a type of sellable assets and thus serve as a way for households without access to formal financial services to store wealth. Because TLU is an indirect measure of household wealth, the level of TLUs owned by a household is often positively correlated with better food security and household resilience.
Transboundary animal diseases	Highly contagious or transmissible and epidemic diseases, with the potential to spread rapidly across the globe and the potential to cause substantial socioeconomic and public health consequences. They can threaten the global food supply, reduce the availability of non-food animal products, or cause the loss of human productivity or life.
Undernutrition	Lack of nutrients caused by inadequate dietary intake or health condition that impairs nutrient needs or utilization. It encompasses a range of conditions including acute undernutrition, chronic undernutrition, and micronutrient deficiency.

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

The National Agriculture Policy 2024 (NAP 2024) defines a vision for the development of the agricultural sector in Malawi from 2024 to 2029. By 2029, agriculture in Malawi is envisioned to be more productive, sustainable, and commercialised. Over its lifespan, NAP 2024 will guide the design of agriculture subsector policies and strategies as well as the actions of various stakeholders, including the Government of Malawi (GoM), Development Partners (DPs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Farmer Organisations (FOs), Academia and the Private Sector. The Policy will promote agricultural production and productivity based on the sustainable use of the country's natural resources, increased mechanisation, increased agro-processing and value addition, enhanced risk management, strengthened marketing systems, accelerated export growth, improved food security and nutrition, and improved inclusiveness and equitable participation of all stakeholders.

This Policy is designed to facilitate agricultural transformation through improved productivity, sustainability, and agricultural commercialisation. Agricultural transformation is a central pillar of the Malawi 2063 (MW2063) and has the potential to unlock the country's opportunities for agriculture-led sustainable industrialisation. Therefore, this Policy will facilitate the process of harnessing Malawi's export potential for agricultural products. Through the implementation of NAP 2024, the GoM intends to create a conducive environment for economic activities that sustainably increase food and nutrition security as well as sustainable growth in the agricultural sector, which translates into improved agricultural incomes and contribute to wealth creation among actors along the agriculture value chain.

Particular attention in this Policy has been placed on the participation of the youth, Women, and other Vulnerable Groups (YWVG) in agriculture. The Policy recognises that inclusivity is critical for the attainment of the objective of the MW2063 and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Both the MW2063 and the SDGs support and recognise the importance of gender equality and social inclusion for men, women, and the youth in enhancing national development. Malawi is cognisant of the adverse impacts of gender inequalities and the challenges that the youth are facing across all sectors of the economy, particularly the agricultural sector. In view of this, the MW2063, through its First 10-Year Implementation Plan (MIP-1), emphasises the need to address gender inequalities and the challenges experienced by the youth, as well as improving the socio-economic status of all people, in order to realise an inclusive wealth creation agenda. Coherent with MIP-1, therefore, the Policy includes strategies to ensure the inclusiveness of the interventions in the country's agricultural sector.

1.2 The Agricultural sector in Malawi

1.2.1 Historical Context

Since independence, Malawi's agricultural policy frameworks have focused on the dual structure of smallholder agriculture and large-scale estate farming, aiming at food self-sufficiency through smallholders and economic growth via estate farms. These frameworks have been evolving since the 1980s. Initially, they involved significant government intervention in smallholder agriculture in areas of production, extension, technology development, and marketing. Beginning in the 1980s, the government of Malawi revised and revisited its role within the sector from being both the formulator and implementer to solely being a regulator, fostering increased production and market freedom for both smallholders and estates. Consequently, many restrictions on smallholder production of commodities were lifted. In the case of burley tobacco, this led to a rapid increase in smallholder tobacco production from 3,000 tonnes in 1991/92 to 81,000 tonnes in 1997/98 by which smallholder farmers accounted for about 70% of national burley tobacco production.

Moreover, the government formulated the National Seed Policy in 1993 to raise agricultural productivity through provision of sustainable, adequate, and high-quality seeds. Additionally, an Agriculture and Livestock Development Strategy and Action Plan was developed in 1995 as a framework for coordinating the implementation of various agricultural programmes. However, its implementation registered limited success due to significant overlap with and incompatibility between the mandates of the new plan and existing policies and strategies. This prompted the development of the Malawi Agricultural Sector Investment Plan in 1999. Amidst challenges such as drought, subsequent policies were introduced to address food security, including the Food Security Policy (2006) and the National Nutrition Policy and Strategic Plan (2007).

Recognising the importance of the agricultural sector in Malawi's economic growth and its contribution to economic and human development, agriculture was identified as a priority area in the first, second and third Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS I, MGDS II and MGDS III). In order to operationalise strategies and aspirations in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy I, the Agricultural Sector Wide Approach (ASWAp) was developed to facilitate agricultural growth and poverty reduction. The ASWAp was implemented from 2010 to 2014 and included three pillars: (i) food security and risk management; (ii) agribusiness, agro-processing and market development; and (iii) sustainable land and water management.

It was later noted that the efficacy of agricultural programmes was significantly limited by sub-sectoral policies that were at times outdated and incompatible with each other. Accordingly, the Malawi Government developed the National Agriculture Policy 2016 to provide more clear and comprehensive guidance for the agricultural sector. At

national level, the Policy was aligned to the Vision 2020 and the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy II (MGDS II) which were overarching long-term and medium-term development strategies, respectively. Internationally, the Policy was aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals; the World Food Summit declaration of 1996; the African Union Maputo declaration (2003) and Malabo declaration (2014) on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa; and the COMESA and SADC treaties on agriculture policy harmonisation and sustaining socio-economic growth.

The National Agriculture Policy 2016 sought to achieve agricultural transformation through increased agriculture production, productivity, and real incomes. To operationalize the Policy, the National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP) was developed and implemented from 2018 to 2022. The NAIP was a means for harmonising agricultural sector investments to accelerate agriculture transformation through four programmes, including: (i) Policies, Institutions and Coordination for results; (ii) Resilient Livelihoods and Agriculture Systems; (iii) Production and Productivity for Growth; and (iv) Markets, Value Addition, Trade and Finance. Like the National Agriculture Policy 2016, the NAIP was aligned to the principal elements and priorities of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program (CAADP), such as the goal of allocating at least 10% of the national budget to the agricultural sector in order to achieve a minimum agricultural growth rate of 6%.

The Malawi Government continually allocated 10% of its national budget to the agricultural sector from 2006 to 2021. However, attainment of a 6% agricultural GDP growth rate had been elusive except in 2010, 2015 and 2018 due to inappropriate distribution of the 10% of the national budget to the NAIP priority areas, among other reasons. For instance, a disproportionately large share of the government's agricultural sector budget each year was being allocated to input subsidies, mostly on maize production, and this limited the amount of funds available for other NAIP priority areas.

Despite the number of years since the creation of the policies, Malawi continued to experience low agricultural production and productivity. For instance, before 2005/06, average maize yields were less than 1.3 metric tonnes and increased to just above 2.0 metric tonnes per hectare in 2016. In 2022/2023 agricultural season, average maize yield was 1.96 metric tonnes per hectare, which was far below the average potential yield of 10 metric tonnes per hectare for hybrids and 5 metric tonnes per hectare for open-pollinated varieties. The low production and productivity had been attributed to low levels of technology adoption and susceptibility of the agricultural sector to adverse weather-related shocks, among others.

For example, the Malawi Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, Chronic Food Insecurity (CFI) analysis conducted in February 2022 found that approximately 5.4 million people in Malawi faced moderate or severe chronic food insecurity at that time. The CFI analysis was based on data collected between 2011 and 2021.

1.2.2 Current Status

The agricultural sector traditionally comprises the smallholder and the estate subsectors, but there is now recognition of emerging medium-scale farming operations. The emerging medium-scale subsector engages in intensive farming, including greenhouse agriculture and specialised, commercially-oriented agriculture enterprises such as raising livestock, fish farming, horticulture, and the cultivation of legumes on rented or leased agricultural land.

The livestock subsector contributes about 7% to national GDP and 30% to agricultural GDP. More than 4.7 million farmers keep different types of livestock, and the national total tropical livestock units (TLUs) are estimated at 6.0 million with an average of 2.0 TLUs per household. The populations for different livestock species are rising at an annual average rate of 10%, with the highest being for chickens (28.5%). The private sector-driven growth observed in the poultry subsector over the past decade demonstrates the potential of the private sector to accelerate the growth of agricultural value chains. This in turn can not only increase incomes of farmers involved in the subsector, but also create jobs in poultry input services (“upstream” from the production level) such as feed, poultry breeding, and veterinary services and downstream services such as poultry assembly and transportation, processing and packaging, and distribution and retailing. Growth within the livestock subsector can thus play an important role in enhancing economic growth as well as food and nutrition security beyond that of farmers who raise animals. In recognition of livestock’s contribution to climate change through enteric methane emission, the subsector employs adaptation and mitigation measures to reduce this effect through the promotion of breeding and feeding technologies.

The fisheries and aquaculture subsector is comparatively small, contributing only 1.0% to national GDP and 4.9% to agricultural GDP. However, the share of the subsector in wage earnings is relatively higher than its contribution to GDP. For example, remuneration per employee in this subsector is among the highest across the agricultural sector. Fish also plays an important role in enhancing economic growth as well as food and nutrition security. The subsector contributes over 70% of the dietary animal protein intake of Malawians, and 40% of the total protein supply. However, the availability of the mix of species of wild caught fish from Malawi’s lakes, rivers and floodplains has dwindled over the years due to unsustainable fishing practices and natural resource degradation. This is because there has been a steady increase in the numbers of freshwater capture fishers over time, which is outstripping the growth in fish stocks. Moreover, aquaculture production has not increased in line with its potential. Overall, national fish demand is rising above national production and the country imports fish every year to cover the shortfall in local production.

The levels of irrigation and agricultural mechanisation remain worryingly low. Trends worldwide show strong correlations between economic growth and mechanisation; hence the lack of mechanisation is recognised as a major impediment to Malawi's agricultural productivity. Malawi has 407,862 hectares of potential irrigable land, according to the Irrigation Master Plan and Investment Framework 2015-2035. The actual irrigated area has been growing at a rate of around 5% per annum since 2010.

Land and water are the foundations and the basis of production and productivity for all sectors of the economy, especially agriculture. Malawi has a total area of 118,484 square kilometres (sq km), of which 94,080 sq km is land and 24,404 sq km is water. Land is a particularly major source of livelihoods for the majority of the country's population. However, this important resource is under increasing threat due to widespread land degradation and climate change.

Unsustainable farming practices, coupled with increasing demand for agricultural land due to the high rate of population growth, are some of the key drivers of land degradation. The rising population has led to land fragmentation, shrinking per capita land size, and unsustainable use of land and other natural resources such as forests and water.

Smallholder farmers cultivate 70% of the 2.5 million hectares of the country's total cultivable land, typically based on customary land tenure systems. They also mostly engage in the production of food crops, primarily for their subsistence needs. Approximately 75% of the national crop production comes from the smallholder farmers who mostly use traditional tools and techniques and have limited access to finance. Yields by smallholder farmers are only about 20% of their potential, due in large part to limited adoption of yield-enhancing technologies. The balance of agricultural activity is mostly attributable to the estate sector, which is primarily focused on the production of cash crops, notably tobacco, tea, sugarcane, and nuts.

Maize is, by far, the most dominant crop in Malawi, as it is grown by almost every farmer and accounts for about 50% of the total planted area. As the main source of food, maize has been a central focus of agricultural policies and public expenditure for decades. At the same time, over-focus on maize as the sole basis for achieving food security has contributed to limited dietary diversification at the household and national level, such that only 25% of the population is able to achieve minimum acceptable dietary diversity.

On the other hand, tobacco is the major cash and export crop, accounting for between 25 and 50% of Malawi's annual export earnings. The dominance of maize and tobacco renders the country vulnerable to the production and market risks associated with these two crops. Hence, efforts to diversify production and exports to other non-traditional crops has become a priority that is increasingly gaining prominence. For example, soya bean and macadamia nuts have recently demonstrated huge potential for contributing to the national agenda for commercialisation and export diversification.

Women represent 52% of the country's total population. They also constitute an estimated 70% of the agricultural labour force and produce 70% of household food. However, research has shown a high gender-productivity gap in favour of men, caused by the fact that women continue to own significantly less land than men, and have limited access to productivity-enhancing technologies, finance, and extension services. These gaps exist in both matrilineal and patrilineal societies. Moreover, the evidence shows that there are barriers that deter the YWVG segment of the population from accessing, owning, or controlling a proportionate share of productive assets, and from taking profound advantage of agricultural value chains.

The prevalence of chronic malnutrition (stunting) among under-five children is high at 35.5%, marginally dropping from 37% in 2017. Moreover, the prevalence of underweight and wasting are estimated at 12% and 3%, respectively, while micronutrient deficiencies (anaemia) affect about 63% of babies aged between 6 and 23-months. Many adults are also micronutrient deficient, with 60% of the population being deficient in Zinc, for instance. Obesity is on the rise in all ages and across the different demographic groups.

In addition to the problem of a high population growth rate - which exerts enormous pressure on land and other natural resources - Malawi faces other challenges that affect the agricultural sector. These include low participation by the private sector in potential activities both upstream and downstream from farmers (i.e. provision of inputs and purchase and processing of farm outputs, respectively); public sector resource limitations; input and output market risks, including price volatility; trade restrictions such as sanitary and phytosanitary measures; climate change shocks like droughts, dry spells, floods and cyclones; pests and associate emerging diseases; and institutional risks, for example, policy and capacity changes, and government interventions such as export bans.

1.3 Linkages with Other Relevant Policies and Legislations

The NAP 2024 is linked with other existing key policies and legislations at national and international level.

1.3.1 National Level Policies and Strategies

i. The Malawi 2063 and its First 10-Year Implementation Plan (MIP-1)

The NAP 2024 is linked to the Malawi 2063 (MW2063) and its First 10-Year Implementation Plan which identify agriculture productivity and commercialisation as one of the pillars to achieve an inclusively wealthy and self-reliant nation. In the MW2063, agriculture is expected to produce and supply raw materials for industrial processing and healthy as well as nutritious foods. Furthermore, in the Malawi 2063 it is envisaged that growth of the agricultural sector, more specifically, agro-based industries will be associated with creation of jobs. This Policy therefore outlines strategies that would address constraints to agricultural growth and thereby contributing to achieving the aspirations of the MW2063.

ii. The National Irrigation Policy (NIP)

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the National Irrigation Policy in that it promotes irrigation development in the sector. Specifically, it promotes investments in irrigation development, adoption of irrigation technologies and best practices and building the capacity of farmer organisations for productive irrigation agriculture which contributes to the goal of the National Irrigation Policy.

iii. The Malawi Decentralisation Policy

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the Malawi Decentralisation Policy in that it recognises the need for decentralised structures in decision-making to ensure effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural programmes and projects, and to enhance ownership and responsible stewardship. Furthermore, the NAP 2024 is grounded on accountability and good governance for the effectiveness and efficiency of the sector's operations.

iv. The National Multi-Sector Nutrition Policy (NMSNP)

The NAP 2024 focuses on promoting sustainable and diversified agricultural production, improving productivity, and enhancing food security. By increasing the availability and accessibility of nutritious foods through agricultural interventions, and providing nutrition education as part of extension services, it contributes to the goals of the NMSNP, which aims to address malnutrition and improve the nutritional status of the population.

v. The National Gender Policy (NGP)

The NAP 2024 aligns with the objectives of the National Gender Policy, which promotes gender equality, women's rights, and women's empowerment across all sectors, including agriculture.

vi. The National Youth Policy (NYP)

The NAP 2024 aligns with the objective of the National Youth Policy by focusing on creating an enabling environment for the youth to participate in various sectors, including agriculture. It emphasises the importance of providing training, access to resources, and mentorship programmes to support youth involvement in agricultural activities.

vii. The National Land Policy (NLP)

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the National Land Policy in that it emphasizes the importance of equitable access to land and securing tenure rights for farmers. Particularly, the NAP 2024 recognizes that secure land tenure rights encourage investment in agriculture, enhance productivity, and promote sustainable land use.

viii. The National Environmental Policy (NEP)

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the National Environmental Policy by promoting climate-smart agriculture, conservation agriculture, and sustainable land and water management. The NAP 2024 further recognizes the importance of environmental sustainability, and advocates for practices that promote soil health, in addition to protecting water resources and ecosystems.

ix. The National Water Resources Policy (NWRP)

The NAP 2024 recognises the importance of water for agricultural production and promotes sustainable water management practices. It emphasises the need to enhance irrigation systems, promote efficient water use in agriculture, and develop water storage infrastructure. This aligns with the National Water Resources Policy.

x. The National Climate Change Management Policy (NCCMP)

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the National Climate Change Management Policy in that it promotes sustainable land management, conservation agriculture, and the use of climate-resilient crop varieties. In addition, the NAP 2024 recognises the importance of building resilience in the agricultural sector.

xi. The National Export Strategy II (NES II)

The NAP 2024 and the National Export Strategy II are closely linked as they both aim to promote and enhance the agricultural sector's contribution to the country's export earnings and overall economic development.

1.3.2 Legal Instruments

i. The Constitution

The Constitution of Malawi under section 13, sub-sections a, b, d, e and g promotes gender equality, adequate nutrition for all, sustainable environmental management, quality life in rural communities and support to persons with disability, respectively. The NAP 2024 aligns to the Constitution as it has strategies that would promote nutrition, gender mainstreaming thereby addressing issues of gender inequality, sustainable land and water management and other natural resources, and inclusion of vulnerable persons including women, youth and persons with disability in agricultural interventions.

ii. The Land Act (CAP 57:01)

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the Land Act in that it emphasises on the importance of sustainable land management practices and promotes integrated land use planning that optimises agricultural production while minimising environmental degradation.

iii. The Customary Land Act (CAP 59:01)

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the Customary Land Act as it emphasises the importance of sustainable land management practices and promotes integrated land use planning that optimises agricultural production while minimising environmental degradation.

iv. The Physical Planning Act (CAP 23:01)

The NAP 2024 aligns to the Physical Planning Act as it promotes integrated land use planning that optimises agricultural production while minimising environmental degradation.

v. The Land Survey Act (CAP 57:03)

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the Land Survey Act as it will facilitate agro-ecological mapping and characterisation of attributes to inform area-specific interventions. Furthermore, the Policy promotes integrated land use planning that optimises agricultural production while minimising environmental degradation.

vi. The Environment Management Act (CAP 60:02)

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the Environment Management Act as it recognises the importance of environmental sustainability, and advocates for practices that promote soil health, in addition to protecting water resources and ecosystem.

vii. The Water Resources Act (CAP 72:05)

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the Water Resources Act as it promotes adoption of sustainable irrigation technologies that enhance, among others, water use efficiency. Furthermore, the Policy promotes establishment of Water User Associations (WUAs) and irrigation organisation to manage water users' rights.

viii. The Local Government Act (CAP 22:01)

The NAP 2024 aligns to the Local Government Act as it supports the creation of local institutions for decentralised land administration, equitable access to and control over land and water for agriculture, including irrigation as well as registration of agricultural land.

1.3.3 International Agreements and Protocols

At international level, the Policy is aligned to global, continental, regional and broader national development instruments and goals. The following are the international agreements and protocols to which the NAP 2024 is aligned:

i. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Implementation of the NAP 2024 will directly contribute to attainment of SDG number 1, no poverty; SDG number 2, zero hunger; SDG number 5, gender equality; and SDG number 13, climate action.

ii. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the UNFCCC in that it emphasises the importance of crop diversification to enhance resilience to climate change and other associated risks.

iii. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the UNCCD in that it promotes drought-tolerant crop varieties and livestock breeds to mitigate the negative effects of drought.

iv. The Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP)-Malabo Declaration

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the CAADP-Malabo declaration in that it emphasises on achieving agricultural transformation through improved productivity, sustainability, and agricultural commercialisation.

v. Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) of the Southern African Development Community (SADC)

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the SADC RISDP as it emphasises on achieving an inclusive agricultural transformation through improved productivity, sustainability, and agricultural commercialisation.

vi. The SADC Regional Agricultural Policy

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the SADC Regional Agriculture Policy in that it seeks to promote agriculture growth that will lead to economic development.

vii. The SADC Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security

The NAP 2024 aligns with the Declaration in that it emphasises on promoting agriculture productivity and commercialisation which will among others lead to improved access to food by Malawians.

viii. The SADC Protocol on Fisheries

The NAP 2024 is aligned to the SADC Protocol on Fisheries in that it promotes agri-food systems transformation that integrates aquatic foods and promotes sustainable fisheries management.

1.4 Problem Statement

Even though the NAP 2016 was adopted, the agricultural sector's performance was variable. The average agricultural GDP growth rate for the period was 3% per annum, which is half of the targeted growth rate of at least 6% per annum for agricultural transformation.

Furthermore, the share of agricultural sector GDP in total GDP has fallen in recent years, but this has not been caused by improvements in the growth rates of industrial sector GDP or services sector GDP over time. Rather, the reduction in the share of agriculture to the overall GDP is because the agricultural sector GDP growth rate has fallen in recent years. This is due to low agricultural production and productivity as evidenced by low farm yields for crops and animals compared to potential yields because of the limited adoption of modern and sustainable farming technologies; over-dependence on rain-fed agriculture, which is highly vulnerable to climate change shocks; degradation of natural resources; declining soil health; as well as inadequate agricultural extension, research, and innovation.

Moreover, farmers are poorly connected to existing markets. This negatively affects the expected profitability of agricultural enterprises, which in turn reduces farmers' incentives to adopt new technologies or participate in higher-value crop or livestock value chains. Low levels of value addition to agricultural output also mean that household and national incomes associated with agricultural activities are generally much lower than their potential.

To address the root causes of low farm productivity and poor market access, a number of agricultural programmes and interventions are being implemented in the sector. These include agricultural research programmes to develop improved agricultural technologies; irrigation programmes aimed at promoting irrigation; provision of agricultural extension services to farmers; aquaculture development programmes; and agricultural marketing interventions aimed at improving farmers' access to markets. However, these need to be coordinated and implemented within the framework of the Malawi 2063 and its First 10-Year Implementation Plan (MIP-1) with comprehensive policy guidance in the agricultural sector whilst taking into account emerging issues.

1.5 Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of the Policy is to provide comprehensive and clear guidance on the implementation of agricultural sector interventions and programmes. This will assist in unlocking the sector's transformative potential building on lessons learnt through implementation of the NAP 2016 whilst aligning with the MW2063 and its First 10-Year Implementation Plan.

The NAP 2016 was the first-ever overarching Policy for the agricultural sector in Malawi. In the years since its adoption, a number of new issues have emerged in the agricultural sector that were not envisioned in the NAP 2016, in particular the increasing frequency and magnitude of climate change impacts as well as an increase in frequency of international market shocks. In addition, the Malawi Government replaced the Vision 2020 with the MW2063 and the third Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III) with MIP-1. Even though there was a change in the country's development vision, the NAP 2016 was still aligned to the Vision 2020 which implies that the NAP 2016 is weakly aligned to the aspirations of the MW2063. Also, in the course of implementing the NAP 2016, a number of lessons on best practices have been learnt which need to be scaled up to address the emerging issues in the agricultural sector.

CHAPTER 2 BROAD POLICY DIRECTIONS

2.1 Policy Goal

The goal of the NAP 2024 is to achieve sustainable food and nutrition security, increased incomes and wealth, and trade competitiveness in an inclusive manner in contribution to social economic development of the country.

2.2 Policy Outcomes

The NAP 2024 has the following five policy outcomes:

- i. Increased national agricultural productivity, production, and diversification;
- ii. Increased national food and nutrition security;
- iii. Increased agro-processing, value addition, access to structured markets and agricultural exports;
- iv. Reduced land degradation, soil fertility decline, and adverse effects of climate change among all categories of farmers, including the Youth, Women, and Vulnerable Groups (YWVG); and
- v. A strengthened institutional, policy and regulatory frameworks for the development of an efficient, effective, and inclusive agricultural sector.

2.3 Policy Objectives

The following are objectives of the Policy:

- i. To increase the aggregate annual output growth of crops, livestock and fish to 15%, 20% and 15%, respectively, by 2029;
- ii. To increase the area under sustainable irrigated crop production by 6% annually by 2029;
- iii. To reduce the percentages of food and nutrition insecure people by 50% by 2029;
- iv. To increase the aggregate annual percentage growth of agricultural value added and the value of agricultural exports by 20% and 50%, respectively, by 2029;
- v. To increase the land under sustainable land and water management, including climate-smart agricultural practices, to at least 30% by 2029. ; and
- vi. To strengthen institutional capacity and improve coordination for efficient, effective, and inclusive service delivery in the agricultural sector, in line with the MW2063 coordination architecture.

2.4 Guiding Principles

The following are the core principles anchoring the formulation and implementation:

i. Long-term national development planning

The Policy is the primary implementation tool for Pillar 1 of the MW2063 and MIP-1, in terms of stimulating agriculture-led sustainable industrialisation and commercialisation.

ii. Synergy and alignment

The Policy is aligned with international, continental, regional and national policy frameworks, and strategies. It is the key implementation tool for Pillar 1 of MW2063 and MIP-1, and the main domestication vehicle for various agricultural sector commitments ratified by the country, notably the CAADP process and the Malabo Declaration.

iii. Responsible use and stewardship of natural resources for sustainable agricultural development and environmental management

The Policy is founded on the endowment of the country's natural capital (land, water, and other natural resources) with the realisation that these are the bedrock for sustainable agricultural production. In this regard, the Policy promotes resilience to climatic and other shocks at the national, sectoral, and household levels.

iv. Strategic prioritisation and sequencing

The Policy prioritizes a set of areas for intervention based on needs and importance, while ordering the interventions in a manner that enhances their synergies and complementarities. Given the enormous gaps that exist in the sector, the formulation of the Policy is guided by the inevitable need for a sequential, logical, and strategic prioritization of the interventions within the implementation period. As a result, the number of policy priority areas is less than those in the previous NAP 2016.

v. Strategically encompassing

Without unduly compromising the prioritisation principle cited above, ensures that all critical agricultural production and productivity subsectors are given due attention. In this regard, the Policy recognizes that, within each intervention area, a comprehensive approach to enhancing agricultural productivity and production will be more effective than a partial attempt towards addressing the impediments.

vi. Nutrition-sensitive

The Policy promotes not only the quantity of agricultural products - which is critical for achieving food security - but also the quality and nutritional value of such products, in order to enhance the health and human capital contribution of the agricultural sector.

vii. Efficiency and competitiveness

The Policy gives prominence to agricultural markets development, agricultural mechanisation, agro-processing, and value addition, in keeping with the overall national objective of approaching agriculture as a business and a key catalyst for the country's industrialization process.

viii. Effective implementation

The Policy provides a strong institutional development and coordination framework for effective policy implementation and evaluation. It promotes the needs for prioritised resource allocation and enhanced stakeholder collaboration, in line with the aspirations of the MW2063 and MIP-1.

ix. Inclusivity

In keeping with the SDGs' spirit of "leaving no one behind", the Policy encourages the provision of equitable access to opportunities and resources to all those involved in agricultural and related activities, including those who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized, notably those in the YWVG segment of the population. It recognizes that, unless all relevant stakeholders are included in the Policy, the goal, objectives and ultimate benefits emanating from the implementation of the Policy may not be equitable.

x. Food systems approach

This Policy is anchored on the food systems approach, a holistic and integrated approach to understanding and addressing the various dimensions of food production, processing, distribution, consumption, and management of by-products so that they are not wasted. It recognises that agriculture is not just about producing food but involves interconnected systems and actors that influence the entire food chain. This approach helps to identify and address bottlenecks, trade-offs, and synergies across the various components of the system, leading to more integrated, sustainable, and resilient agricultural systems that promote food security, nutrition, and overall well-being.

CHAPTER 3 POLICY PRIORITY AREAS

3.1 Policy Priority Areas

The Policy has the following six priority areas:

1. Agricultural Production and Productivity
2. Food and Nutrition Security
3. Agricultural Commercialisation, Agro-Processing and Value Addition
4. Sustainable Management of Land, Water, and other Natural Resources
5. Agricultural Research and Innovation
6. Institutional Development, Coordination, Capacity Strengthening and Risk Management

3.2 Policy Priority Area 1: Agricultural Production and Productivity

Agricultural production refers to the total quantity of agricultural goods produced within a certain district, region or country over a specific period of time. On the other hand, agriculture productivity refers to the quantity of agricultural output produced per unit input such as land, labour or capital. The Agricultural Production and Productivity priority area sets out strategies across the crops, livestock, fisheries subsectors together with irrigation and mechanisation strategies, in order to increase overall agricultural production and productivity.

Agricultural production and productivity in Malawi have not sufficiently increased to match growing domestic demand and export opportunities. Over the years, Malawi has allocated considerable resources to increase the production and productivity of crops, livestock, and fisheries, but success in this regard has been very limited. Underlying the low productivity is low adoption of agricultural technologies; low access to farm inputs; low mechanisation; low technical labour skills; and limited use of irrigation systems, especially among smallholder farmers. Additionally, with emerging issues like climate trends, research and innovation remain limited across the different subsectors.

I. Crop Production and Productivity

Crop production dominates the agricultural sector's output, followed by forestry. Crops contribute immensely to food and nutrition security among most Malawians. In addition, the country's major export earnings are derived mainly from crops, notably tobacco, tea, coffee, macadamia nuts, and legumes (such as soya beans, groundnuts and pigeon peas). Current efforts targeting diversification for commercialisation have mainly focused on crops like bananas, chillies, industrial cannabis, and sugarcane. Despite the important role of crops to the livelihoods and the economy of Malawi, the area planted and yields of most crops have remained stagnant or declined over the last ten years, according to Agricultural Production Estimates Survey (APES) data. Progress towards crop diversification has also been dismal.

The low crop productivity and slow progress towards crop diversification is attributed to various challenges. Major challenges include the negative effects of climate change; declining soil health; decreasing plant and soil micronutrients; increased incidences of pests and diseases; and low access to recommended inputs and technologies due to high levels of poverty and poor extension services. Low and unpredictable output prices for most crops have also led to low agricultural incomes among farmers of all levels.

3.2.1. Policy Statement 1

The Policy will ensure that timely access to improved and affordable crop production inputs is promoted

Strategies

- a. Facilitate improvement of supply chain logistics to reduce the cost of farm inputs;
- b. Facilitate access to affordable finance for crop production inputs among all farmers;
- c. Target productive farmer organisations, including anchor farms and mega farms, with crop production input support programmes;
- d. Promote research on low-cost crop production technologies;
- e. Promote increased availability of affordable seeds and planting materials for nutrition-smart agriculture.

3.2.2 Policy Statement 2

The Policy will ensure that resilience of farmers to climate change shocks and declining soil health is strengthened

Strategies

- a. Promote sustainable intensification of crop production systems based on locally available materials, including the use of indigenous crops, community seed banks, indigenous methods of managing pests and diseases, and organic and bio-fertilisers;
- b. Promote the use of integrated crop management practices such as Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM), to reduce reliance on chemical solutions;
- c. Support recycling of by-products for use as manure, fertilisers, and soil conditioners; and
- d. Mainstream YWVG-related issues in crop production resilience strategies.

3.2.3 Policy Statement 3

The Policy will ensure that innovation processes in the development and dissemination of crop production technologies are strengthened

Strategies

- a. Promote the process of engagement and innovation in crop research and extension;
- b. Support the development of demand-driven crop production technologies, through time-sensitive research;
- c. Facilitate dissemination and adoption of crop production technologies suitable for specific agro-ecologies among frontline extension workers, other service providers, and all farmers in general;
- d. Promote mobile plant clinics and soil testing technologies; and
- e. Promote access to low-cost nutrition-smart agriculture technologies.

3.2.4 Policy Statement 4

The Policy will ensure that quality standards for crop production inputs are regulated and enforced

Strategies

- a. Facilitate the review of existing standards for seeds, fertilisers, and other inputs;
- b. Facilitate the development of standards for community seed production, biotechnological seeds, organic and bio-fertilisers; and
- c. Foster collaboration with enforcement agencies for compliance with quality standards for all types of crop production inputs by enterprises.

II. Livestock Production and Productivity

Livestock is an important component for building resilient agri-food systems and improving the livelihoods of farmers in the current changing environment.

Nevertheless, a number of challenges limit the potential of the subsector to contribute to the economical, nutritional and export needs of the country. These challenges include: low adoption of sustainable livestock technologies; poor access to inputs and financial services by farmers; lack of women empowerment to control the resources and income generated from livestock; conflicting protocols in the utilization of crop residues between soil conservation and animal feed; shortage of breeding stock; low generation of livestock technologies and innovations from research institutions; shortage of veterinary officers and absence of livestock production frontline staff; the re-emergence of livestock parasites and diseases; limited funding; and limited awareness on child labour and child rights in livestock production.

3.2.5 Policy Statement 1

The Policy will ensure that production of breeding stock and its availability to farmers is enhanced

Strategies

- a. Promote the establishment of local breeding centres by public and private subsector actors;
- b. Promote the use of relevant biotechnologies in animal breeding and reproduction;
- c. Strengthen sustainable animal genetic resource conservation;
- d. Prioritise dairy cattle, beef cattle, chicken, pig, goat, and bee-keeping value chains in livestock programmes;
- e. Strengthen the development, adoption, and innovative dissemination of livestock production technologies for conventional and non-conventional livestock species; and
- f. Promote sustainable commercial beekeeping.

3.2.6 Policy Statement 2

The Policy will ensure that productivity of high-value livestock species is promoted

Strategies

- a. Capacitate livestock production and veterinary frontline staff to support farmers effectively and efficiently;
- b. Promote the production and utilisation of improved pasture and fodder tree species;
- c. Monitor the productivity of dairy cattle, beef cattle, chicken, pig, goat, sheep, and bee population;
- d. Implement gender mainstreamed stand-alone livestock national flagship programmes;
- e. Promote child rights and child protection in livestock production;

- f. Promote equitable access to finance for livestock production; and
- g. Enhance women’s control over livestock productive resources.

3.2.7 Policy Statement 3

The Policy will ensure that animal disease control and management, as well as animal welfare are strengthened

Strategies

- a. Invest in and maintain infrastructure and equipment for animal parasite and disease management, including dip tanks;
- b. Strengthen livestock disease surveillance systems for monitoring and reporting disease outbreaks, zoonotic diseases, trans-boundary animal diseases (TADs), and feed safety;
- c. Establish a livestock risk and disaster management fund; and
- d. Promote animal welfare and provision of livestock insurance services by public and private subsector actors.

III. Fisheries and Aquaculture Production and Productivity

The fisheries and aquaculture subsector makes vital contributions to employment, food and nutrition security, national income, and exports.

However, the subsector’s contributions are at risk as fishery exploitation has gone beyond its biologically sustainable limits. Subsequently, the wealth-creating potential of fisheries is being lost due to weak governance arrangements in the subsector; and aquaculture production is not rising fast enough in tandem with its technical and economic potential. The fishing industry is also challenged by discrimination, restrictions and social exclusion of YMVG that prevent them from engaging in fisheries and aquaculture value chains.

3.2.8 Policy Statement 1

The Policy will ensure that sustainable fisheries management is promoted

Strategies

- a. Regulate fishing efforts to ensure long-term sustainability;
- b. Rebuild over-fished stocks to maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) and Maximum Economic Yield (MEY) levels;
- c. Increase the participation and engagement of the YWVG in fishing and fish farming to curb social exclusion and discrimination;
- d. Enhance resilience to aquatic animal diseases and parasites;
- e. Strengthen the role of small-scale fisheries in fish stock management; and
- f. Enhance innovation processes in the development and dissemination of sustainable fisheries management technologies and approaches.

3.2.9 Policy Statement 2

The Policy will ensure that aquaculture production and productivity are increased

Strategies

- a. Build the capacity of fish farmers and fish producer organisations to increase production and productivity;
- b. Promote demonstrable farm business cases for increased fish farm productivity;
- c. Identify and prepare zoning plans for suitable water (cages) and land sites (ponds) for aquaculture;
- d. Promote the establishment of sustainable mega aqua-farms and/or cooperatives; and
- e. Promote small-scale aquaculture clusters, including those linked to sustainable mega aqua-farms and/or cooperatives.

3.2.10 Policy Statement 3

The Policy will ensure that increased investments in the fisheries and aquaculture subsector are facilitated

Strategies

- a. Create fish-centric finance ecosystem;
- b. Facilitate the creation of conducive fiscal and monetary incentives for private sector investments in the fisheries and aquaculture subsector;
- c. Promote integration of fisheries and aquaculture in national flagship programmes and projects;
- d. Promote access to investment finance for women and the youth in fisheries and aquaculture; and
- e. Promote access to land among the YWVG for fish farming.

3.2.11 Policy Statement 4

The Policy will ensure that gender vulnerability factors affecting fish dependent-communities are reduced.

Strategies

- a. Raise awareness on the prevention of and response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) as well as transactional Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA);
- b. Develop a code of conduct for the prevention of and response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) for fishers and intermediaries;
- c. Integrate fishing communities, especially the YWVG, in social protection programmes; and
- d. Implement strategies to curb child labour in fishing communities in line with ILO guidelines.

IV. Irrigation Development

Irrigation provides a critical technical means for increasing agricultural productivity and production. Significant and responsible public and private investments in irrigation are vital for delivering on the goals and aspirations of the MW2063 and MIP-1.

However, irrigation development faces multiple challenges, including water scarcity, infrastructure degradation, low investment, and the impact of climate change. Irrigation development is also unavoidably capital-intensive and has to compete with many other investment needs for the limited funding available. Farmers generally have limited capacity to invest their own capital, or to borrow money for investment. The most challenged are the YWVG, because they are generally more capital-constrained and collateral-constrained than other demographic groups.

The performance of existing irrigation schemes also faces a number of constraints. For example, a large number of small irrigation schemes are difficult to service, maintain and support. Cost recovery to fund operations and maintenance tends to be weak, resulting in declining system functionality over time. Although farmers are required to pay for water usage, they tend to grow low-value staple food crops which limit their ability to pay. High erosion rates in catchment areas due to inappropriate agricultural practices have affected dams and weirs, resulting in high siltation.

3.2.12 Policy Statement 1

The Policy will ensure that investment in irrigation development is increased

Strategies

- a. Establish and operationalise the Irrigation Development Fund;
- b. Promote research and development for improving returns from irrigation;
- c. Promote Public-Private Partnership (PPP) arrangements in irrigation development; and
- d. Incentivise private sector investment in irrigation.

3.2.13 Policy Statement 2

The Policy will ensure that the adoption of irrigation technologies and best practices is promoted

Strategies

- a. Support the innovative generation, adoption and dissemination of irrigation technologies and best practices;
- b. Monitor the utilisation of irrigation technologies and best practices;
- c. Promote solar and wind-powered irrigation technologies;
- d. Promote integrated crop-livestock-aquaculture irrigation systems;
- e. Promote investment in digital infrastructure and technologies for efficient; water use; and
- f. Enhance access to affordable finance by farmers for irrigation equipment.

3.2.14 Policy Statement 3

The Policy will ensure that capacity of farmer organisations for productive irrigated agriculture is developed

Strategies

- a. Establish Water User Associations (WUAs) and irrigation organisations;
- b. Build the technical and administrative capacity of farmer organisations for the effective management of irrigation schemes; and
- c. Monitor the performance of irrigation schemes using relevant instruments.

V Agricultural Mechanisation for Development

Trends in mechanisation worldwide show strong correlations between economic growth and mechanisation. Countries that have achieved unprecedented economic growth over the past four decades and succeeded in solving their food security problems have also moved to higher levels of mechanising their agriculture. Mechanisation has the potential to increase the area under cultivation and reduce drudgery along the value chains, thereby freeing labour to other aspects of farming which, in turn, can enhance productivity and production. In the context of the current drive towards agricultural commercialisation and the promotion of mega farms and anchor farms, mechanisation has a critical role to play while carefully balancing the impact of fossil fuels on the environment, climate, and the economy.

However, the uptake of mechanisation by smallholder farmers is hampered by their lack of resources, the high cost of importation of machinery, and generally low returns on investment. In addition, because smallholder parcel sizes continue to decrease due to increasing rural population density and fragmentation of farms due to repeated intergenerational transfers, many smallholder farmers hold land parcels that are too small for some machinery to be technically and economically put to use. While the Government has put in place fiscal incentives for machinery importation, smallholder farmers face challenges to access capital for the acquisition of such machinery. Nevertheless, the fiscal incentives have the potential to spur agricultural commercialisation involving substantial initial capital expenditures and large land holdings.

3.2.15 Policy Statement 1

The Policy will ensure that agricultural mechanisation is promoted

Strategies

- a. Establish mechanisation data management through existing structures;
- b. Establish and operationalise an Agricultural Mechanisation Fund;
- c. Increase access to finance by farmers and producer organisations for agricultural mechanisation;
- d. Incentivise agricultural machinery and equipment hire services to make them affordable to farmers and producer organisations;
- e. Promote innovation processes in local manufacturing and dissemination of agricultural machinery, equipment, and spare parts;
- f. Develop a national agricultural mechanisation strategy to spearhead the agricultural mechanisation drive, including land consolidation where possible; and
- g. Enhance gender mainstreaming in agricultural mechanisation;

3.3 Policy Priority Area 2: Food and Nutrition Security

Food Security refers to a situation where all people, at all times have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious foods that meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. Nutrition security on the other hand refers to the condition in which all individuals have access to adequate nutrition to meet their dietary needs for a healthy and active life. Thus, nutrition security encompasses not only the availability of food but also the quality, diversity, and utilisation of nutrients necessary for optimal health and well-being. The Food and Nutrition Security policy priority area seeks to promote nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-smart agriculture as well as ensuring that the food produced or provided should be wholesome and safe for human consumption.

In addition, this Policy Priority Area addresses issues pertaining to consumption of a balanced diet from diverse foods and food groups. It also seeks to address issues surrounding gender-responsive nutrition so that interventions and policies are sensitive to the particular needs of nutritionally vulnerable groups such as young children, the elderly, pregnant and lactating women, persons with disabilities, adolescent girls, and the chronically ill.

Previously, Policy emphasis on agriculture was on increasing the production of food without much consideration for the importance of nutritional characteristics of different types of food, the methods and means of producing, processing, handling, and utilising them, as well as the hygiene and safety of the foods and food groups. The country's agricultural policies have also hitherto mostly focussed on promoting the production of staple foods, notably maize.

This approach has not produced desired nutrition results because, despite increasing maize production, the prevalence of undernutrition is still high for people as well as for our soils and the biodiversity needed for a healthy environment. Moreover, a healthy diet – and thus a nutrition-sensitive agri-food system – requires more than an adequate supply of staples, because these alone cannot meet human requirements for macronutrients (calories, protein, fat), micronutrients (vitamins and minerals), and fibre.

3.3.1 Policy Statement 1

The Policy will ensure that food and nutrition education is enhanced

Strategies

- a. Promote nutrition education in food processing and preparation guided by the six food groups;
- b. Increase knowledge and skills of mothers and caregivers through nutrition education on appropriate food preparation and recommended child feeding practices;
- c. Improve dissemination of extension and behavioural change communication messages on food and nutrition security;

- d. Promote the model village approach in implementing food and nutrition interventions;
- e. Promote gender responsive food processing and preparation; and
- f. Improve accessibility, processing and preparation of nutritious crop, animal and fish-based foods.

3.3.2 Policy Statement 2

The Policy will ensure that production and consumption of diversified and nutritious foods is promoted

Strategies

- a. Improve, publicise and disseminate recipes on nutritious diets using diverse locally available foods through different media;
- b. Increase access to nutritious food for pregnant women and lactating mothers through innovative food security interventions;
- c. Promote the production, utilisation, and consumption of indigenous and wild foods;
- d. Promote public awareness and knowledge transfer of nutrition-smart agricultural foods;
- e. Diversify grain-dominated production and diets with legumes and nuts, foods from animals, fruits, vegetables, fish, and fishery products;
- f. Promote the integration of nutritious and balanced diets in social protection programmes to cater for the most vulnerable and food insecure households;
- g. Support integration of nutrition-smart agriculture in safety net programmes; and
- h. Scale up Integrated Homestead Farming (IHF) in homes, health centres, schools, and agricultural offices.

3.3.3 Policy Statement 3

The Policy will ensure that nutrition-sensitive agricultural interventions are promoted

Strategies

- a. Intensify and support Home-Grown School Meals (HGSM) programmes in primary schools;
- b. Scale-up the integration of nutrition-smart agriculture crops into agricultural programmes and subsidies;
- c. Promote the integration of fish and livestock into local diets; and
- d. Promote nutrition-sensitive research in the generation of agricultural technologies.

3.3.4 Policy Statement 4

The Policy will ensure that post-harvest management of diversified foods and food products is improved

Strategies

- a. Increase access to climate friendly energy-saving and time-saving technologies in food storage, preservation, and processing;
- b. Promote the use of efficient, environmentally friendly, and affordable food storage and processing technologies at all levels;
- c. Reduce post-harvest food loss through use of efficient technologies on perishable and non-perishable foods; and
- d. Build the capacity of producers of perishable and non-perishable foods and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in post-harvest management.

3.3.5 Policy Statement 5

The Policy will ensure that a food and nutrition surveillance system is strengthened

Strategies

- a. Promote continuous data collection and management on food and nutrition; and
- b. Develop national food control systems to ensure internationally acceptable food safety for both domestic and export markets.

3.4 Policy Priority Area 3: Agricultural Commercialisation, Agro-Processing and Value Addition

Agriculture commercialisation refers to the process of transforming traditional, subsistence-oriented agricultural practices into more market-oriented, profit-driven activities whilst agro-processing refers to the transformation of raw agricultural materials or commodities into value added products through various processing and manufacturing techniques. Value addition refers to the process of enhancing the value of a product or service through various means like improving quality and adding features to make it more desirable to consumers and commanding a higher price in the market. This Policy Priority Area seeks to promote commercialisation, processing, and value addition of agricultural products.

Agricultural commercialisation has potential to boost farmers' incomes and spur economic growth in Malawi. However, this requires developing local, regional and international niche markets and transforming raw agricultural products into high-value products through strategic investments in agro-processing and value addition technologies, among others. By tapping into innovations and technologies, investments in agro-processing should have significant multiplier effects due to their forward and backward linkages in the productive chains, manufacturing, and service sectors of the economy.

I. Agriculture Commercialisation

Agricultural commercialisation is an important pillar in the MW2063. It is aimed at increasing the demand for and production of farm produce in order to accelerate economic growth. As a result, it has been dubbed “the most powerful multiplier of agricultural development”, because it enhances agricultural commodity value chains. Agricultural marketing systems in Malawi are still rudimentary, with over 70% of smallholder farmers relying on itinerant traders as the major buyers of their products. In most rural areas, commodity markets are either missing or under-developed. This is partly due to inadequate infrastructure for efficient agricultural marketing; limited access to and poor quality of marketing services; poor road infrastructure; and policy incoherencies that negatively affect the marketing of agricultural commodities. The low investment in public market infrastructure, especially in rural areas where the Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation (ADMARC) and private sector firms are no longer operating fully, has resulted in the loss of incomes and livelihood sources for farmers.

The successful implementation of the agricultural commercialisation drive in Malawi, therefore, requires a favourable enabling policy environment that facilitates vibrant and inclusive agricultural marketing and efficient production systems, thereby creating opportunities for agricultural processing and value addition.

3.4.1 Policy Statement 1

The Policy will ensure that access to lucrative and structured markets for all prioritised agricultural commodities is promoted

Strategies

- a. Facilitate the creation of new structured markets for all prioritised agricultural commodities;
- b. Increase the number and volume of commodities traded on structured/formal market platforms;
- c. Restructure ADMARC to improve the performance of its commercial activities; and
- d. Promote contract farming, out-grower schemes, and other appropriate market-driven farming models.

3.4.2 Policy Statement 2

The Policy will ensure that access to market information for farmers, fish producers and agribusiness MSMEs is promoted

Strategies

- a. Promote the collaborative collection, processing, and dissemination of agricultural market data using a wide variety of media;
- b. Promote the generation and use of reliable, accessible, up-to-date, and timely market information;
- c. Strengthen and harmonize agricultural market information systems;
- d. Build capacity among commodity value chain players including smallholder farmers, the YWVG and agricultural extension staff on the use of market information ;and
- e. Promote the establishment of functional business forums, linkages, and market information centres.

3.4.3 Policy Statement 3

The Policy will ensure that agricultural market infrastructure; including energy and transport are developed

Strategies

- a. Increase the share of the agricultural budget that goes to market development, agro-processing, and value addition;
- b. Promote the blue economy approach to unlock the potential of integrating fisheries and aquaculture in the wider agriculture-led socio-economic transformation and growth;
- c. Establish fully functional public and private warehouses across the country;
- d. Facilitate rural roads and electrification programmes to support agricultural commercialisation; and
- e. Improve hygiene conditions and phytosanitary facilities in all aggregation centres for all prioritised agricultural commodities.

3.4.4 Policy Statement 4

The Policy will ensure that capacity of agricultural producer organisations is improved

Strategies

- a. Support effective operations/functionality of autonomous, self-reliant, and democratically managed producer organisations;
- b. Promote access to business development services by farmers, fish producers and agribusiness MSMEs; and
- c. Strengthen capacity of YWVG MSMEs, YWVG cooperatives and other actors along various value chains in structured commodity marketing.

3.4.5 Policy Statement 5

The Policy will ensure that growth and development of efficient agricultural value chains is promoted

Strategies

- a. Ensure competitive and fair pricing of agricultural commodities;
- b. Promote the development of sustainable mega farms for efficient, commercial, climate-smart production of high-value agricultural commodities;
- c. Initiate equitable land pooling or consolidation of land parcels among community members for smallholders to benefit from economies of scale through the agricultural mechanisation and commercialisation agenda; and
- d. Support consumer literacy programmes along the agricultural value chains to enhance demand.

3.4.6 Policy Statement 6

The Policy will ensure that access to finance for agricultural enterprises is promoted.

Strategies

- a. Promote the development of and access to innovative agricultural value chain financing mechanisms;
- b. Facilitate linkage to financial institutions for farmers and agribusiness MSMEs; and
- c. Promote access to financial products and services for farmers and agribusiness MSMEs.

II. Agro-processing and Value Addition

Value addition involves the use of processing to transform a product into one with characteristics that give it a higher value. The importance of agro-processing and value addition for agricultural commodities cannot be overemphasised. The country cannot benefit substantially from its agricultural investments if the value addition of agricultural commodities is not achieved through industrialisation. Industrialisation is a pathway for economic transformation as it changes primary commodities into value-added products that raise incomes. The promotion of value addition through agro-processing is one of the most critical strategies for achieving sustainable economic growth. Investments in agro-processing are known to have significant multiplier effects due to their forward and backward linkages in the productive chains of the economy. However, investments in agro-processing in Malawi have been hampered by a number of constraints, including inadequate infrastructure and shortage of appropriate agro-processing, packaging, and storage facilities. Other constraints include: limited availability of skills and technologies in agro-processing and value addition; limited access to agro-processing technologies; limited access to investment finance; and inadequacy of raw materials.

3.4.7 Policy Statement 1

The Policy will ensure that private sector participation in agro-processing, value addition and storage is promoted

Strategies

- a. Build capacity among producer organisations and agribusiness enterprises in agro-processing and value addition emphasising health of people and the environment;
- b. Incentivise private sector investments towards the prioritised commodity value chains;
- c. Establish one-stop-shops for all prioritised agribusiness application procedures; and
- d. Promote PPP arrangements in agro-processing and value addition initiatives and storage.

3.4.8 Policy Statement 2

The Policy will ensure that agricultural value addition and agro-processing for producers including YWVG are promoted

Strategies

- a. Enhance local capacity for the manufacturing and maintenance of agro-processing equipment and machinery;
- b. Promote trade expositions for agricultural value-added products in the domestic, regional and international markets;
- c. Facilitate rural electrification programmes and access to portable water to support agro-processing hubs; and
- d. Promote agro-processing infrastructure development for all prioritised agricultural commodity value chain.

3.4.9 Policy Statement 3

The Policy will ensure that improvements in quality standards and grading systems for agricultural commodities are supported

Strategies

- a. Facilitate producer and MSME linkages to the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) to enhance product quality standards;
- b. Strengthen audit and accreditation systems for agricultural commodities.
- c. Improve product quality and product safety for export-oriented processing clusters and domestic markets;
- d. Build capacities for the implementation of trade-related measures and safety standards for agricultural products to facilitate domestic, regional and global trade; and
- e. Promote traceability of agricultural commodities for trade facilitation.

3.4.10 Policy Statement 4

The Policy will ensure that regional and global exports of value-added agricultural commodities are promoted

Strategies

- a. Strengthen the capacity for monitoring and reporting prevalent non-trade barriers in Malawi's agriculture export markets and addressing the country's agriculture-related non-trade barriers;
- b. Promote niche markets for non-traditional products for exports through foreign missions and trade fairs;
- c. Develop a profile for high-impact agricultural enterprises that provide good returns on investment in international markets;
- d. Promote compliance with commitments to bilateral, regional, continental and multilateral economic integration instruments; and
- e. Strengthen linkages between Malawi's prioritised commodity value chains with regional and global value chains.

3.5 Policy Priority Area 4: Sustainable Management of Land, Water, and other Natural Resources

Sustainable management of land, water and other natural resources refers to the responsible and equitable use of land, water and other natural resources to meet present needs while ensuring their availability for future generations. This Policy Priority Area aims at promoting inclusive and sustainable utilisation of land, water, and other natural resources to build resilient agri-food systems.

Evidence suggests that the ability of Malawi's land resources to produce or supply goods and services has declined due to rampant degradation caused by a number of factors, including improper land use practices. For example, the use of marginal lands for agriculture and other human activities, often without proper conservation measures has increased over time. This has contributed to loss of biodiversity, declining soil health, deforestation, increased water runoff, and degraded catchments. Per capita land holding sizes are declining due to intergenerational land fragmentation arising from high population growth, conversion of land to other uses, large scale land investments, mining, quarrying and development of infrastructure such as roads and buildings. Land tenure in the predominantly customary settings is generally insecure as ownership is mostly undocumented. The risk to a farmer of loss of land use rights disproportionately affects women and makes it difficult for them to invest in long-term sustainable land management technologies. In addition, women have limited access to and control over land resources, despite constituting a greater percentage of the country's agricultural labour force. The youth also have challenges in accessing land for different investments, including agriculture.

Climate change has had significant impacts on the country's economy, as it has negatively affected the quantity and quality of water for agriculture and other uses through frequent occurrences of extreme weather events such as droughts and flooding. There is recognition of the importance of observing environmental requirements in all agricultural programmes and complying with environmental and social safeguards during their implementation. Sustainable and inclusive land and environmental management can contribute to reducing land degradation, mitigating climate change effects, and ensuring sustainable agricultural production.

3.5.1 Policy Statement 1

The Policy will ensure that integrated catchment management approaches are promoted

Strategies

- a. Institutionalise and operationalise the National Guidelines for Integrated Catchment Management and Rural Infrastructure in Sustainable Land Management (SLM) programmes;
- b. Build the capacity of staff and farmers on integrated catchment management;
- c. Develop and implement decentralised catchment management plans;
- d. Promote afforestation and farmer-managed natural regeneration for catchment conservation and management; and
- e. Promote land-use practices that minimise runoff, eutrophication, pollution, and degradation of water bodies and fish ecosystem.

3.5.2 Policy Statement 2

The Policy will ensure that resilience of production systems to climate change and other shocks is enhanced

Strategies

- a. Promote the adoption of climate-smart technologies in crop and livestock production, irrigation, aquaculture, and fisheries;
- b. Promote the development and adoption of water harvesting technologies;
- c. Develop and/or implement agricultural and land management practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- d. Implement measures to reduce vulnerability of fishers, fish farmers and aquatic ecosystems to climate change;
- e. Improve the dissemination of real-time agro-climate data for planning and early warning; and
- f. Promote alternative sources of livelihoods to release pressure on land resources.

3.5.3 Policy Statement 3

The Policy will ensure that integrated soil fertility management practices are promoted

Strategies

- a. Promote the effective use of organic, inorganic, and bioorganic inputs and practices for sustainable improvement of soil health;
- b. Promote the application of area-specific fertilizers;
- c. Promote the adoption of conservation agriculture technologies;
- d. Promote the integration of soil fertility enhancing crops and livestock in agricultural systems; and
- e. Integrate SLM practices into agricultural input support initiatives.

3.5.4 Policy Statement 4

The Policy will ensure that measures enforcing and incentivising efforts in sustainable land management technologies are promoted

Strategies

- a. Promote mindset change towards SLM through social marketing;
- b. Link SLM to innovative incentive mechanisms such as payment for ecosystem services and inputs support programmes;
- c. Promote use of media and digital technologies in the dissemination of SLM messages;
- d. Promote knowledge and skills in land management for men, women, and the youth;
- e. Facilitate the development of Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) and monitor the implementation of environmental and social management plans for agricultural projects; and
- f. Facilitate the development of guidelines and regulations on SLM.

3.5.5 Policy Statement 5

The Policy will ensure that availability of, access to, and utilisation of sustainable alternative sources of energy is improved

Strategies

- a. Increase access by households to sustainable alternative sources of energy;
- b. Promote the use of energy-efficient technologies that save on the amount of fuelwood, time, and labour;
- c. Promote the planting of multi-purpose agroforestry tree species; and
- d. Promote the establishment of individual, clan or community-managed woodlots.

3.5.6 Policy Statement 6

The Policy will ensure that access to land and water resources and improved land tenure security are promoted

Strategies

- a. Support the creation of local institutions for decentralised land administration;
- b. Promote equitable access to and control over land and water for agriculture, including irrigation;
- c. Facilitate the implementation of land acts to foster the registration of agricultural land and strengthen tenure rights;
- d. Promote equitable access to fishing areas and fish farming zones;
- e. Use the Voluntary Guidelines on the responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT) to facilitate attainment of secure tenure of land, fisheries and forestry by farmers, fishers, foresters, and irrigators; and
- f. Monitor and enforce agricultural land lease covenants to ensure compliance with land use and conservation obligations.

3.5.7 Policy Statement 7

The Policy will ensure that land use planning at all levels is facilitated

Strategies

- a. Ensure proper selection of land for agricultural and other uses;
- b. Ensure timely generation and dissemination of land resources information;
- c. Ensure safekeeping of data and information through proper library management;
- d. Facilitate agro-ecological mapping and characterisation of attributes to inform area-specific interventions; and
- e. Digitise available land resources information and use digital platforms for wide dissemination.

3.6 Policy Priority Area 5: Agricultural Research and Innovation

Agricultural research refers to the scientific study of agricultural practices, systems, and technologies with the objective of improving overall agricultural productivity. On the other hand, agricultural innovation is the development of new products, processes or methods that increase efficiency, productivity and sustainability in agriculture.

Agricultural research and innovation are critical to agricultural development; however, Malawi has not been able to exploit the benefits of agricultural research and innovation to the maximum. Some of the major contributing factors to this are inadequate funding towards agricultural research and innovation and weak enforcement of intellectual property rights.

3.6.1 Policy Statement

The Policy will ensure that agricultural research systems and innovations in agriculture are strengthened

Strategies

- a. Increase public resource allocation and investments in agricultural and aquatic research, development, and innovation in line with the AU targets;
- b. Promote collaborative research between and among National Agriculture Research Institutions (NARs), international research organisations, academia and the private sector in fostering research, innovation, and development; and
- c. Establish Technology Transfer Offices (TTO) in all public research institutions to enhance patenting and commercialisation of agricultural innovations and technologies.

3.7 Policy Priority Area 6: Institutional Development, Coordination, Capacity Strengthening and Risk Management

Institutional development, coordination, capacity strengthening, and risk management involves enhancing organisational effectiveness, aligning efforts among stakeholders, building competencies, and implementing strategies to identify, assess, and mitigate risks thereby fostering sustainable development. This Policy Priority Area, therefore, focuses and lays out strategies on institutional frameworks, coordination, capacity building, monitoring and evaluation, and risk management in the agricultural sector.

The diversity of stakeholders and players in the agricultural sector entails the need to promote institutional development, coordination, and capacity building to successfully implement any policy.

I. Institutional Development and Coordination

The agricultural sector in Malawi comprises several stakeholders and players that include the Ministry responsible for Agriculture (currently the Ministry of Agriculture, herein the Ministry), CSOs, development partners, farmer organisations, the academia and the private sector, among others.

However, the sector has been marred by several challenges that limit it from unleashing its full potential. These include poor stakeholder coordination, weak institutional capacity, and weak regulatory frameworks, all of which affect the effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery within the sector. The successful implementation of this Policy requires strong and effective institutions with functional coordination mechanisms in order to achieve the Policy's set objectives. The agricultural sector also requires a strong institutional framework that advocates for improved inclusiveness; gender mainstreaming, stakeholder coordination, accountability, and transparency amongst all sector players, notably the Government, development partners, the private sector, CSOs and other non-state actors. As such, a robust Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system is needed as a tool for ensuring the effective and efficient implementation of the Policy in order to achieve agriculture transformation through evidence-based programming.

3.7.1 Policy Statement 1

The Policy will ensure that stakeholder coordination in the formulation, implementation, and review of agriculture-related policies, programmes and projects is promoted

Strategies

- a. Build the capacity of the Ministry's policy implementation unit to better coordinate sector players in the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of this Policy as well as the resultant programmes and projects;

- b. Strengthen sector coordination structures/mechanisms to promote stakeholder engagement, accountability, transparency, efficiency, and effectiveness in the implementation of this Policy as well as the resultant programmes and projects;
- c. Institutionalise the MW2063 coordination framework and the MW2063 Pillar Enabler Coordination Groups (PECGs) and harmonise with the current coordination structures in the sector; and
- d. Create and enforce a joint planning, and reporting framework for programmes and projects implemented by the private sector, development partners, CSOs and other non-state actors.

3.7.2 Policy Statement 2

The Policy will ensure that a bottom-up approach to the implementation of agricultural and related policies, programmes and interventions at district and community levels is promoted

Strategies

- a. Enforce alignment, joint planning and implementation of stakeholder agricultural plans, programmes and interventions with the District Development Plans (DDPs), district agricultural investment plans, and this overarching Agricultural Policy;
- b. Capacitate relevant district level agricultural development structures to effectively coordinate agricultural interventions and/or investments at the district and local council levels; and
- c. Enhance public awareness of this and other related policies among all stakeholders.

3.7.3 Policy Statement 3

The Policy will ensure that complete devolution of agricultural functions at the district and local levels is fast-tracked

Strategies

- a. Capacitate district level agricultural staff in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural sector initiatives;
- b. Increase budgetary resources to local authorities to support the implementation of the agricultural policies and programmes;
- c. Enhance the capacity of district and local councils to mobilise, manage, account for and track resources allocated for agricultural sector programmes and interventions; and
- d. Promote autonomy in resource allocation decisions at district and local councils.

3.7.4 Policy Statement 4

The Policy will ensure that institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks are reformed and restructured

Strategies

- a. Restructure and capacitate the Agricultural Mechanisation Unit of the Ministry to become a distinct department;
- b. Resuscitate the former Land Husbandry Training Centre;
- c. Facilitate restructuring of the Department of Animal Health and Livestock Development (DAHLD) to strengthen coordination and support for the livestock frontline staff and farmers; and
- d. Develop, review and update policies and legislations that govern the agricultural sector and relevant subsectors to support agricultural transformation.

3.7.5 Policy Statement 5

The Policy will ensure that infrastructural development for improved service delivery is facilitated and supported

Strategies

- a. Improve the quality of housing, offices, and laboratories for agricultural staff, especially at the research stations, district, and local levels;
- b. Increase the GoM's agricultural budget and promote PPPs as well as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) arrangements for the improvement, maintenance, and development of rural infrastructure; and
- c. Promote investments in rural electrification programmes to enhance access to electricity in agricultural development offices, staff houses, markets, and agro-processing hubs in rural areas.

3.7.6 Policy Statement 6

The Policy will ensure that investments in the agricultural sector are promoted

Strategies

- a. Revise or update the National Agricultural Investment Plan (NAIP) to be in tandem with NAP 2024 and pillar 1 of MIP-1;
- b. Promote fair and balanced government budgeting that responds to the needs of the YWVG across all the subsectors;
- c. Promote innovative resource mobilisation strategies to finance key programmes including scientific research and extension and the development of food systems;
- d. Promote adequate and balanced allocation of resources to the NAIP implementation in keeping with the goals and objectives of the MW2063 and MIP-1;

- e. Facilitate the establishment of an agricultural investment bank;
- f. Rationalise the agricultural budget to ensure an efficient and fair distribution of resources towards other subsectors of the agricultural sector such as research and development other than the inputs subsidy program; and
- g. Strengthen the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit of the Ministry to conduct regular budget tracking and reporting and to enhance accountability and transparency in resource utilisation in the agricultural sector by all implementing agencies.

II. Capacity Strengthening

The successful implementation of this Policy requires professionals that are well-trained in the core functions of the agricultural sector, including designing, programming, monitoring and evaluation for effective service delivery to farmers and agribusinesses. At the local level, farmers and agricultural extension agents require regular training to acquire skills and knowledge of recommended agricultural practices and productivity-enhancing technologies. The lack of adequate and appropriate infrastructure, coupled with the limited use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills and the existing gender gaps in agriculture, have led to inefficient and ineffective implementation of programmes.

3.7.7 Policy Statement 1

The Policy will ensure that departments and agencies of the Ministry responsible for Agriculture are capacitated

Strategies

- a. Recruit and retain more front-line workers and specialised agricultural staff (such as extension workers and research technicians), with a specific focus on increasing female staff recruitment at all technical levels;
- b. Enhance technical capacity and functionality of the Ministry's departments and agencies in resource utilization/spending from increased allocation and/or funding from Development Partners (DPs), the government and other non-state actors; and
- c. Enhance the technical capacity of the frontline staff in the agricultural sector through regular and continuous training with particular attention paid to female staff.

3.7.8 Policy Statement 2

The Policy will ensure that agricultural extension systems for enhanced service delivery in agriculture are strengthened

Strategies

- a. Promote increased public resource allocation and investments for training, information sharing, and other extension support related services to farmers and MSMEs;
- b. Promote use of innovative extension approaches among public and private service providers;
- c. Strengthen research-extension-farmer linkages for increased adoption of agricultural technologies for various agricultural and aquatic value chains; and
- d. Harmonise extension messages among stakeholders to build necessary knowledge, skills, consensus, synergy, and collaboration across agricultural value chains among service providers.

3.7.9 Policy Statement 3

The Policy will ensure that use of ICT and digital infrastructure in agriculture is strengthened

Strategies

- a. Promote the use of cutting-edge digital technologies and equipment in agricultural and aquatic research and development, agricultural production, extension, and marketing;
- b. Improve ICT infrastructure and networks at the Ministry, district, and local levels; and
- c. Promote the use of ICT-based agricultural extension and market information sharing delivery systems to farmers and MSMEs.

3.7.10 Policy Statement 4

The Policy will ensure that a Gender Transformative Approach and equitable access to capacity building initiatives, resources, and programmes in agriculture are promoted

Strategies

- a. Develop and sustain the capacity of YWVG farmers to engage with financing institutions and access available finances;
- b. Strengthen workplace HIV/AIDS interventions across the MDAs, value chain players and the private sector;
- c. Develop and sustain the capacity of agriculture technicians in the Gender Transformative Approach at the household level, and in gender mainstreaming among stakeholders;
- d. Promote capacity building in HIV/AIDS management and gender mainstreaming in agriculture; and

- e. Promote mindset change, including addressing social norms to encourage YWVG farmers to access productive resources such as land; to participate in decision making; and to have control of income and other proceeds from food and income security.

3.7.11 Policy Statement 5

The Policy will ensure that performance management, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) systems in agriculture are promoted

Strategies

- a. Recruit and deploy M&E officers at the Ministry headquarters, research stations, as well as in district and local councils;
- b. Build technical capacity of M&E staff through relevant training at headquarters, district and in local councils;
- c. Capacitate M&E departments by providing modern ICT equipment, software, and internet support at headquarters and in local councils;
- d. Fast-track the rolling out and increase coverage of the National Agricultural Management Information System (NAMIS) at national and district council levels;
- e. Link the NAMIS to national/central M&E system of MIP-1, and other relevant systems; and
- f. Strengthen linkages between the Ministry and data agencies like National Statistical Office (NSO).

III. Risk Management

Risks and uncertainties are an integral part of agricultural production, and their occurrences vary within the agricultural sector as well as across agricultural supply chains. These risks are mainly categorised as: (1) human-induced (e.g. market failures or commodity price volatility; production failure; and institutions/government policies); and (2) natural disasters. These encompass a range of factors including the unpredictability of weather and biological processes; the seasonality of production and market cycles; the geographical disparity of production and end users; the unique and uncertain political economy of food and agricultural sectors at national and international levels; and international price and exchange rate volatilities.

As the number of risks escalates and continues to take its toll on Malawi's agricultural production systems, the Policy advances strategies to mitigate the risks and build resilience of the agricultural sector and the economy.

3.7.12 Policy Statement 6

The Policy will ensure that risk management and resilience of the agricultural sector is promoted

Strategies

- a. Strengthen early warning systems in agriculture for enhanced disaster/risk preparedness and resilience;
- b. Develop and promote a wide range of agricultural insurance products and services among all farmer categories and types, as well as fish producers;
- c. Develop and/or promote drought-tolerant crop varieties and livestock breeds;
- d. Capacitate and enhance the management of the strategic food reserves and ensure their linkage to regional strategic food reserves;
- e. Enhance the quality of market information systems for the management of risks associated with agricultural markets;
- f. Promote integrated management and control of pests and diseases; and
- g. Promote safe handling and disposal of agro-chemicals and use of animal drugs.

CHAPTER 4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Institutional Arrangements

The Government of Malawi recognises the importance of stakeholders and partnerships in informing policy design and implementation. The multiple stakeholders in agriculture include producers, the public sector, the private sector, civil society, NGOs, development partners, as well as academic and research institutions. This Policy seeks to develop strong institutional linkages between the ministry responsible for agriculture, other ministries, departments, and agencies, as well as various other stakeholders, especially those collaborating through the Agricultural PECG (formerly the Agricultural sector Working Group) and its Technical Working Groups. The following section outlines the key stakeholders involved in the implementation of the NAP 2024 as well as their roles and responsibilities:

4.1.1 The Ministry responsible for Agriculture

As the Policy holder and overall authority, the Ministry responsible for Agriculture has the responsibility to:

- i. Foster sector-wide planning, management and coordination of the stakeholders to ensure the efficient and effective implementation of the Policy at both the national and local levels;
- ii. Facilitate awareness creation about the Policy at all levels to enhance its implementation among all stakeholders;
- iii. Make prudent public investments in the agricultural sector;
- iv. Ensure the efficient delivery of services pertaining to research, extension, access to quality farm inputs and others;
- v. Support efforts to encourage the efficient use of inputs and the adoption of resilience strategies in relation to irrigation, integrated soil fertility management techniques, agroforestry, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture, climate-smart agriculture, and other modern farming technologies;
- vi. Lead in the generation, release, and dissemination of modern agricultural technologies;
- vii. Support local and indigenous solutions that show evidence of enhancing agricultural productivity;

- viii. Promote innovative and evidence-based modifications to agricultural input support programmes that will make them sustainable and efficient. As part of the reforms, farm input support programmes will be leveraged to increase the commercial provision of farm inputs in a sustainable way; improve land, labour, and water productivity; increase diversification in agricultural production; and increase commercialisation of crops, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture;
- ix. Promote the implementation of the Policy within the national and local government structures;
- x. Strengthen the capacity of district and EPA structures in agriculture and other related sectors;
- xi. Facilitate the decentralisation of decision-making to ensure that policy formulation, monitoring and evaluation involve the Agricultural Development Divisions, District Agriculture Development Offices, District Agricultural Extension Coordination Committees, District Stakeholder Panels, District Agriculture Committees, and Area Stakeholder Panels, which are all part of the decentralised administrative system in agriculture. The Ministry will strengthen the capacity of these district-level and EPA-level institutions;
- xii. Provide platforms for healthy agriculture policy dialogue and active engagement in consultative policy processes in the formulation, planning, and implementation of sub-sectoral policies and strategies;
- xiii. Monitor progress in the implementation of the NAP 2024 towards the achievement of its outcomes and goal; and
- xiv. Facilitate the compilation of statistics and information for policy planning and implementation in the agricultural sector.

Moreover, the Policy Implementation Unit under the Ministry responsible for Agriculture coordinates the overall implementation of the Policy. Specific responsibilities of the unit include to:

- i. Support the periodic review of the National Agriculture Policy to assess implementation progress;
- ii. Promote stakeholder coordination in the formulation, implementation, and review of agriculture-related policies, strategies and investment plans; and
- iii. Create and manage a database on stakeholders, programmes and projects activities and their commensurate investments in the sector.

4.1.2 The Office of the President and Cabinet

The Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC) has the responsibility to:

- i. Signal high-level political will in implementing the agricultural development priorities of the Government;
- ii. Facilitate the approval of the institutional and legislative reforms within the agricultural sector; and
- iii. Oversight coordination and accountability among the different stakeholders in the implementation of this Policy

4.1.3 The Ministry responsible for Finance

The Ministry responsible for Finance has the responsibility to:

- i. Mobilise resources for public investments in all key areas such as research, extension, infrastructure, and public-private partnerships requiring government financing for sustainable development of the agricultural sector in Malawi;
- ii. Allocate public funds from the national treasury to invest in the agricultural sector in line with the MW2063 aspirations and commitments, as guided by the CAADP framework;
- iii. Implement public sector financial management reforms that will improve the efficiency of public financial management to the benefit of the agricultural sector;
- iv. Create an enabling fiscal environment, including review of tax-based incentives that encourage private sector investments in the agricultural sector and contribute to the overall performance of the sector; and
- v. Promote access to finance for investment in the agricultural sector for the efficient and performance of all prioritised value chains.

4.1.4 The Ministry responsible for Economic planning and Development

The roles and responsibilities of the Government's Ministry or Department responsible for Economic Planning and Development are to:

- i. Maintain sound macro-economic conditions to facilitate the development of the fertiliser industry and other related industries in Malawi over time; and
- ii. Design resource mobilisation strategies and be a partner in all monitoring and evaluation and other data collection and analysis activities in the agricultural sector, through the National Statistical Office (NSO);

4.1.5 The National Planning Commission

The roles and responsibilities of the National Planning Commission (NPC) are to:

- i. Coordinate the formulation of innovative and progressive agriculture flagship projects, including resource mobilisation, in line with MW2063 and MIP-1; and
- ii. Alignment of agricultural sector policies, programmes, including resource mobilisation, in line with MW2063 and MIP-1.

4.1.6 The Ministry responsible for Justice

The Ministry responsible for Justice has the responsibility to:

- i. Ensure that the legal aspects of the National Agriculture Policy are handled according to the laws of Malawi; and
- ii. Facilitate review and development of relevant legislation for the agricultural sector.

4.1.7 The Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry

The Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry has the responsibilities to:

- i. Enhance marketing function and value addition;
- ii. Facilitate foreign direct investment in the agricultural sector in Malawi, particularly through the Malawi Investment and Trade Centre (MITC);
- iii. Facilitate agribusiness licensing and improve the ease of doing business in the agricultural sector;
- iv. Identify new commodity export markets and facilitate trade of Malawian agricultural products in line with regional and international regulatory instruments;
- v. Promote transparent and predictable export and import controls, in line with WTO requirements including minimising any non-tariff barriers to agricultural trade;
- vi. Facilitate public-private partnerships in the investments and development of the agricultural sector;
- vii. Facilitate the provision of matching grants for local companies wishing to invest in the agricultural sector;
- viii. Facilitate the establishment and enforcement of Standardisation, Quality Assurance, Accreditation and Metrology (SQAM) for agricultural products; and
- ix. Collaborate with the Ministry responsible for Lands in processing and renewing agricultural land leases, and in the creation of customary estates to ensure that the land is managed properly.

4.1.8 The Ministry responsible for Lands

The roles and responsibilities of the Ministry responsible for Lands are to:

- i. Promote land tenure security, which will encourage investments in the agricultural sector;
- ii. Roll out customary land registration under the Customary Land Act 2016 for improved and land tenure security;
- iii. Facilitate the identification of and access to land for investments in the agricultural sector;
- iv. Undertake land use planning and management of lands, to promote the sustainable use of land, water, and other natural resources; and
- v. Collaborate with the Ministry responsible for Agriculture in processing and renewing agricultural land leases, and in the creation of customary estates to ensure that land is managed properly.

4.1.9 The Ministry responsible for Energy

The roles and responsibilities of the Ministry responsible for Energy are to:

- i. Facilitate the provision of adequate, reliable, sustainable and affordable electricity to agricultural producers, and enterprises; and
- ii. Facilitate the supply of fuel, gas and sustainable energy sources for agricultural activities including transportation, irrigation, and production processes.

4.1.10 The Ministry responsible for Forestry, Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change

The roles and responsibilities of the Ministry responsible for Forestry, Natural Resources, Environment, and Climate Change are to:

- i. Promote sustainable management and utilisation of land, forests aquatic resources, the environment, and other natural resources, in the pursuit of improving agricultural production and productivity;
- ii. Facilitate the rehabilitation and management of essential ecosystems and ecological processes;
- iii. Disseminate timely agro-climate information for agricultural development planning and early warning; and
- iv. Promote cooperation among government, Non-State Actors (NSAs) and the private sector in the management and sustainable utilisation of the natural resources and the environment.

4.1.11 The Ministry responsible for Water Resources Management

The Ministry responsible for Water Resources Management is responsible for promoting integrated water resources management and the protection of catchment areas and buffer zones for rivers and other water bodies.

4.1.12 The Ministry responsible for Transport and Public Works

It is the responsibility of the Ministry responsible for Transport and Public Works to:

- i. Sustainably promote the development and maintenance of main, secondary, and tertiary roads to lower the cost of transporting farm inputs and agricultural products to markets and farms across the country; and
- ii. Ensure the development and maintenance of the railway system, as well as the lake and river transport infrastructure for improved cost-effectiveness of agricultural farm inputs and products.

4.1.13 The Ministry responsible for Education

The roles and responsibilities of the Ministry responsible for Education are to:

- i. Promote education in sciences, innovations, and technology development in school curricula (primary, secondary, and tertiary institutions) to support skills development for the agricultural sector;
- ii. Strengthen nutrition-environment-agriculture education in the curricula for primary and secondary schools; and
- iii. Strengthen education in sustainable land and water resources management for increased agricultural production and productivity.

4.1.14 The Ministry responsible for Health

The roles and responsibilities of the Ministry responsible for Health are to:

- i. Through the Department responsible for Nutrition, HIV and AIDS (DNHA), promote initiatives aimed at nutrition security through agriculture, targeting the nutritionally vulnerable;
- ii. Encourage the mainstreaming of nutrition and HIV/AIDS in all sectors, including agriculture;
- iii. Support efforts to improve the knowledge, attitudes, and skills of farm households on dietary diversification and appropriate care of nutritionally vulnerable household members; and
- iv. Jointly with the Malawi Bureau of Standards, enforce laws and regulations relating to food safety and hygiene.

4.1.15 The Ministry responsible for Local government

The roles and responsibilities of the Ministry responsible for Local Government are to:

- i. Promote the domestication of the National Agriculture Policy and other related policies and strategies in District Development Plans (DDPs);
- ii. Implement integrated rural development programmes for investment in the agricultural sector;

- iii. Promote the development of district and rural roads in areas of high agricultural potential, to lower transaction costs;
- iv. Promote the development of rural growth centres that support the development of the agricultural sector; and
- v. Spearhead the implementation of the National Decentralisation Policy and Act.

4.1.16 The Ministry responsible for Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare

The roles and responsibilities of the Ministry responsible for Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare are to:

- i. Ensure that gender-sensitivity is mainstreamed in all agricultural-related policies, programmes, projects, and interventions;
- ii. Support the inclusion of all gender demographics in investments, programmes, projects, and interventions designed to implement the National Agriculture Policy and other related policies and strategies;
- iii. Encourage the Gender Transformative Approach to all the interventions;
- iv. Promote the production and utilisation of nutritious crops;
- v. Collaborate with the Ministries responsible for Agriculture and Lands to facilitate women's access to productive assets for agriculture and increased access to credit, and farm inputs;
- vi. Support increased farm and agribusiness investments by women and vulnerable groups; and
- vii. Enable access of women and other vulnerable groups to lucrative output markets.

4.1.17 The Ministry responsible for Labour

The roles and responsibilities of the Ministry responsible for Labour are to:

- i. Promote vocational skills development for the agricultural sector through various initiatives, including the expansion of the agricultural component under the Technical, Entrepreneurial and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TEVETA);
- ii. Support labour skills development for the agricultural sector;
- iii. Regulate labour issues in the agricultural sector, including child labour and worker exploitation; and
- iv. Generate sector-specific and subsector-specific labour statistics to inform decisions in the agricultural sector.

4.1.18 The Ministry responsible for the Youth

The roles and responsibilities of the Ministry responsible for the Youth are to:

- i. Promote the participation of the youth in agriculture in general, and in profitable enterprises in particular;
- ii. Facilitate the youth's access to affordable capital for investment in the agricultural sector;
- iii. Enable youth access to lucrative agricultural output markets that will create increased derived demand for fertilisers;
- iv. Collaborate with the Ministries responsible for Agriculture and Lands to facilitate access to productive assets for agriculture and increased access to credit, and farm inputs for the youth;
- v. Facilitate the youth's access to state-of-the-art agricultural technologies and innovations; and
- vi. Provide support for farm and agribusiness investments by the youth.

4.1.19 The Ministry responsible for Information

The roles and responsibilities of the Ministry responsible for Information are to:

- i. Facilitate the use of ICT and digital tools in agriculture for efficient and effective service delivery; and
- ii. Facilitate access to information regarding agricultural technologies, and investment in the agricultural sector.

4.1.20 The Malawi Bureau of Standards

It is the responsibility of the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) to:

- i. Develop quality standards for all types of agricultural products in consultation with the Ministry responsible for Agriculture, regional bodies, and other relevant stakeholders; and
- ii. Maintain and enforce product quality and food safety standards and in ensuring quality standards for agricultural commodities.

4.1.21 The Competition and Fair-Trading Commission

The Competition and Fair-Trading Commission has a responsibility to monitor and enforce matters concerning competition and fair-trading in the agricultural sector, including compliance with minimum farm gate prices by buyers of agricultural produce.

4.1.22 Statutory Corporations, Trusts, Councils, and Boards

ADMARC has responsibility to:

- i. Provide agricultural markets and support farmers' access to favourable markets by establishing terms of trade with farmers using a transparent, rules-based approach to market operations; and
- ii. Undergo reforms to effectively separate its commercial functions from its social functions, and to improve its market efficiency performance for farmers.

The National Food Reserve Agency has responsibility to:

- i. Place strategic quantities of grains and other foods, as a means of managing national food insecurity risks using transparent, rules-based market operations approach; and
- ii. Professionally maintain its storage infrastructure and improve its efficiency in delivering food security risk management to the nation.

The Smallholder Farmers Fertilizer Revolving Fund of Malawi (SFFRFM) has responsibility to facilitate affordable access to farm inputs for smallholder farmers, including through the use of farmer credit schemes.

It is the responsibility of trusts in the agricultural sector, including the Agricultural Research and Extension Trust (ARET), the Smallholder Coffee Growers Trust, the Roots and Tubers Crops Development Trust, and the Legume Development Trust to continue to provide technical support on agricultural research and extension for the development of agricultural value chains.

Commodity Councils, such as the Cotton Council and the Legumes Council, will promote production and marketing support to increase commercialisation of the respective commodities under their mandate.

The Green Belt Authority is the policy's vehicle for increasing irrigation investments and support to farmers.

The National Irrigation Development Fund that will be managed by the National Irrigation Board will also be used as a vehicle to increase irrigation investments.

The Tobacco Commission has the responsibility to provide effective and efficient regulatory services to promote the development of the tobacco industry that operates in an accountable and compliant manner using modern technologies.

It is the responsibility of the Roads Fund Administration to mobilise and administer resources for financing the development and rehabilitation of public roads in areas of high agricultural potential.

4.1.23 The Malawi Environment Protection Authority

The Malawi Environment Protection Authority (MEPA) has the responsibility of coordinating and monitoring all activities concerning the protection and management of the environment and the conservation and sustainable utilisation of natural resources.

4.1.24 Producer-Based Organisations

Producer-Based Organisations have responsibility to:

- i. Promote proper agricultural input use and implementation of the National Agriculture Policy;
- ii. Existing farmer organisations, such as the Farmers Union of Malawi (FUM) and the National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi (NASFAM) and other similar organisations will spearhead the strengthening and organising of farmers into groups and/or clubs for increased commercialisation and value addition as well as increased access to agricultural services and quality farm inputs;
- iii. Farmer-Based Organisations will enable improved access to and more profitable engagement by producers with input and output markets as well as access to credit and extension services to improve agricultural production, productivity as well as value addition and agro-processing; and
- iv. Farmer-Based Organisations will also play a critical role in empowering women, the youth, and vulnerable groups to engage in profitable agribusinesses.

4.1.25 Private Sector Players and Partnerships

It is the responsibility of Private Sector Players and Partnerships to:

- i. Market and distribute farm inputs and outputs, invest in relevant areas of agriculture and process agricultural produce;
- ii. Jointly with the Government, facilitate market-based expansion of the agricultural sector including increased commercial participation of the domestic private sector such as large-scale commercial farmers in operationalising the mega and anchor farms' concept;
- iii. Be open to fostering foreign direct investments in the agricultural sector through public-private partnerships, domestic-foreign private partnerships, and other organisational arrangements; and
- iv. Actively participate in various platforms including the Agriculture PEGS, and other bilateral communications.

In addition, the Malawi Confederation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (MCCCI) has the responsibility to coordinate activities of the private sector in the agricultural sector and will also lead in providing information for monitoring the implementation of the National Agriculture Policy and activities of private sector players.

4.1.26 Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)

It is the responsibility of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to:

- i. Collaborate with Government in implementing the various interventions outlined in the National Agriculture Policy to ensure mutual accountability;
- ii. Play a key role in implementing the National Agriculture Policy through NGO projects and advocacy efforts, led by the Civil Society Agriculture Network (CISANET);
- iii. Lobby for the promotion and protection of consumer interests led by the Consumer Association of Malawi (CAMA);
- iv. Contribute to the monitoring and periodic review of the National Agriculture Policy; and
- v. Ensuring that the concerns of various stakeholders in agriculture are heard and that the Government is held accountable for its commitments to the citizens of Malawi on matters of agricultural development. Responsible CSOs on this include the Malawi Economic Justice Network, the Consumer Association of Malawi, the Youth Net and Counselling, Non-Governmental Organisation Gender Coordination Network (NGO-GCN) and the Malawi Women's Association, among others.

In addition, the Council for Non-Governmental Organisations in Malawi (CONGOMA) has the responsibility to engage with the GoM to support the implementation of this Policy, and to help strengthen the voice and capacity of CSOs in the agricultural sector.

4.1.27 Development Partners

Development Partners are called upon to contribute to the implementation of NAP 2024 through investments in the agricultural sector as guided by the Policy's Priority Areas.

Development partners and other stakeholders' efforts in the agricultural sector should be coordinated and aligned by the Government to ensure synergies and to improve the effectiveness of investments in the agricultural sector.

The Donor Committee on Agriculture and Food Security (DCAFS) should continue to be the platform for coordinating development partner support in agriculture under the overall coordination pillar of the MW2063 and MIP-1 under the National Planning Commission (NPC). FAO as per its global mandate is called upon to technically support policy implementation as guided by the Policy's Priority Areas.

4.1.28 Research Organisations and Academic Institutions

The Department of Agricultural Research Services (DARS) should lead in conducting research on new and modern agricultural technologies in crops, livestock fish, aquaculture, and land resources subsectors. In addition, DARS will conduct research that enhances the quality of farm inputs in Malawi.

International research institutions including the Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research (CGIAR) centres should collaborate and partner with DARS on various research agenda for the development of the agricultural sector in Malawi. Resources and expertise to conduct the necessary research should also be leveraged from international institutions to the benefit of the agricultural sector in Malawi.

Academic institutions, such as the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR), the University of Malawi (UNIMA), Mzuzu University (MZUNI), Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS), Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST) and other relevant institutions of higher education are responsible for aligning their academic and research programmes with National Agriculture Policy and conducting rigorous research to enhance the impact of the National Agriculture Policy. In particular, researchers should conduct research on area-specific technologies that are suitable for application in Malawian agriculture.

4.2 Implementation Plan

The implementation plan specifies strategies that are necessary to achieve the goal of NAP 2024. The implementation plan highlights the responsible stakeholders for each strategy and specifies the associated time frame for implementation. **Annex 1** presents in detail the implementation plan in a matrix form where objectives, strategies, the responsible entities, and the timelines for implementation are outlined under each Policy Priority Area.

4.3 Monitoring and Evaluation

Annex 2 presents a detailed Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plan for the NAP 2024, which specifies the baselines and targets for a set of indicators through which the performance of the Policy's implementation is assessed. M&E systems are essential to track progress and inform decisions in the implementation of the NAP 2024 on an on-going basis. This NAP 2024 M&E Plan is aligned to international frameworks such as the Malabo Declaration under the CAADP framework, SDGs as well as national M&E systems (MW2063 and MIP-1). The design of the M&E system hinges on leveraging existing data systems within the GoM, in addition to those of development partners, civil society, the private sector, and academic and research institutions.

The NAP 2024 will undergo a mid-term review after three to four years of implementation, and a final review after the implementation period. However, there shall also be annual assessment of the performance indicators so as to: (i) address any outstanding data gaps with respect to baselines and target indicators as well as learning; and thereby (ii) to inform necessary changes and modifications to ensure that the implementation of the Policy is effectively tracked. In addition, there shall be inclusive and participatory monitoring of the implementation of this Policy by all relevant stakeholders at national and district level.

Overall, the Department of Agricultural Planning Service (DAPS) in the Ministry responsible for Agriculture has the primary responsibility for implementing the M&E plan of the NAP 2024 in collaboration with the Technical Working Group on M&E. In addition, it is anticipated that the Ministry responsible for Agriculture will benefit from technical assistance for monitoring and evaluation provided by Malawi universities and several development partners, including the World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the CGIAR centres, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Flemish International Cooperation Agency, and Irish Aid.

ANNEX 1

**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURE POLICY (2024 – 2029)**

Policy Priority Area 1: Agricultural Production and Productivity

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
I. Crop Production and Productivity			
3.2.1. Policy Statement 1: The Policy will ensure that timely access to improved and affordable crop production inputs is promoted			
To increase, by 50%, the number of farmers, including the youth, women, and vulnerable groups, timely accessing quality inputs, including, seed, fertilisers, agro-chemicals, mechanisation, and irrigation equipment for crop production	a) Facilitate improvement of supply chain logistics to reduce the cost of farm inputs	Ministry responsible for Finance, Ministry responsible for Transport, Development partners	2024-2029
	b) Facilitate access to affordable finance for crop production inputs among all farmers	Ministry responsible for Finance, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Development partners, Financial institutions	2024-2029
	c) Target productive farmer organisations, including anchor farms and mega farms, with crop production input support programmes	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, DCD; Ministry responsible for Gender; Ministry responsible for Trade	2024-2029
	d) Promote research on low-cost crop production technologies	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS; Academia: LUANAR	2024-2029
	e) Promote increased availability of affordable seeds and planting materials for nutrition-smart agriculture	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS, DCD; Private sector	2024-2029
3.2.2 Policy Statement 2: The Policy will ensure that resilience of farmers to climate change shocks and declining soil health is strengthened			
To ensure that 30% of farmers in crop production have improved their resilience capacity to climate and weather-related risks, by the year 2029 and have access to quality inputs, including, seed, fertilisers, agro-chemicals, mechanisation, and irrigation equipment for crop production	a) Promote sustainable intensification of crop production systems based on locally available materials, including use of indigenous crops, community seed banks, indigenous methods of managing pests and diseases, and organic and bio-fertilisers	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DCD, DLRC, DAES, DARS	2024-2029
	b) Promote the use of integrated crop management practices such as Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM), to reduce reliance on chemical solutions	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DCD, DLRC, DAES, DARS; Pesticides Control Board	2024-2029
	c) Support recycling of by-products for use as manure, fertilisers, and soil conditioners	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Environment	2024-2029
	d) Mainstream YWVG-related issues in crop production resilience strategies	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Gender	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
3.2.3 Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that innovation processes in the development and dissemination of crop production technologies are strengthened	3.2.3 Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that innovation processes in the development and dissemination of crop production technologies are strengthened	3.2.3 Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that innovation processes in the development and dissemination of crop production technologies are strengthened	3.2.3 Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that innovation processes in the development and dissemination of crop production technologies are strengthened
To create a conducive environment for the development and dissemination of innovations in crop production technologies where 30% of farmers can access the innovations and technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Promote the process of engagement and innovation in crop research and extension b) Support development of demand-driven crop production technologies, through time-sensitive research c) Facilitate dissemination and adoption of crop production technologies suitable for specific agro-ecologies among frontline extension workers, other service providers, and all farmers in general d) Promote mobile plant clinics and soil testing technologies e) Promote access to low-cost nutrition-smart agriculture technologies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS, DAES, DCD Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS, DAES, DCD Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS, DAES, DCD; Farmer organisations; Non-governmental research institutions Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS, DAES, DCD DLRC Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS, DAES, DCD; Development partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2024-2029 2024-2029 2024-2029 2024-2029 2024-2029
3.2.4 Policy Statement 4: The Policy will ensure that quality standards for crop production inputs are regulated and enforced.	3.2.4 Policy Statement 4: The Policy will ensure that quality standards for crop production inputs are regulated and enforced.	3.2.4 Policy Statement 4: The Policy will ensure that quality standards for crop production inputs are regulated and enforced.	3.2.4 Policy Statement 4: The Policy will ensure that quality standards for crop production inputs are regulated and enforced.
To increase, by 50% the number of farmers, including the youth, women, and vulnerable groups, timely accessing quality inputs, including, seed, fertilisers, agro-chemicals, mechanisation, and irrigation equipment for crop production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Facilitate the review of existing standards for seed, fertilisers, and other inputs b) Facilitate the development of standards for community seed production, biotechnological seeds, organic and bio-fertilisers c) Foster collaboration with enforcement agencies for compliance with quality standards for all types of crop production inputs by enterprises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPs, DARS; Ministry responsible for Justice, Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS); Competition and Fair-Trading Commission (CFTC); Seed Traders Association of Malawi (STAM); Seed Services Unit (SSU) of DARS; Fertiliser Association of Malawi (FAM) Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPs; Ministry responsible for Justice; Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS); Competition and Fair-Trading Commission (CFTC); Seed Traders Association of Malawi (STAM); Seed Services Unit (SSU) of DARS; Fertiliser Association of Malawi (FAM) Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Homeland Security, Ministry responsible for Justice, MBS, CFTC, STAM, SSU, FAM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2024-2029 2024-2029 2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
II. Livestock production and productivity			
3.2.5 Policy Statement 1: The Policy will ensure that production of breeding stock and its availability to farmers is enhanced			
To increase livestock reproductive performance and use of biotechnologies in animal breeding programmes	a) Promote the establishment of local breeding centres by public and private subsector actors.	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Academic institutions responsible for agriculture such as LUANAR	2024-2029
	b) Promote the use of relevant biotechnologies in animal breeding and reproduction.	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS; Academic institutions responsible for agriculture such as LUANAR; Development partners	2024-2029
	c) Strengthen sustainable animal genetic resource conservation.	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS	2024-2029
	d) Prioritise dairy cattle, beef cattle, chicken, pig, goat, and beekeeping value chains in livestock programmes.	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS; LUANAR; Development partners	2024-2029
	e) Strengthen the development, adoption, and innovative dissemination of livestock production technologies for conventional and non-conventional livestock species	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS, DAES; Academic institutions responsible for agriculture such as LUANAR; Development partners	2024-2029
	f) Promote sustainable commercial bee keeping.	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS; Academic institutions responsible for agriculture such as LUANAR; Development partners	2024-2029
3.2.6 Policy Statement 2: The Policy will ensure that productivity of high-value livestock species is promoted.			
To increase the number of frontline staff and adoption of recommended livestock production technologies	a) Capacitate livestock production and veterinary frontline staff to support farmers effectively and efficiently	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DAES; Finance; DHRMD	2024-2029
	b) Promote production and utilisation of improved pasture and fodder tree species	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS; Academic institutions such as LUANAR; Development partners	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe	
Increase livestock populations and productivity by 60% by 2029	c) Monitor the productivity of dairy cattle, beef cattle, chicken, pig, goats, sheep, and bee population	Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DAHLD, DARS; Academic institutions such as LUANAR; Malawi Milk Producers Association (MMPA); Development partners	2024-2029	
	d) Implement gender mainstreamed stand-alone livestock national flagship programmes.	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS	2024-2029	
	e) Promote child rights and child protection in livestock production	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Ministry responsible for Gender and Child Development; Umbrella child protection institution; Development partners	2024-2029	
	f) Promote equitable access to finance for livestock production	Ministries responsible for Agriculture, Finance, Industry, Trade, and Gender	2024-2029	
	g) Enhance women's control over livestock productive resources	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Development partners	2024-2029	
	3.2.7 Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that animal disease control and management, as well as animal welfare are strengthened			
	To promote animal welfare and reduce the prevalence of animal diseases by at least 50% by 2029	a) Invest in and maintain infrastructure and equipment for animal parasite and disease management, including dip tanks	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD	2024-2029
		b) Strengthen livestock disease surveillance systems for monitoring and reporting disease outbreaks, zoonotic diseases, trans-boundary animal diseases (TADs), and feed safety	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD	2024-2029
		c) Establish a livestock risk and disaster management fund	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Ministry responsible for Finance; Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry; Reserve Bank of Malawi (RBM)	2024-2029
d) Promote animal welfare and provision of livestock insurance services by public and private subsector actors		Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS; LUANAR; Development partners; Private sector	2024-2029	

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
III. Fisheries and Aquaculture Production and Productivity			
3.2.8 Policy Statement 1: The Policy will ensure that sustainable fisheries management is promoted.			
To implement measures that rebuild the health and productivity of fish stocks by at least 20%	a) Regulate fishing efforts to ensure long-term sustainability	Ministries responsible for Agriculture and Fisheries	2024-2029
	b) Rebuild over-fished stocks to Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) and Maximum Economic Yield (MEY) levels	Ministries responsible for Local Government, Agriculture and Fisheries, Academic and research institutions: LUANAR, UNIMA, MUBAS, MZUNI, MUST	2024-2029
	c) Increase the participation and engagement of the YWVG in fishing and fish farming to curb social exclusion and discrimination	Ministries responsible for Fisheries and Gender	2024-2029
	d) Enhance resilience to aquatic animal diseases and parasites	Ministries responsible for Fisheries, Environment, DoDMA	2024-2029
	e) Strengthen the role of small-scale fisheries in fish stock management	Ministry responsible for Fisheries	2024-2029
	f) Enhance innovation processes in the development and dissemination of sustainable fisheries management technologies and approaches	Ministries responsible for Agriculture and Fisheries, Academic and research institutions: LUANAR, UNIMA, MUBAS, MZUNI, MUST	2024-2029
3.2.9 Policy Statement 2: The Policy will ensure that aquaculture production and productivity are increased.			
To increase by 100%, production and productivity in aquaculture	a) Build the capacity of fish farmers and fish producer organisations to increase production and productivity	Ministries responsible for Fisheries and Agriculture	2024-2029
	b) Promote demonstrable farm business cases for increased fish farm productivity	Ministries responsible for Fisheries and Agriculture	2024-2029
	c) Identify and prepare zoning plans for suitable water (cages) and land sites (ponds) for aquaculture	Ministries responsible for Fisheries, Water and Surveys	2024-2029
	d) Promote the establishment of sustainable mega aqua-farms and/or cooperatives.	Ministries responsible for Fisheries and Agriculture	2024-2029
	e) Promote small-scale aquaculture clusters, including those linked to sustainable mega aqua-farms and/or cooperatives	Ministries responsible for Fisheries and Agriculture	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
3.2.10 Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that increased investments in the fisheries and aquaculture subsector are facilitated To promote actions to improve access to finance by 60% for fishers and fish farmers	a) Create fish-centric finance ecosystem	Ministries responsible for Fisheries, Trade and Agriculture	2024-2029
	b) Facilitate the creation of conducive fiscal and monetary incentives for private sector investments in the fisheries and aquaculture subsector	Ministries responsible for Fisheries, Finance and Agriculture	2024-2029
	c) Promote integration of fisheries and aquaculture in national flagship programmes and projects	Ministries responsible for Agriculture and Fisheries	2024-2029
	d) Promote access to investment finance for women and the youth in fisheries and aquaculture	Ministries responsible for Fisheries, Trade and Agriculture	2024-2029
	e) Promote access to land among the YWVG for fish farming	Ministries responsible for Fisheries, Lands and Agriculture	2024-2029
3.2.11 Policy Statement 4: The Policy will ensure that gender vulnerability factors affecting fish dependent-communities are reduced. To raise by 50%, gender equity, youth and social inclusion in the fish value chains	a) Raise awareness on the prevention of and response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) as well as transactional Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) b) Develop a code of conduct prevention of and response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) for fishers and intermediaries c) Integrate fishing communities, especially the YWVG, in social protection programmes d) Implement strategies to curb child labour in fishing communities in line with ILO guidelines	Ministries responsible for Fisheries and Gender Ministries responsible for Fisheries and Gender Ministries responsible for Fisheries, Economic Planning and Gender Ministries responsible for Fisheries, Labour and Gender	2024-2029 2024-2029 2024-2029 2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
IV. Irrigation Development			
3.2.12 Policy Statement 1: The Policy will ensure that investment in irrigation development is increased			
To increase investments in sustainable irrigation development by 20% annually	a) Establish and operationalise the Irrigation Development Fund	Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DoI; Ministry responsible for Finance; Private sector; CSOs, Development partners	2024-2029
	b) Promote research and development for improving returns from irrigation	Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DoI, DAPS	2024-2029
	c) Promote Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangements in irrigation development	Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DoI; Ministry responsible for Finance; Ministry responsible for Statutory Corporations	2024-2029
	d) Incentivise private sector investment in irrigation	Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DoI; Ministry responsible for Finance; OPC	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
3.2.13	Policy Statement 2: The Policy will ensure that the adoption of irrigation technologies and best practices is promoted	Responsibility for Agriculture, Education, Labour, and Tertiary education institutions	2024-2029
To increase adoption of irrigation technologies and practices by 20% annually	a) Support the innovative generation, adoption and dissemination of irrigation technologies and best practices	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DoI, DARS, DAES; Ministry responsible for Education; Ministry responsible for Labour; Tertiary education institutions	2024-2029
	b) Monitor the utilisation of irrigation technologies and best practices	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DoI	2024-2029
	c) Promote solar and wind-powered irrigation technologies	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DoI; Ministry responsible for Energy; Ministry responsible for Finance	2024-2029
	d) Promote integrated crop-livestock-aquaculture irrigation systems	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DoI, DAHLD; Fisheries department	2024-2029
	e) Promote investment in digital infrastructure and technologies for efficient water use	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DoI; Ministry responsible for Information; Fisheries Department; Academic institutions responsible for digital innovations	2024-2029
	f) Enhance access to affordable finance by farmers for irrigation equipment	Ministries responsible for Agriculture, Finance, Financial institutions, CSOs and Development partners	2024-2029
3.2.14	Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that capacity of farmer organisations for productive irrigated agriculture is developed	Responsibility for Agriculture, Farmer Organisations	2024-2029
To improve the performance of FOs and irrigation schemes	a) Establish Water User Associations (WUAs) and irrigation organisations	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DoI; Farmer Organisations	2024-2029
	b) Build the technical and administrative capacity of farmer organisations for the effective management of irrigation schemes	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DoI; Ministry responsible for Trade; Development partners, Farmer organisations	2024-2029
	c) Monitor the performance of irrigation schemes using relevant instruments	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DoI; Ministry responsible for Water and Sanitation	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe	
V. Agricultural Mechanisation for Development				
3.2.15 Policy Statement 1: The Policy will ensure that agricultural mechanisation is promoted				
To increase by 50% the proportion of farmers having access and using farm mechanisation	a) Establish mechanisation data management through existing structures	Ministry responsible for Agriculture and National Statistical Office	2024-2029	
	b) Establish and operationalise an Agricultural Mechanisation Fund	Ministries responsible for Agriculture and Finance	2024-2029	
	c) Increase access to finance by farmers and producer organisations for agricultural mechanisation	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade, Ministry responsible for Finance, Development Partners, Farmer Organisations	2024-2029	
	d) Incentivise agricultural machinery and equipment hire services to make them affordable to farmers and producer organisations	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Finance	2024-2029	
	e) Promote innovation processes in local manufacturing and dissemination of agricultural machinery, equipment, and spare parts	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Labour: TEVETA, Technical colleges; Academic and research institutions responsible for technology and innovations in agriculture machinery	2024-2029	
	f) Develop a national agricultural mechanisation strategy to spearhead the agricultural mechanisation drive, including land consolidation where possible	Ministry responsible for Agriculture	2024-2029	
	g) Enhance gender mainstreaming in agricultural mechanisation	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Gender	2024-2029	
	Policy Priority Area 2: Food and Nutrition Security			
	3.3.1 Policy Statement 1: The Policy will ensure that food and nutrition education is enhanced			
To promote skills on food selection, processing and to improve dietary practices of household members	a) Promote nutrition education in food processing and preparation guided by the six food groups	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Health, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), District councils, Ministry responsible for Gender	2024-2029	
	b) Increase knowledge and skills of mothers and caregivers through nutrition education on appropriate food preparation and recommended child feeding practices	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, CSOs, DNCCs, Ministry responsible for Gender	2024-2029	
	c) Improve dissemination of extension and behavioural change communication messages on food and nutrition security	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Health, DNCC, CSOs	2024-2029	

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
	d) Promote the model village approach in implementing food and nutrition interventions	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Health, Ministry responsible for Gender	2024-2029
	e) Promote gender responsive food processing and preparation	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Fisheries, Ministry responsible for Gender	2024-2029
	f) Improve accessibility, processing and preparation of nutritious crop, animal, and fish-based foods	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Nutrition	2024-2029
	<p>3.3.2 Policy Statement 2: The Policy will ensure that production and consumption of diversified and nutritious foods is promoted</p> <p>To increase nutrient intake from diversified foods among household members</p>	a) Improve, publicise and disseminate recipes on nutritious diets using diverse locally available foods through different media	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Health, Ministry responsible for Gender, Ministry responsible for Education, District councils
b) Increase access to nutritious food for pregnant women and lactating mothers through innovative food security interventions		Ministry responsible for Agriculture, CSOs, NGOs, District councils, Ministry responsible for Education, Ministry responsible for Health	2024-2029
c) Promote the production, utilisation, and consumption of indigenous and wild foods		Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Health, Academia (LUANAR)	2024-2029
d) Promote public awareness and knowledge transfer of nutrition smart-agricultural foods		Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES; Ministry responsible for Health; Ministry responsible for Education	2024-2029
e) Diversify grain-dominated production and diets with legumes and nuts, foods from animals, fruits, vegetables, fish, and fishery products		Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Nutrition, Ministry responsible for Fisheries	2024-2029
f) Promote the integration of nutritious and balanced diets in social protection programmes to cater for the most vulnerable and food insecure households		Ministry responsible for Nutrition (DNHA), Department responsible for Disaster Management (DODMA)	2024-2029
g) Support integration of nutrition-smart agriculture in safety net programmes		Ministry responsible for Finance, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, National Food Reserve Agency	2024-2029
h) Scale-up Integrated Homestead Farming (IHF) in homes, health centres, schools, and agricultural offices		Ministry responsible for Agriculture	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
3.3.3 Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that nutrition-sensitive agricultural interventions are promoted			
To integrate food and nutrition into agriculture interventions for adequate and appropriate dietary practices	a) Intensify and support Home-Grown School Meals (HGSM) programmes in primary schools	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Education, District councils, Ministry responsible for Health	2024-2029
	b) Scale-up the integration of nutrition-smart agriculture crops into agricultural programmes and subsidies	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Research institutions	2024-2029
	c) Promote the integration of fish and livestock into local diets	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Fisheries, Development partners responsible for Fisheries	2024-2029
	d) Promote nutrition-sensitive research in the generation of agricultural technologies	Ministry responsible for Nutrition, Academic institutions, Research institutions	2024-2029
3.3.4 Policy Statement 4: The Policy will ensure that post-harvest management of diversified foods and food products is improved			
To ensure availability of wholesome, uncontaminated and safe food to household members	a) Increase access to climate friendly energy-saving and time-saving technologies in food storage, preservation, and processing	Ministry responsible for Forestry, Ministry responsible for Energy, National Commission for Science and Technology, Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS)	2024-2029
	b) Promote the use of efficient, environmentally friendly, and affordable food storage and processing technologies at all levels	Ministry responsible for Trade, Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS)	2024-2029
	c) Reduce post-harvest food loss through use of efficient technologies on perishable and non-perishable foods	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade, Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS)	2024-2029
	d) Build the capacity of producers of perishable and non-perishable foods and Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in post-harvest management	Ministry responsible for Trade, Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS)	2024-2029
3.3.5 Policy Statement 5: The Policy will ensure that a food and nutrition surveillance system is strengthened			
To develop database and retrieval system for management of food and nutrition security information	a) Promote continuous data collection and management on food and nutrition	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Health, Ministry responsible for Education, Ministry responsible for Gender	2024-2029
	b) Develop national food control systems to ensure internationally acceptable food safety for both domestic and export markets	MBS, Ministry responsible for Trade, Ministry responsible for Health	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
Policy Priority Area 3: Agricultural Commercialisation, Agro-Processing and Value Addition			
I. Agriculture Commercialisation			
3.4.1 Policy Statement 1: The Policy will ensure that access to lucrative and structured markets for all prioritised agricultural commodities is promoted			
i. To increase by 70% the proportion of farmers accessing lucrative markets by 2029 ii. To raise annual agricultural income by 50% by 2029	a) Facilitate the creation of structured markets for all prioritised agricultural commodities	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance; Private sector responsible for agricultural marketing, Farmers Organisations	2024-2029
	b) Increase the number and volume of commodities traded on structured/formal market platforms	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Private sector responsible for agricultural marketing, Farmers Organisations,	2024-2029
	c) Restructure ADMARC to improve the performance of its commercial activities	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance; OPC	2024-2026
	d) Promote contract farming, out-grower schemes, and other appropriate market-driven farming models	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, ADMARC, Agricultural commodity processors and exporter, Farmers Organisations, Competition and Fair Trading Commission (CFTC)	2024-2029
3.4.2 Policy Statement 2: The Policy will ensure that access to market information for farmers, fish producers and agribusiness MSMEs is promoted			
To increase the proportion of farmers accessing market information from 60% to 80% by 2029	a) Promote the collaborative collection, processing, dissemination of agricultural market data using a wide variety of media	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance; Agricultural commodity processors, Farmers Organisations, MITC, Media houses, Ministry responsible for Information	2024-2029
	b) Promote the generation and use of reliable, accessible, up-to-date and timely market information	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance; Agricultural commodity processors and exporters, Farmers Organisations, MITC, Media houses, Ministry responsible for Information, District councils	2024-2029
	c) Strengthen and harmonise agricultural market information systems	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance; Agricultural commodity processors, Exporters, Farmers Organisations, MITC, Media houses, Ministry responsible for Information, District councils	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
	<p>d) Build capacity among commodity value chain players including smallholder farmers, the YWVG and agricultural extension staff on the use of market information</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Agricultural commodity processors, Exporters, Farmer Organisations, MITC, Media houses, Ministry responsible for Information, District councils</p>	2024-2029
	<p>e) Promote establishment of functional business forums, linkages and market information centres</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Agricultural commodity processors, Exporters, Farmer Organisations, MITC, Media houses, Ministry responsible for Information, District councils</p>	2024-2029
<p>3.4.3 Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that agricultural market infrastructure; including energy and transport are developed</p> <p>To promote development and maintenance of agriculture related infrastructure</p>	<p>a) Increase the share of agricultural budget that goes to market development, agro-processing and value addition</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Development partners</p>	2024-2029
	<p>b) Promote the blue economy approach to unlock the potential of integrating fisheries and aquaculture in the wider agriculture-led socio-economic transformation and growth</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Agricultural commodity processors, Exporters, Producers, Development partners, NGOs, Ministry responsible for Fisheries</p>	2024-2029
	<p>c) Establish fully functional public and private warehouses across the country</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Agricultural commodity processors, Exporters, Producers, Development partners, NGOs</p>	2024-2029
	<p>d) Facilitate rural roads and electrification programmes to support agricultural commercialisation</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Agricultural commodity processors, Exporters, Ministry responsible for Transport, Producers, Development partners, NGOs, ESCOM</p>	2024-2029
	<p>e) Improve hygiene conditions and phytosanitary facilities in all aggregation centres for all prioritised agricultural commodities</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Health, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Water and Sanitation, Producer organisations, Agricultural commodity processors, Exporters</p>	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
<p>3.4.4 Policy Statement 4: The Policy will ensure that capacity of agricultural producer organisations is improved</p> <p>To improve the performance of 50% of registered producer organisations, especially agricultural cooperatives</p>	<p>a) Support effective operations/functionality of autonomous, self-reliant, and democratically managed producer organisations</p> <p>b) Promote access to business development services by farmers, fish producers and agribusiness MSMEs</p> <p>c) Strengthen capacity of YWVG MSMEs, YWVG cooperatives and other actors along various value chains in structured commodity marketing</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Producer organisations, Development partners, NGOs,</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Private sector, Producers, Development partners, NGOs,</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry of Finance, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Producer organisations, Development partners, NGOs, Ministry responsible for Gender</p>	<p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p>
<p>3.4.5 Policy Statement 5: The Policy will ensure that growth and development of efficient agricultural value chains is promoted</p> <p>(i) To raise profitability of prioritised agricultural value chains by 50% by 2029</p> <p>(ii) To promote competitiveness of agriculture value chains</p>	<p>a) Ensure competitive and fair pricing of agricultural commodities.</p> <p>b) Promote the development of sustainable mega farms for efficient, commercial, climate-smart production of high value agricultural commodities</p> <p>c) Initiate equitable land pooling or consolidation of land parcels among community members for smallholders to benefit from economies of scale through the agricultural mechanisation and commercialisation agenda</p> <p>d) Support consumer literacy programmes along the agricultural value chains to enhance demand</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, NGOs, Competition and Fair-Trading Commission (CFTC), Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Business development services providers, Financial institutions, Ministry responsible for Labour, Ministry responsible for the Youth</p> <p>Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Ministry responsible for Lands, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, OPC, Environmental Affairs Department (EAD)</p> <p>Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, MCCI, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Finance, Ministry responsible for Transport, Ministry responsible for Information, Media</p>	<p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p>

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
3.4.6 Policy Statement 6: The Policy will ensure that access to finance for agricultural enterprises is promoted			
To increase access to finance by at least 50% for farmers and agribusiness enterprises by 2029	a) Promote the development of and access to innovative agricultural value chain financing mechanisms	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Private sector, Financial institutions	2024-2029
	b) Facilitate linkage to financial institutions for farmers and agribusiness MSMEs	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Financial institutions	2024-2029
	c) Promote access to financial products and services for farmers and agribusiness MSMEs	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Financial institutions	2024-2029
II Agro-processing and value addition			
3.4.7 Policy Statement 1: The Policy will ensure that private sector participation in agro-processing, value addition and storage is promoted			
To increase private sector participation in agro-processing, value addition and storage by 20% in 2029	a) Build capacity among producer organisations and agribusiness enterprises in agro-processing and value addition emphasising health of people and the environment	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Academia, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Producer organisations	2024-2029
	b) Incentivise private sector investments towards the prioritised commodity value chains	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry-MITC, Ministry responsible for Finance, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers Wholesalers, Exporters, Producer organisations	2024-2029
	c) Establish one-stop-shops for all prioritised agribusiness application procedures	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Producer organisations	2024-2029
	d) Promote PPP arrangements in agro-processing and value addition initiatives and storage	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Finance, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Producer organisations	2024-2029
3.4.8 Policy Statement 2: The Policy will ensure that agricultural value addition and agro-processing for producers including YWVG are promoted			
To increase by at least 20% agricultural value added by 2029	a) Enhance local capacity for the manufacturing and maintenance of agro-processing equipment and machinery	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Academic institutions, Development partners, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Producer organisations	2024-2029
	b) Promote trade expositions for agricultural value-added products in the domestic, regional and international markets	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Academic institutions, Development partners, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Producer organisations	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
	<p>c) Facilitate rural electrification programmes and access to portable water to support agro-processing hubs</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Ministry responsible for Energy, Academic institutions, Development partners, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Producer organisations</p>	<p>2024-2029</p>
	<p>d) Promote agro-processing infrastructure development for all prioritised agricultural commodity value chain</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Academic institutions, Development partners, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Producer organisations</p>	<p>2024-2029</p>
<p>3.4.9 Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that improvements in quality standards and grading systems for agricultural commodities are supported</p> <p>To improve quality and standards of agriculture products</p>	<p>a) Facilitate producer and MSME linkages to the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) to enhance product quality standards</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Farmer Organisations, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Development partners, NGOs</p>	<p>2024-2029</p>
	<p>b) Strengthen audit and accreditation systems for agricultural commodities</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Malawi Bureau of Standards, Farmer Organisations, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Development partners, NGOs</p>	<p>2024-2029</p>
	<p>c) Improve product quality and product safety for export-oriented processing clusters and for domestic markets</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Malawi Bureau of Standards, Farmer Organisations, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Development partners, NGOs</p>	<p>2024-2029</p>
	<p>d) Build capacities for the implementation of trade-related measures and safety standards for agricultural products to facilitate domestic, regional, and global trade</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Malawi Bureau of Standards, Farmer Organisations, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Development partners, NGOs</p>	<p>2024-2029</p>
	<p>e) Promote traceability of agricultural commodities for trade facilitation</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Malawi Bureau of Standards, Farmer Organisations, Agricultural commodity processors, Retailers, Wholesalers, Exporters, Development partners, NGOs</p>	<p>2024-2029</p>

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
3.4.10 Policy Statement 4: The Policy will ensure that regional and global exports of value-added agricultural commodities are promoted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Strengthen the capacity for monitoring and reporting prevalent non-trade barriers in Malawi's agriculture export markets and addressing the country's agriculture-related non-trade barriers b) Promote niche markets for non-traditional products for exports through foreign missions and trade fairs c) Develop a profile for high-impact agricultural enterprises that provide good returns on investment in international markets d) Promote compliance with commitments to bilateral, regional, continental, and multilateral integration instruments e) Strengthen linkages between Malawi's prioritised commodity value chains with regional and global value chains 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry-MITC, MRA, RBM, Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Malawi Investment Trade Centre, Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Malawi Investment Trade Centre Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Malawi Investment Trade Centre Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry, Malawi Investment Trade Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2024-2029 2024-2029 2024-2029 2024-2029 2024-2029
To increase by 50% Malawi's agricultural exports of US\$75 million by 2029			
Policy Priority Area 4: Sustainable Management of Land, Water, and other Natural Resources	3.5.1 Policy Statement 1: The Policy will ensure that integrated catchment approaches are promoted		
To enhance knowledge and skills in integrated catchment management planning and implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Institutionalise and operationalise the National Guidelines for Integrated Catchment Management and Rural Infrastructure in sustainable land management (SLM) programmes b) Build the capacity of staff and farmers on integrated catchment management c) Develop and implement decentralised catchment management plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Forest Management, Ministry responsible for Water Resources, Ministry responsible for Lands, Development partners Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC; Ministry responsible for Forestry; Ministry responsible for Water; Ministry responsible for Community Development; District councils Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC; DoI; Ministry responsible for Forestry; District councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2024 - 2027 2024 -2027 2024 -2028

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
To promote afforestation and increase the proportion of land under sustainable land and water management to 30% by 2029	<p>d) Promote afforestation and farmer-managed natural regeneration for catchment conservation and management</p> <p>e) Promote land-use practices that minimise runoff, eutrophication, pollution and degradation of water bodies and fish ecosystem</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Water; Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DoI, DAES; Department of Forestry; ARET; District councils</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Water Department, Department of Forestry, Irrigation Services Department, District councils</p>	<p>2024 -2029</p> <p>2024 -2025</p>
3.5.2 Policy Statement 2: The Policy will ensure that resilience of production systems to climate change and other shocks is enhanced			
To increase adoption of climate-smart technologies for crops, aquaculture and livestock interventions	<p>a) Promote the adoption of climate smart technologies in crop and livestock production, irrigation, aquaculture, and fisheries</p> <p>b) Promote the development and adoption of water harvesting technologies</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES, DARS, DoI, DCD, DAHLD; Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services; Ministry responsible for Natural Resources; District councils</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES, DARS, DoI, DAHLD; DCCMS; Ministry responsible for Natural Resources; District councils</p>	<p>2024 -2029</p> <p>2024 -2028</p>
To reduce contribution of agricultural sector to greenhouse emissions from 54% to 52.5% by 2029	<p>c) Develop and/or implement agricultural and land management practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions</p> <p>d) Implement measures to reduce vulnerability of fishers, fish farmers and aquatic ecosystems to climate change</p> <p>e) Improve the dissemination of real time agro-climate data for planning and early warning</p> <p>f) Promote alternative sources of livelihoods to release pressure on land resources</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES, DARS, DoI, DCD, DAHLD; DCCMS; Ministry responsible for Land; Ministry responsible for Natural Resources</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES, DARS, DoI, DCD, DAHLD; DCCMS; District councils</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES, DARS, DoI, DCD, DAHLD; Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS); DODMA</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES, DARS, DoI, DCD, DAHLD; DCCMS</p>	<p>2024 -2029</p> <p>2024 -2027</p> <p>2024-2026</p> <p>2024 -2029</p>
3.5.3 Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that integrated soil fertility management practices are promoted.			
To increase area put under integrated soil fertility management practices annually	<p>a) Promote the effective use of organic, inorganic, and bioorganic inputs and practices for sustainable improvement of soil health</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DCD, DARS, DAES; ARET; Non-state actors responsible for management of fertilizers</p>	<p>2024 -2029</p>
To increase adoption of area specific fertilizer recommendations	<p>b) Promote application of area-specific fertilisers</p> <p>c) Promote the adoption of conservation agriculture technologies</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DCD, DARS, DAES; ARET</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DCD, DAHLD, DARS, DAES; ARET; Ministry responsible for Fisheries</p>	<p>2024 -2029</p> <p>2024 -2029</p>

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
	<p>d) Promote the integration of soil fertility enhancing crops and livestock in agricultural systems</p> <p>e) Integrate SLM practices into agricultural input support initiatives</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DCD, DARS, DAES; ARET; Ministry responsible for Fisheries</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS, DLRC, DCD, DAES</p>	<p>2024 -2029</p> <p>2024 -2029</p>
	1.1.4 Policy Statement 4: The Policy will ensure that measures enforcing and incentivising efforts in sustainable land management technologies are promoted		
To increase awareness of and demand for SLM interventions and incentivise through introduction of innovative incentive mechanisms	a) Promote mindset change towards SLM through social marketing	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES; Ministry responsible for Information	2024 -2029
	b) Link SLM to innovative incentive mechanisms such as payment for ecosystem services and inputs support programmes	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS, DLRC, DCD, DAES; Ministry responsible for Information	2024 -2029
	c) Promote use of media and digital technologies in the dissemination of SLM messages	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES; Ministry responsible for Gender; Ministry responsible for Information	2024 -2029
	d) Promote knowledge and skills in land management for men, women, and the youth	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES; Ministry responsible for Gender	2024 -2029
	e) Facilitate the development of Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) and monitor the implementation of environmental and social management plans for agricultural projects	DAPS, DLRC, DoI, EAD, NEPA	2024-2029
	f) Facilitate the development of guidelines and regulations on SLM	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC; Ministry responsible for Lands	2024 -2029
	3.5.5 Policy Statement 5: The Policy will ensure that availability of, access to, and utilisation of sustainable alternative sources of energy are improved		
To increase number of households accessing sustainable alternative sources of energy and using energy saving technologies	a) Increase access by households to sustainable alternative sources of energy	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES; Ministry responsible for Energy; Ministry responsible for Forestry	2024 -2029
	b) Promote the use of energy-efficient technologies that save on the amount of fuel wood, time, and labour	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES; Ministry responsible for Energy; Ministry responsible for Forestry	2024 -2029
	c) Promote the planting of multi-purpose agro-forestry tree species	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES; Ministry responsible for Energy; Ministry responsible for Forestry	2024 -2029
	d) Promote the establishment of individual, clan or community-managed woodlots	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES; Ministry responsible for Energy; Ministry responsible for Forestry	2024 -2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
<p>3.5.6 Policy Statement 6: The Policy will ensure that access to land and water resources and improved land tenure security are promoted</p> <p>To strengthen land tenure security through land registration and promote equitable access to land</p> <p>To promote governance of tenure for land, forestry, and fisheries</p>	<p>a) Support the creation of local institutions for decentralised land administration</p> <p>b) Promote equitable access to and control over land and water for agriculture, including irrigation</p> <p>c) Facilitate the implementation of land acts to foster the registration of agricultural land and strengthen tenure rights</p> <p>d) Promote equitable access to fishing areas and fish farming zones</p> <p>e) Use the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT) to facilitate attainment of secure tenure of land, fisheries and forestry by farmers, fishers, foresters and irrigators</p> <p>f) Monitor and enforce agricultural land lease covenants to ensure compliance with land use and conservation obligations</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Lands, Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Gender</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Lands, Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Gender</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Lands, Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Gender</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Lands, Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Gender</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Lands, Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Gender</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Lands, Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Gender</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Lands, Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Gender</p>	<p>2024 -2029</p> <p>2024 -2029</p> <p>2024 -2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024 -2029</p>
<p>3.5.7 Policy Statement 7: The Policy will ensure that land use planning at all levels is facilitated</p> <p>To generate, update and digitise land resources information and disseminate using different media platforms</p>	<p>a) Ensure proper selection of land for agricultural and other uses</p> <p>b) Ensure timely generation and dissemination of land resources information</p> <p>c) Ensure safekeeping of data and information through proper library management</p> <p>d) Facilitate agro-ecological mapping and characterisation of attributes to inform area specific interventions</p> <p>e) Digitise available land resources information and use digital platforms for dissemination</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Lands, Ministry responsible for Local Government</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DLRC; Ministry responsible for Lands</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC; Ministry responsible for Lands</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DARS, DAPS</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC, DAES</p>	<p>2024- 2029</p> <p>2024 -2027</p> <p>2024 -2024</p> <p>2024 -2029</p> <p>2024 -2029</p>

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
Policy Priority Area 5: Agricultural Research and Innovation			
3.6.1 Policy Statement 1: The Policy will ensure that agricultural research systems and innovations in agriculture are strengthened			
To strengthen research and development and promote innovations in agriculture for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector	a) Increase public resource allocation and investments in agricultural and aquatic research, development, and innovation in line with the AU targets	Ministry responsible for Finance; Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, DARS, DCD, DLRC, DoI; Ministry responsible for Local Government; Development partners; CISANET; Private sector; Academia and Research Institutions	2024-2029
	b) Promote collaborative research between and among national agriculture research institutions (NARs), international research organisations, academia and the private sector in fostering research, innovation, and development	Ministry responsible for agriculture: DARS; Ministry responsible for Finance; Ministry responsible for Local Government; Development partners; CISANET; Private sector; Academia and research institutions	2024-2029
	c) Establish Technology Transfer Offices (TTO) in all public research institutions to enhance patenting and commercialisation of agricultural innovations and technologies	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS; Ministry responsible for Finance; Ministry responsible for Local Government; Development partners; CISANET; Private sector; National Commission for Science and Technology	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
Policy Priority Area 6: Institutional Development, Coordination, and Capacity Strengthening			
I. Institutional Development and Coordination			
3.7.1 Policy Statement 1: The Policy will ensure that stakeholder coordination in the formulation, implementation and review of agriculture- related policies, programmes and projects is promoted			
<p>To strengthen stakeholder coordination for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector</p>	a) Build the capacity of the Ministry's policy implementation unit to better coordinate sector players in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy as well as the resultant programmes and projects	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Office of the President and Cabinet, Ministry responsible for Finance, Development partners, National Planning Commission	2024-2029
	b) Strengthen sector coordination structures/ mechanisms to promote stakeholder engagement, accountability, transparency, efficiency, and effectiveness in the implementation of this policy as well as the resultant programmes and projects	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS; National Planning Commission; Development partners; Private sector; CSOs	2024-2029
	c) Institutionalise the MW2063 coordination framework and the MW2063 Pillar Enabler Coordination Groups (PECGs) and harmonise with the current coordination structures in the sector	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS; NPC; Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry; Private sector; Development partners; CSOs	2024-2029
	d) Create and enforce a joint planning, and reporting framework for programmes and projects implemented by the private sector, Development partners, CSOs and other non-state actors	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS; NPC, Office of the President and Cabinet; Private sector; Development partners; CISANET	2024-2029
3.7.2 Policy Statement 2: The Policy will ensure that a bottom-up approach to the implementation of agricultural and related policies, programmes and interventions at district and community levels is promoted			
<p>To strengthen policy, programme, and project implementation for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector at district and community level</p>	a) Enforce alignment, joint planning, and implementation of stakeholder agricultural plans, programmes and interventions with the District Development Plans (DDPs), district agricultural investment plans, and this overarching agriculture Policy	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS; Ministry responsible for Local Government; CISANET; NGOs; Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry; Private sector; Development partners	2024-2029
	b) Capacitate relevant district level agricultural development structures to effectively coordinate agricultural interventions and/or investments at the district and local council levels	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES; DAECs, Private sector; NGOs; CISANET; Development partners	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
	<p>c) Enhance public awareness of this and other related policies among all stakeholders</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, DAPS; Ministry responsible for Finance, Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Information and Civic Education</p>	2024-2029
<p>3.7.3 Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that complete devolution of agricultural functions at the district and local levels is fast-tracked</p> <p>To enhance efficient agricultural service delivery at the local council level</p>	<p>a) Capacitate the district level agricultural staff in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural sector initiatives</p> <p>b) Increase budgetary resources to local authorities to support the implementation of the agricultural policies and programmes</p> <p>c) Enhance the capacity of district and local councils to mobilise, manage, account for and track resources allocated for agricultural sector programmes and interventions</p> <p>d) Promote autonomy in agricultural resource allocation decisions at district and local councils</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Finance, National Planning Commission, Ministry responsible for Local Government, Private sector, Development partners</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Finance; Ministry responsible for Local Government, Local Government Finance Committee, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Private sector, Development partners</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Finance: Revenue Division, Accountant General Department (AGD), Central Internal Audit Unit (CIAU), Public Finance Management Systems (PFMS) Division; Ministry responsible for Agriculture; NPC; Ministry responsible for Local Government</p> <p>Local Government Finance Committee, Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Finance, NPC,</p>	2024-2029
<p>3.7.4 Policy Statement 4: The Policy will ensure that institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks are reformed and restructured</p> <p>To create and strengthen an enabling institutional, legal, and regulatory environment for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector</p>	<p>a) Restructure and capacitate the Agricultural Mechanisation Unit of the Ministry to become a distinct department</p> <p>b) Resuscitate the former Land Husbandry Training Centre</p> <p>c) Facilitate restructuring of the Department of Animal Health and Livestock Development (DAHLD) to strengthen coordination and support for the livestock frontline staff and farmers</p> <p>d) Develop, review and update policies and legislations that govern the agricultural sector and relevant subsectors to support agricultural transformation</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Public Sector Reforms, Ministry responsible for Local Government</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DLRC; Ministry responsible for Public Sector Reforms; Ministry responsible for Local Government</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Ministry responsible for Finance</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS; Ministry responsible for Finance, Ministry responsible for Justice</p>	2024-2029

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
<p>3.7.5 Policy Statement 5: The Policy will ensure that infrastructural development for improved service delivery is facilitated and supported</p> <p>To increase investments for infrastructure development for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector</p>	<p>a) Improve the quality of housing, offices, and laboratories for agricultural staff, especially at the research stations, district, and local levels</p> <p>b) Increase the GoM's agricultural budget and promote PPPs as well as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) arrangements for improvement, maintenance, and development of rural infrastructure</p> <p>c) Promote investments in rural electrification programmes to enhance access to electricity in agricultural development offices, staff houses, markets, and agro-processing hubs in rural areas</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES; Ministry responsible for Transport and Public Works; Ministry responsible for Finance; Development partners; Ministry responsible for Housing; Ministry responsible for Local Government and Rural Development</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Finance, Private sector; OPC, Development partners, International organisations</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Energy, Ministry responsible for Trade, Ministry responsible for Agriculture</p>	<p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p>
<p>3.7.6 Policy Statement 6: The Policy will ensure that investments in the agricultural sector are promoted</p> <p>To increase investments in the agricultural sector for efficient and effective service delivery</p>	<p>a) Revise or update the National Agricultural Investment Plan (NAIP) to be in tandem with NAP 2024 and pillar 1 of MIP-1</p> <p>b) Promote fair and balanced government budgeting that responds to the needs of the YWVG across all the subsectors</p> <p>c) Promote innovative resource mobilisation strategies to finance key programmes including scientific research and extension and the development of food systems</p> <p>d) Promote adequate and balanced allocation of resources to the NAIP implementation in keeping with the goals and objectives of the MW2063 and MIP-1</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS, DAES, DCD, DLRC, DoI; Ministry responsible for Finance; Development partners; CISANET; Private sector; International organisations</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES; Ministry responsible for Finance; Development partners; CISANET; Private sector; International organisations, Ministry responsible for Gender</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS DARS, DAES, DCD, DLRC, DoI; Ministry responsible for Finance; Development partners; CISANET</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS; Ministry responsible for Finance; Development partners; CISANET; Private sector; International organisations</p>	<p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p>

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
	<p>e) Facilitate the establishment of an agricultural investment bank</p> <p>f) Rationalise the agricultural budget to ensure an efficient and fair distribution of resources towards other subsectors of the agricultural sector such as research and development other than the inputs subsidy programme</p> <p>g) Strengthen the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit of the Ministry to conduct regular budget tracking and reporting and to enhance accountability and transparency in resource utilisation in the agricultural sector by all implementing agencies</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Finance, National Planning Commission, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Development partners, CISANET, Private sector, OPC, NPC</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Finance, Development partners, CISANET, Private sector</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Finance, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Development partners, CISANET, Private sector, International organisations</p>	<p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p>
II Capacity Strengthening			
3.7.7 Policy Statement 1: The Policy will ensure that departments and agencies of the Ministry responsible for Agriculture are capacitated.			
<p>To strengthen human and technical capacity for efficient, effective and inclusive service delivery in the agricultural sector</p>	<p>a) Recruit and retain more front-line workers and specialised agricultural staff (such as extension workers and research technicians), with a specific focus on increasing female staff recruitment at all technical levels</p> <p>b) Enhance technical capacity and functionality of the Ministry's departments and agencies in resource utilisation/spending from increased allocation and/or funding from development partners (DPs), the government and other non-state actors</p> <p>c) Enhance the technical capacity of the frontline staff in the agricultural sector through regular and continuous training with particular attention paid to female staff</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES; Ministry responsible for Finance; Ministry responsible for Local Government; DHRMD</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Finance, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Local Government, NPC, Development partners, CISANET</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, DARS, DCD, DLRC, DoI; Ministry responsible for Finance; Ministry responsible for Local Government; DHRMD</p>	<p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p>

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
<p>3.7.8 Policy Statement 2: The Policy will ensure that agricultural extension systems for enhanced service delivery in agriculture are strengthened</p>	<p>a) Promote increased public resource allocation and investments for training, information sharing, and other extension support related services to farmers and MSMEs</p> <p>b) Promote use of innovative extension approaches among public and private service providers</p> <p>c) Strengthen research-extension-farmer linkages for increased adoption of agricultural technologies for various agricultural and aquatic value chains</p> <p>d) Harmonise extension messages among stakeholders to build necessary knowledge, skills, consensus, synergy, and collaboration across agricultural value chains among service providers</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS, DAES, DAHLD; Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Finance; Ministry responsible for Trade; Ministry responsible for Local Government; Development partners; CISANET; Private sector; Academia and research institutions; Non-state agricultural extension service providers</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, DARS, DAHLD; Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for finance; Ministry responsible for Local Government; Development partners; CISANET; Private sector; Academia and research institutions; Non-state agricultural extension service providers</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: CAETS, DARS, DAES, DAHLD; Department of Fisheries; Development partners; CISANET; Private sector; Academia and research institutions; Non-state agricultural extension service providers</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS, DAES, DAHLD; Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Finance; Ministry responsible for Local Government; Development partners; CISANET; Private sector; Academia and research institutions; Non-state agricultural extension service providers</p>	<p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p>
<p>3.7.9 Policy Statement 3: The Policy will ensure that use of ICT and digital infrastructure in agriculture is strengthened</p> <p>To enhance use of ICT for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector</p>	<p>a) Promote the use of cutting-edge digital technologies and equipment in agricultural and aquatic research and development, agricultural production, extension, and marketing</p> <p>b) Improve ICT infrastructure and networks at the Ministry, district, and local levels</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS, DAES, DAHLD; Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Information and E-government; National Commission for Science and Technology (NCST); Private sector; Development partners; Academia and research institutions; CISANET</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, DARS, DAHLD; Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Finance; Ministry responsible for Trade; Ministry responsible for Information and E-government; Private sector; Development partners; Academia and research institutions; National Commission for Science and Technology (NCST)</p>	<p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p>

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
	<p>c) Promote the use of ICT-based agricultural extension and market information sharing delivery systems to farmers and MSMEs</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, DARS, DAHLD; Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Finance; Ministry responsible for Trade; Ministry responsible for Information and E-government; Private sector; Development partners; Academia and research institutions</p>	<p>2024-2029</p>
<p>3.7.10 Policy Statement 4: The Policy will ensure that a Gender Transformative Approach and equitable access to capacity building initiatives, resources, and programmes in agriculture are promoted</p> <p>To strengthen institutional capacity for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector</p>	<p>a) Develop and sustain the capacity of YWVG farmers to engage with financing institutions and access available finances</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES; Ministry responsible for Gender; Ministry responsible for Youth; Development partners; Private sector</p>	<p>2024-2029</p>
	<p>b) Strengthen workplace HIV/AIDS interventions across the MDAs, value chain players and the private sector</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES; Ministry responsible for Gender; Department of Nutrition; Ministry responsible for Youth; Development partners; Private sector; Farmer Organisations; CISANET</p>	<p>2024-2029</p>
	<p>c) Develop and sustain the capacity of agriculture technicians in the Gender Transformative Approach at the household level, and in gender mainstreaming among stakeholders</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES; Ministry responsible for Gender; Ministry Responsible for Youth; Development partners; Private sector; Farmer Organisations; CISANET</p>	<p>2024-2029</p>
	<p>d) Promote capacity building in HIV/AIDS management and gender mainstreaming in agriculture</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES; Ministry responsible for Gender; Department of Nutrition; Development partners; Private sector; Farmer Organisations; CISANET</p>	<p>2024-2029</p>
	<p>e) Promote mindset change, including addressing social norms to encourage YWVG to access productive resources such as land; to participate in decision making; and to have control of income and other proceeds from food and income security</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES; Ministry responsible for Gender; Ministry responsible for Youth; Development partners; Private sector; Farmer Organisations; CISANET</p>	<p>2024-2024</p>

Objective	Strategy	Responsibility	Timeframe
<p>III. Risk Management</p>			
<p>3.7.12 Policy Statement 6: The Policy will ensure that risk management and resilience of the agricultural sector is promoted</p> <p>To promote risk management and enhance the resilience of the agricultural sector</p>	<p>a) Strengthen early warning systems in agriculture for enhanced disaster/risk preparedness and resilience</p> <p>b) Develop and promote a wide range of agricultural insurance products and services among all farmer categories and types, as well as fish producers</p> <p>c) Develop and/or promote drought-tolerant crop varieties and livestock breeds</p> <p>d) Capacitate and enhance the management of the strategic food reserves and ensure their linkage to regional strategic food reserves.</p> <p>e) Enhance the quality of market information systems for the management of risks associated with agricultural markets</p> <p>f) Promote integrated management and control of pests and diseases</p> <p>g) Promote safe handling and disposal of agro-chemicals and use of animal drugs</p>	<p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS; Department of Climate Change and Meteorology Services (DCCMS), DoDMA; Ministry responsible for Natural Resources and Climate Change; Development partners; Private sector; CISANET; Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET)</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS; Department of Climate Change and Meteorology Services (DCCMS); DoDMA; Ministry responsible for Natural Resources and Climate Change; Development partners; Private sector; CISANET</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS, DCD, DAES; DCCMS; CISANET; Private sector; Academia and other research institutions</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: CAS; National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA); ADMARC; Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (VAC); Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC); Private sector; Development partners</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS; NSO; Academia and research institutions; CISANET; Development partners; FEWSNET</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DCD, DAHLD, DARS; Department of Fisheries; CISANET; Farmer organisations; Academia and other research institutions</p> <p>Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DCD, DAHLD, DARS; Department of Fisheries; CISANET; Farmer Organisations; Academia and other research institutions</p>	<p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p> <p>2024-2029</p>

ANNEX 2

**MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN FOR
NATIONAL AGRICULTURE POLICY (2024-2029)**

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Monitoring of Policy Priority Area 1: Agricultural Production and Productivity							
General objective: To increase the aggregate annual output growth of crops, livestock and fish to 15 percent, 20 percent and 15 percent respectively by 2029, in order to achieve at least a 6 percent annual growth in agricultural GDP							
I. Crop production and productivity							
Policy Outcome 3.2.1: Increased access to improved and affordable crop production inputs among farmers of all categories farmers of all categories							
To increase, by 50 percent, the number of farmers, including the youth, women, and vulnerable groups, timely accessing quality inputs, including, seed, fertilisers, agro-chemicals, mechanisation, and irrigation equipment for crop production	a) Facilitate improvement of supply chain logistics to reduce the cost of farm inputs	Rural paved roads	Total lengths (km) of rural paved roads	7,800 km	4,873 km	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Transport and Public Works	Availability of funds
		Paved road sections maintained	Total length of paved road sections that received periodic maintenance	3,000 km	3,845.7 km	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Transport and Public Works	
		Unpaved road network graded and reshaped	Total length of unpaved road network graded and reshaped	4,500 km	2,029 km	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Transport and Public Works	
		Railway coverage to international routes	Percentage coverage of railway to international routes	60%	20%	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Transport and Public Works	
		Railway coverage to local routes	Percentage coverage of railway to local routes	50%	25%	Reports-MIP 1, Ministry responsible for Transport and Public Works	
		Fertilizer usage	Tonnes of fertilizer applied per hectare of land	0.2 tonnes/ha	0.06 tonnes/ha	MIP-1 Progress reports	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
		Capacity of rural warehousing facilities increased	Percentage increase in capacity of rural warehousing facilities	100%	50%	Agricultural sector Performance Reports, MIP-1 Progress Reports, Ministry responsible for Transport and Public Works, Ministry responsible for Local Government and Rural Development	
	b) Facilitate access to affordable finance for crop production inputs	Farmer-centric crop production financial services provided	Percentage of farmers having access to finance for crop production	Aggregate-80% Female - 40% Male -40% Youth- 20%	Aggregate - 50% Female- 30% Male - 20% Youth - 15%	Agricultural sector Performance reports, Commercial bank reports, DAES reports	Farmers having collateral
	c) Target productive farmer organisations, including anchor farms and mega farms, with crop production input support programmes	Farmer organisations crop production input programmes established	Percentage of farmer organisations accessing crop production inputs	80%	60%	Agricultural sector Performance Reports, Annual reports under Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Willingness of farmers to participate
			Number of crop production input support programmes for farmer organisations	10	5	Agricultural sector Performance Reports, Annual reports under Ministry responsible for agriculture	Availability of funds.

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	d) Promote research on low-cost crop production technologies	Low-cost crop production technologies developed	Percentage increase in annual release of low-cost crop production technologies	30%	0%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Technology Clearing Committee (ATCC)	Research funds for innovations on low-cost technologies
	e) Promote increased availability of affordable seeds and planting materials for nutrition-smart agriculture	Vitamin A maize seed distributed	Quantity of vitamin A maize seed distributed by seed producers	760 MT	380 MT	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Increased production of basic seed for multiplication
		High iron bean seed distributed	Quantity of iron bean seed distributed by seed producers	4,000 MT	2,000 MT	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Increased production of basic seed for multiplication
	Policy Outcome 3.2.2: Strengthened resilience of crop production systems to climate and other shocks						
To ensure that 30% of farmers in crop production have improved their resilience capacity to climate and weather-related risks, by the year 2029	a) Promote sustainable intensification of crop production system based on locally available materials, including use of indigenous crops, community seed banks, indigenous methods of managing pests and diseases, and organic and bio-fertilisers	Sustainable intensification technologies adopted	Percentage of farmers practicing sustainable intensification technologies	30%	0%	DCD reports, DLRC reports, DARS, DAES reports, Local Government reports	Good coordination among departments and stakeholder in agriculture technology development and dissemination
		Integrated crop management technologies released	Number of integrated crop management technologies released	60	45	Agricultural Technology Clearing Committee (ATCC) -DARS reports	
		Extension services provided to farmers	Ratio of agricultural extension workers to farmers	1:1,000	1:2,017	Reports-Ministry responsible for Agriculture, ASPR	Willingness of farmers to adopt the technologies
		Community seed banks established	Percentage increase in number of community seed banks in the country	50%	0%	Reports from the Department of Agriculture Research	Willingness of the communities

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	b) Promote the use of integrated crop management practices such as Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM), to reduce reliance of chemical solutions	ISFM and IPM adopted	Percentage of farmers practicing ISFM and IPM	40%	10%	DCD reports, DLRC reports, DAES reports, DARS reports Local Government reports	Good coordination among departments and stakeholders in agriculture technology development and dissemination
		Increased crop productivity	Yields for selected key crops (Tons/ha)	Maize-3.5 Rice-3.0 Tobacco-1.8 Groundnuts-2 Soyabean-2 Pigeon peas-2 Common beans-1.2 Sunflower 2 Sorghum-2 Millet-1.5 Cassava-30 Irish poptato - 20 Sweet potato-30	Maize-2.5 Rice-2.1 Tobacco-1.3 Groundnuts-1.0 Soyabean-1.2 Pigeon peas- 1.6 Common beans-0.65 Sunflower-1.1 Sorghum-1.0 Millet-0.7 Cassava-25.0 Irish poptato- 18.6 Sweet potato - 23.4	DCD, DAPS, DARS -APES data	Favourable weather conditions for crop production
				Mangoes-35 Banana-25 Paprika 2.0 Chillies-2.0 Macadamia: 2.5 Tea: 7.5 Coffee: 0.5 Sugarcane: 130 Banana: 25	Mangoes-26.6 Banana-15 Paprika-1.2 Chillies-1.52 Macadamia: 2 Tea: 6 Coffee: 0.2 Sugarcane: 108 Banana: 20		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	c) Support recycling of by-products for use as manure, fertilisers and soil conditioners	Farmers trained on waste recycling for soil health improvement	Percentage of farmers trained on waste recycling	Women-40% Men - 40% Youth - 40%	Women- 23% Men - 21% Youth - 15%	Training reports, Local Government reports	Willingness of farmers
	a) Mainstream YWVG-related issues in crop production resilience strategies	Increased participation of YWVG in resilience enhancing crop production strategies	Percentage of YWVG involved in crop production resilience strategies	CA-40% CSA-40% Agroforestry-40%	CA-18% CSA-16% Agroforestry-22%	DAES reports, DCD reports, DLRC reports	Willingness of YWVG
Policy Outcome 3.2.3: Increased innovations in development and dissemination of crop production technologies							
To create a conducive environment for the development and dissemination of innovations in crop production technologies	a) Promote the process of engagement and innovation in crop research and extension	Collaboration between research-extension-farmers in crop variety testing strengthened	Percentage of farmers having access to agricultural extension and advisory services (%)	95%	70%	DAES reports, Local Government reports	Availability of resources
				0.6	0.3	Agricultural Sector Performance Reports, Local Government reports, DAES reports, Survey reports	
	b) Support development of demand-driven crop production technologies, through time sensitive research	New crop production technologies addressing farmers' needs developed	Number of new crop production technologies developed annually	30	26	26	DAES reports, Local Government reports, DAES reports, Survey reports

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	c) Facilitate dissemination and adoption of crop production technologies suitable for specific agro-ecologies among frontline extension workers, other service providers, and all farmers in general	Crop production technologies adopted	Agricultural technology adoption index	0.6	0.3	DAES reports, Survey reports	
			Percentage of farmers (%) having access to agricultural extension and advisory services	Women-40%	Women-12%	DAES reports	Resources available
				Men -40%	Men -14%		
		Youth- 20%		Youth- 4%			
		Crop production technologies disseminated	Women-40%	Women-12%	DAES reports	Willingness of frontline extension staff to transfer knowledge	
			Men -40%	Men -14%			
			Youth- 20%	Youth- 4%			
		Farmers trained on recommended crop production technologies	Women-40%	Women-25%	Training reports, DAES reports, Local Government report	Resources available	
			Men -40%	Men -30%			
			Youth- 20%	Youth-10%			
		Agro dealers trained in recommended crop production technologies	Male - 600	Male- 200	Agro-dealer networks reports, Ministry of Agriculture reports-DAES, DAPs	Willingness of agro-dealers to collaborate	
			Female - 300	Female-150			
Youth-100	Youth-60						
Increased area under key crops	Area under key crops (ha)	Maize-1,859,955	Maize-1,500,000	Agriculture Production Estimates Survey reports	Higher profitability of the crops value chains		
		Rice- 81,626	Rice- 75,787				
		Tobacco- 77,785	Tobacco-64,000				
		Mangoes - 6, 481,460	Mangoes - 5,981,461				
		Banana-150,000	Banana-52,000				
		Groundnut - 450,000	Groundnut - 407,692				
Soyabean - 350,000	Soyabean - 216,652						
Pigeon peas- 290,000	Pigeon peas- 261,955						

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	d) Promote mobile plant nutrition clinics and soil testing technologies	Low-cost plant clinics established	Number of new low-cost plant clinics established	20	Common bean-373,000 Sunflower-18,614 Sorghum-116,983 Millet-57,856 Cassava-244,255 Irish potato-76,461 Sweet potato-39,000 Paprika-2,851 Chillies-1,732 Macadamia-4,508 Tea-8,167 Coffee-7,500 Industrial cannabis-100 Medicinal cannabis-55 Sugarcane-28,539	5	DARS reports Availability of resources
		Low-cost soil testing technologies introduced	Number of low-cost soil testing technologies	5		2	DCD reports, DAES reports Resources available
	e) Promote access to low-cost nutrition smart agriculture production technologies	New bio fortified varieties developed	Number of new bio fortified varieties developed.	40		19	DARS reports Resources available

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Policy Outcome 3.2.4: Improved regulation for quality standards for crop production inputs and technologies							
To increase by 50 percent the number of farmers, including the youth, women, and vulnerable groups, timely accessing quality inputs, including, seed, fertilisers, agro-chemicals, mechanisation and irrigation equipment for crop production	a) Facilitate review of existing standards for seed, fertilisers, and other inputs	Revised regulations and standards for crop production inputs	Number of regulations and standards for crop production inputs revised	22	0	DARS reports, MBS reports	Resources available
	b) Facilitate the development of quality standards for community seed production, bio-technological seeds, organic and bio-fertilisers	Standards for crop production inputs and technologies developed	Number of standards for crop production inputs and technologies developed (community seed production, bio-technological seeds, organic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers)	22	0	DARS reports, MBS reports	Resources available
	c) Foster collaboration with enforcement agencies for compliance with quality standards for all types of crop production inputs by enterprises	Reduced cases of non-compliance to quality standards	Percent of non-compliance cases reported	5%	20%	DARS reports, Local Government reports	Willingness of law enforcement agencies to collaborate with government staff

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
II. Livestock production and productivity							
Policy Outcome 3.2.5: Enhanced availability of breeding stock to livestock farmers							
To increase livestock reproductive performance and use of biotechnologies in animal breeding programmes	a) Promote establishment of local breeding centres by public and private sector actors	Local breeding centres established	Number of new breeding centres established	4	1	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHL, Academic Institutions such as LUANAR	Resources available
		Artificial insemination technologies introduced	Number of artificial insemination technologies introduced	3	3	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHL, DARS; Academic Institutions such as LUANAR; Non-state actors	Resources available
	b) Promote use of relevant bio-technologies in animal breeding and reproduction	Oestrus synchronization technologies introduced	Number of oestrus synchronization technologies introduced	3	3	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHL, DARS; Academic Institutions such as LUANAR; Non-state actors	Resources available
		Superovulation technologies introduced	Number of superovulation technologies introduced	2	2	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHL, DARS; Academic Institutions such as LUANAR; Non-state actors	Resources available

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
		Embryo transfer technologies introduced	Number of embryo transfer technologies introduced	4	2	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHL, DARS; Academic Institutions such as LUANAR; Non-state actors	Resources available
		In vitro fertilization technologies introduced	Number of in vitro fertilization technologies introduced	9	4	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHL, DARS; Academic Institutions such as LUANAR; Non-state actors	Resources available
		Sperm and embryo sexing technologies introduced	Number of sperm and embryo sexing technologies introduced	4	3	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHL, DARS; Academic Institutions such as LUANAR; Non-state actors	Resources available
		Animal genetic resource bank established	Number of animal genetic resource bank established	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHL, DARS	Resources available
		Local animal breeds for genetic resource conservation	Number of local breeds for genetic resources conservation (cattle, goats, sheep, pigs, chickens)	5	1	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture - DAHL, DARS; Academic Institutions such as LUANAR	Resources available
	c) Strengthen sustainable animal genetic resource conservation						

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	d) Prioritise dairy cattle, beef cattle, chicken, pig, goat, and beekeeping value chains in livestock programmes	Dairy cattle development programme developed and implemented	Number of dairy cattle development programmes developed and implemented	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Development Partners; Private sector	Cooperation from all stakeholders and availability of finances
		Beef cattle development programme developed and implemented	Number of beef cattle development programmes developed and implemented	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Development partners; Private sector	Cooperation from all stakeholders and availability of finances
		Chicken development programme developed and implemented	Number of chicken development programmes developed and implemented	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Development partners; Private sector	Cooperation from all stakeholders and availability of finances
		Pig development programme developed and implemented	Number of pig development programmes developed and implemented	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Development Partners; Private sector	Cooperation from all stakeholders and availability of finances
		Goat development programme developed and implemented	Number of goat development programmes developed and implemented	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Development Partners; Private sector	Cooperation from all stakeholders and availability of finances

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
		Beekkeeping development programme developed and implemented	Number of beekkeeping development programmes developed and implemented	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Development Partners; Private sector	Cooperation from all stakeholders and availability of finances
	e) Strengthen the development, adoption, and innovative dissemination of livestock production technologies for conventional and non-conventional livestock species	Livestock production technologies for conventional and non-conventional livestock species developed	Number of new livestock technologies released through Agricultural Technology Clearing Committee (ATCC)	70	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS; Academia and Research Institutions; Development Partners; Private Sector	Capacity available to develop the technologies and resources availability
	f) Promote sustainable commercial bee keeping	Farmers engaged in sustainable commercial beekkeeping	Percentage of farmers investing in beekkeeping	20%	15%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DAES; Development Partners	Willingness of farmers in practicing sustainable beekkeeping
		Beekkeeping modules incorporated in academic institutions curriculum	Percentage of agricultural academic institutions with beekkeeping modules in their curriculum	100%	25%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD,	Resources available

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks		
To increase the number of frontline staff and adoption of recommended livestock production technologies	a) Capacitate livestock production and veterinary frontline staff to support farmers effectively and efficiently	Livestock specialists at sectional level trained	Number of livestock specialists at sectional level trained in dairy, beef, poultry, small ruminant, non-conventional livestock species and animal health	7	1	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Ministry responsible for Finance	Resources available		
				1: 8,403		1: 14,139		Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DAES	Resources available
				Beef cattle-14%	Beef cattle-9%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD (APES)	Cooperation from all stakeholders and availability of finances		
				Goats-10%	Goats-6%				
				Sheep-10%	Sheep-4%				
				Pigs-44%	Pigs-28%				
				Chickens (local breeds)-10%	Chickens (local breeds)-0%				
				Dairy cattle (hundreds) - 220.8	Dairy cattle (hundreds)-138				
				Beef cattle (millions)-3.04	Beef cattle (millions)-1.9				
				Goats (millions)-19.52	Goats (millions)-12.2				
Sheep (hundreds)-648	Sheep (hundreds)-405								
Pigs (millions)-17.12	Pigs (millions)-10.7								
Chickens (millions)-368	Chickens (millions)-230								
Rabbits (millions)-6.24	Rabbits (millions)-3.9								

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks		
	b) Promote production and utilisation of improved pasture and fodder tree species	Pasture and fodder tree species established among farmers	Percentage increase in Tropical Livestock Units (TLUs)	Guinea Fowls (millions)-3.68	Guinea Fowls (millions)- 2.3	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD	Resources available		
				Turkeys (hundreds) - 697.6	Turkeys (hundreds)-436				
				Guinea Pigs (millions)-1.28	Guinea Pigs (millions)- 0.8				
				Pigeons (millions)-18.72	Pigeons (millions)-11.7				
				Ducks (millions)-7.04	Ducks (millions)- 4.4				
				Quails (millions)-12.8	Quails (millions)- 8.0				
				2.50	1.93				
				50,000	41,000			Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS; Academic Institutions such as LUANAR	Resources available
				20%	10%			Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS; Academic Institutions such as LUANAR	Resources available
				Percentage of livestock farmers formulating animal diets using locally available feed resources at farm level	Percentage of livestock farmers formulating animal diets using locally available feed resources at farm level				
Farmers capacitated in formulation of animal diets using locally available resources	Percentage of livestock farmers formulating animal diets using locally available feed resources at farm level								

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
To Increase livestock populations and productivity by 60% by 2029	c) Monitor the productivity of dairy cattle, beef cattle, chicken, pig, goats, sheep, and bee population	Productivity of prioritised livestock value chains increased	Dairy cattle (milk yield in litres per cow per day)	159	25	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS; Academic institutions such as LUANAR; Malawi Milk Producers Association (MMPA); Development Partners	Willingness of farmers to adopt recommended production technologies and resources available
			Beef cattle (finishing weight in kgs-Malawi zebu)	342	218		
			Goats (weaning weight in kgs)	15	13		
			Sheep (weaning weight in kgs)	15	13		
			Pigs (average number of piglets per farrowing)	13	6		
			Pigs (weaning weight in kgs)	12	8		
			Chickens (average number of eggs per hen per season-BA layers)	320	250		
			Local chickens (average number of eggs per hen per season-layers)	150	45		
			Broiler finishing weight in kgs	3	2.5		
			Local chicken finishing weight in kgs	2.4	1.4		
			Annual honey yield (kgs) per hive	45	35		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	d) Implement gender mainstreamed stand-alone livestock national flagship programmes	Gendered flagship national livestock programmes implemented	Number of flagship programmes focusing on livestock at national level (Dairy, Beef and Poultry)	3	1	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS	Resources available
	d) Promote child rights and child protection in livestock production	Awareness of child labour and child rights among livestock farmers raised	Percentage of livestock farmers aware of child rights and child protection in livestock production	80%	55%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Development Partners; Private Sector	Resources available
	e) Promote equitable access to finance for livestock production	Livestock production financing accessed by YWVG	Percentage of YWVG accessing finance for livestock production	Women -55%	Women -52% (2020)	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Ministries responsible for Industry and Trade; Finance; Gender; Country Third Biennial Reports (BR) for Malawi	Resources available
				Youth-25%	Youth-20% (2020)		
				Persons with disability-5%	Persons with disability-3% (2022)		
	f) Enhance women's control over livestock productive resources	Control over livestock productive resources by women	Percentage of households with high (>4 on scale of 1 to 5) Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)	> 60%	55%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Non - State Actors	Willingness of farming community to empower women and resources available

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
<p>Policy Outcome 3.2 7: Enhanced animal health and animal well being</p> <p>To promote animal welfare and reduce the prevalence of animal diseases by at least 50% by 2029</p>	<p>a) Invest in and maintain infrastructure and equipment for animal parasite and disease management, including dip tanks</p>	Dip tanks rehabilitated	Number of dip tanks rehabilitated	150	17	<p>Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD</p>	<p>Resources available</p>
		Dip tanks constructed	Number of dip tanks constructed	4	0		
		Quarantine infrastructure rehabilitated	Number of quarantine infrastructure rehabilitated	3	0		
		Quarantine infrastructure constructed	Number of quarantine infrastructure constructed	4	1		
		Veterinary clinics constructed	Number of veterinary clinics constructed	4	0		
		Veterinary laboratories rehabilitated	Number of veterinary laboratories rehabilitated	15	3		
		Fodder production demonstration units constructed	Number of fodder production demonstration units constructed	15	0		
		Reduced prevalence of animal diseases	Prevalence rate of animal diseases	<7%	>10%		
		Reported cases of animal disease outbreak reduced	Percentage of districts reporting disease outbreaks	<1%	>5%		
		Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) critical pathogens in livestock monitored	Percentage of monitored Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) critical pathogens in livestock	10	4		
	<p>b) Strengthen livestock disease surveillance systems for monitoring and reporting disease outbreaks, zoonotic diseases, Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs), and feed safety.</p>						

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
	c) Establish a livestock risk and disaster management fund	Livestock risk and disaster management fund established	Number of livestock risk and disaster management fund	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Ministry responsible for Finance; RBM	Resources available
	d) Promote animal welfare and provision of livestock insurance services by public and private subsector actors	Livestock insurance services accessed by farmers	Number of livestock insurance services (health and life insurance) accessed by farmers	2	1	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD; Private Sector	Resources available
		Animal welfare research programmes implemented	Number of research programmes on animal welfare	7	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS; Academic Institutions such as LUANAR; Development Partners	Resources available
		Increased farmers' awareness of animal welfare issues in livestock production	Percentage of farmers aware of animal welfare issues in livestock production	90%	85%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD, DARS; Academic Institutions such as LUANAR; Development Partners	Resources available

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
III. Fisheries and Aquaculture Production and Productivity							
Policy Outcome 3.2.8: Reduced downward trend in natural fish stocks							
To implement measures that rebuild the health and productivity of fish stocks by at least 20%	a) Regulate fishing effort to ensure long-term sustainability	Fishing boats reduced	Number of fishing boats	2,475	18,000	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Willingness of fishers to comply Availability of funds for enforcement
		Fisheries resources sustainably managed	Maximum Economic Yield and Maximum Sustainable Yield fish stocks	5%	2%	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Department of Fisheries mainstream wealth-based approach
	b) Rebuild over-fished stocks to Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) and Maximum Economic Yield (MEY) levels	Biological and economical sustainable levels of fish stocks attained	Percentage of the lake under wealth-based fisheries management (stocks at Maximum Economic Yield (MEY) & Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY))	5%	2%	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Ministry responsible for agriculture	Department of Fisheries mainstream wealth-based approach
		Management of fish habitat and refugia enhanced	Number of fish sanctuaries with health stocks	200	56	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Ministries responsible for Wildlife and Tourism	Fishing communities willing to partner with Government on co-management of sanctuaries
	c) Increase the participation and engagement of the YWVG in fishing and fish farming to curb social exclusion and discrimination	Increased participation of YWVGs in fishing and fish farming	Percentage of women engaged in fishing and fish farming	5%	2.3%	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Ministry responsible for Gender	Inter-ministerial collaboration
			Percentage of youth engaged in fishing and fish farming	40%	36%	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Ministry responsible for Gender	Inter-ministerial collaboration

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	d) Enhance resilience to aquatic animal diseases and parasites.	Improved resilience to disaster, diseases, parasites	Prevalence rate of fish diseases on fish farms	10%	2.5%	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Ministries responsible for Gender and Disabilities	Inter-ministerial collaboration
				<2%	>4.3%	Reports from Department of Fisheries, DAHLD and MoLG (District Councils)	Inter-ministerial collaboration
	e) Strengthen the role of small-scale fisheries in fish stock management	Experts in fish disease trained	Number of fish disease experts trained	20	0	Reports from Department of Fisheries, DoDMA, EAD	Resources available
		National Small-scale Fisheries Plans of Action developed	Number of national small-scale fisheries plans of action	1	0	Department of Fisheries	Councils & Fishing communities willing to participate
		Beach Village Committee (BVC) involved in fish stock management	Number Beach Village Committee (BVC) involved in fish stock management	828	460		
		Fisheries management plans developed	Number of local fisheries management plans	13	0		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
	f) Enhance innovation processes in the development and dissemination of sustainable fisheries management technologies and approaches	Fisheries innovation platforms/systems integrating fish established	Number of innovation platforms/systems integrating fish	1	0	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Universities, Research institutions	Resources available
		Fisheries management technologies adopted	Percentage adoption of fisheries management technologies	60%	30%	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Academia and Research Institutions	Willingness of the target beneficiaries
		Aquaculture technologies adopted	Percentage of aquaculture technologies adopted	100%	20	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Academia and Research Institutions	Willingness of the target beneficiaries
			Technology Adoption Index	60%	20%	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Academia and Research Institutions	Willingness of the target beneficiaries

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
To increase production and productivity in aquaculture by 100%	Policy Outcome 3.2.9: Increased production and commercialisation in aquaculture						
	a) Build the capacity of fish farmers and fish producer organisations to increase production and productivity	Fish farm productivity increased	Tonnes of fish per hectare	3 tonnes/ha	1.9 tonnes/ha	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Willingness of farmers to adopt better technologies
	b) Promote demonstrable farm business cases for increased fish farm productivity	Fish production in farms increased	Metric tonnes of fish produced on farms	24,000 tonnes	12,000 tonnes	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Investment finance available to farmers
	c) Identify and prepare zoning plans for suitable water (cages) and land sites (ponds) for aquaculture.	Zoning plans for suitable water and land sites for aquaculture prepared	Number of investible fish business cases developed	3	1	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Trade & MITC	Inter-ministerial collaboration
d) Promote the establishment of sustainable mega aquafarms and/or cooperatives	Mega aqua-farms established	Number of aquaculture zoning plans (land, lake and river)	3	1	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Good investment environment	
			Number of mega aqua farms	5	1	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Good cooperation (Fisheries, Agriculture, Trade)

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	e) Promote small-scale aquaculture clusters, including those linked to sustainable mega aqua-farms and/or cooperatives	Small-scale fish farm clusters linked to sustainable mega aqua-farms	Number of clusters linked to sustainable mega aqua-farms	6	0	Reports from Department of Fisheries, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Resources available
Policy Outcome 3.2.10: Increased investments in the fisheries and aquaculture subsector							
To promote actions to improve access to finance by 60% for fishers and fish farmers	a) Create fish-centric finance ecosystem	A fish-centric finance ecosystem developed	Percentage of fish farmers having access to finance	All farmers 50% Women-30% Men-50% Youth-20%	All farmers 6.2% Women-10% Men-20% Youth-5%	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Trade, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Willingness of farmers to operate as business
	b) Facilitate the creation of conducive fiscal and monetary incentives for private sector investments in the fisheries and aquaculture subsector	Conducive fiscal incentives for private sector investment in fish subsector created	Number of fiscal incentives	4	2	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Finance, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	MoF is convinced about fisheries & aquaculture
		Conducive monetary incentives for private sector investment in fish subsector created	Number of monetary incentives	2	0	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Finance, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	MoF is convinced about fisheries & aquaculture

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	c) Promote integration of fisheries and aquaculture in national flagship programmes and projects	Government-funded loan initiatives to fish enterprises	Number of government or donor-funded agriculture initiative incorporating fish enterprise loans	5	1	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Finance, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	MoF is convinced about fisheries & aquaculture
				30%	<5%	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Trade, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Willingness of women and youth to go into fish business
	d) Promote access to investment finance for women and the youth in fisheries and aquaculture	Investment finance for women and youth in fisheries and aquaculture provided	Percent of women fish farmers accessing finance	30%	<5%	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Trade, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Willingness of women and youth to go into fish business
				15%	0%	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Agriculture	YWVG are willing to go into fish farming
	e) Promote access to land among the YWVG for fish farming	Access to land for fish farming for YWVG increased	Percentage of women accessing land for aquaculture	40%	32%	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Lands, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	YWVG are willing to go into fish farming
				15%	<5%	Lands, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	YWVG are willing to go into fish farming
			Percent of youth fish farmers accessing finance	15%	0%		
			Percentage of youth fish farmers accessing finance	15%	0%		
			Percentage of youth fish farmers accessing finance	15%	0%		
			Percentage of vulnerable groups accessing land for aquaculture	15%	0%		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
To raise by 50%, gender equity, youth and social inclusion in the fish value chains	<p>a) Raise awareness on prevention of and response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) as well as transactional Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA)</p> <p>b) Develop a code of conduct for prevention of and response to GBV for fishers and intermediaries</p> <p>c) Integrate fishing communities, especially the YWVG, in social protection programmes</p>	Fishing communities sensitized on GBV and SEA	Percentage of fishing communities sensitised on GBV and SEA	100%	0	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Gender	Fishers & middlemen able to change mindset
		Grievance handling mechanisms in fishing districts established	Percentage of fishing districts with grievance handling mechanisms	100%	0	Progress reports from District Councils	Effective and efficient integration of the fisheries sector in the District Councils
		Code of conduct for fishers and intermediaries developed	Number of codes of conduct booklets developed	1	0	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Gender	Willingness of Ministries to cooperate
		Social protection programmes accessed by YWVG in fishing communities	Percentage of youth accessing social protection programmes	80%	<1%	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministry responsible for Gender, EP&D	Availability of funds to implement the social protection programmes in fishing communities
			Percentage of women accessing social protection programmes	80%	<1%		
			Percentage of vulnerable groups accessing social protection programmes	80%	<1%		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
		Shock-sensitive cash transfer programme for districts with fish-dependent communities	Number of districts implementing shock-sensitive cash transfer for fish-dependent communities	14	4		
		Shock-sensitive public works programme for districts with fish-dependent communities	Number of districts implementing shock-sensitive public works for fish-dependent communities	16	0		
		Shock-sensitive school meals programme for districts with fish-dependent communities	Number of districts implementing shock-sensitive school meals for fish-dependent communities	28	11		
		Shock-sensitive micro-finance programme for districts with fish-dependent communities	Number of districts implementing shock-sensitive micro-finance for fish-dependent communities	14	0		
	d) Implement strategies to curb child labour in fishing communities in line with ILO guidelines	Fisheries regulations on child labour developed	Number of fisheries regulations on child labour	1	0	Reports from Department of Fisheries; Ministries responsible for Labour, Gender & NSO	Willingness of Fishing communities to reduce child labour
		Prevalence of child labour in fish sector reduced	Percentage reduction in child labour	80%	0%		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
IV. Irrigation Development							
Policy Outcome 3.2.12: Increased investments in irrigation development							
To increase investment in sustainable irrigation development by 20% annually	a) Establish and operationalise the Irrigation Development Fund	Irrigation development fund established	Number of irrigation fund	1	0	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Availability of resources
	b) Promote research and development for improving returns from irrigation	Profitability of prioritised irrigated crops increased	Gross margins per hectare of irrigated rice (Mk/ha)	2,623,432	1,311,716	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Willingness of farmers to adopt improved technologies
			Gross margins per hectare of irrigated maize (Mk/ha)	1,502,680	751,340		
	c) Promote Public-Private Partnership (PPP) arrangements in irrigation development	Private sector participation in irrigation development through Public Private Partnership model increased	Number of PPP contracts signed for irrigation development	1	0	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Private sector willing to venture into PPPs
	d) Incentivise private sector investment in irrigation	Private sector incentives on investment in irrigation developed	Number of new incentives of private sector investment in irrigation	1	0	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Favourable macro-economic environment

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Policy Outcome 3.2.13: Increased adoption of irrigation technologies and best practices							
To increase adoption of irrigation technologies and practices by 20% annually	a) Support the innovative generation, adoption and dissemination of irrigation technologies and best practices	Irrigation technologies developed and adopted	Number of new irrigation technologies developed and adopted	10	5	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Willingness of farmers to adopt the technologies Availability of funds to implement research programmes
	b) Monitor the utilisation of irrigation technologies and best practices	Utilisation of irrigation technologies and best practices monitored	Number of monitoring reports on utilisation of technologies and best practices	28	0	Annual reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Availability of funds
	c) Promote solar and wind-powered irrigation technologies	Solar and wind powered irrigations systems developed	Percentage of area under solar and wind powered irrigation systems	3%	1.3%	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Willingness of farmers to adopt solar and wind powered irrigation system Availability of funds
	d) Promote integrated crop-livestock-aquaculture irrigation systems	Integrated crop-livestock-aquaculture irrigation systems developed	Number of integrated crop-livestock-aquaculture irrigation projects	3	0	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Availability of funds
	e) Promote investment in digital infrastructure and technologies for efficient water use	Water use efficient irrigation technologies disseminated	Number of water use efficient irrigation technologies and best practices disseminated	5	0	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Willingness of stakeholders

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	f) Enhance access to affordable finance by farmers for irrigation equipment	Productivity of irrigated crops increased	Percentage increase in yield of irrigated cereals (%)	100%	58%	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Stakeholders' willingness Funds availability
			Percentage increase in yield of irrigated legumes (%)	100 %	57%		
		Access to affordable finance by farmers for irrigation equipment increased	Percentage of male farmers having access to irrigation finance	50%	51%	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Availability of funds
			Percentage of female farmers having access to irrigation finance	38%	49%		
			Percentage of youth farmers having access to irrigation finance	10%	5%		
			Percentage of farmers with disability having access to irrigation finance	2%	0.05%		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
To improve the performance of FOs and irrigation schemes	Policy Outcome 3.2.14: Increased capacity of farmer organisations for productive irrigated agriculture						
	a. Establish Water User Associations (WUAs) and irrigation organisations	WUAs established	Number of WUAs established	200	94	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Willingness of stakeholders
	b. Build the technical and administrative capacity of farmer organisations for the effective management of irrigation schemes	Farmer organisations applying for Irrigation Code of Practice (ICoP) provisions on Operation and Maintenance (O&M)	Percentage of farmer organisations applying for Irrigation Code of Practice (ICoP) provisions on Operation and Maintenance (O&M)	100 %	40 %	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Willingness of farmers
	c. Monitor the performance of irrigation schemes using relevant instruments	Governance of irrigation schemes strengthened	Proportion of WUAs/ FOs compliant with governance requirements	95%	55%	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Irrigation	Stakeholder willingness

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
V Agricultural Mechanisation for Development							
Policy Outcome 3.2.15: Increased agricultural mechanisation							
To increase by 50% the proportion of farmers having access and using farm mechanisation	a) Establish mechanisation data management through existing structures	National mechanisation data management database established	Number of mechanisation data management database established	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of resources
	b) Establish and operationalise an Agricultural Mechanisation Fund	Mechanisation development fund established	Number of mechanisation development fund established	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of funds
	c) Increase access to finance by farmers and producer organisations for agriculture mechanisation	Access to agricultural mechanisation finance by farmers increased	Percentage of farmers accessing agricultural mechanisation finance	11%	4%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DCD	Willingness of stakeholders Availability of funds
		Access to agricultural mechanisation finance by farmer organisations increased	Percentage of farmer organisations accessing agricultural mechanisation finance	25%	10%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DCD	Willingness of stakeholders Availability of funds
d) Incentivise agricultural machinery and equipment hire services to make them affordable to farmers and producer organisations	Use of tractor hire services by farmers increased	Percentage of farmers accessing tractor hire services	20%	2%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DCD	Willingness of stakeholders Availability of machinery	
		Tractor density (tractors per 100 sq. km of arable land)	0.6	0.2	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DCD	Availability of funds to purchase tractors	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	e) Promote innovation processes in local manufacturing and dissemination of agricultural machinery, equipment and spare parts	Local manufacture of spare parts and components increased	Percentage of locally manufactured spare parts and components	2%	0.01%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DCD	Willingness of stakeholders
			Percentage of machinery locally fabricated	2%	0		Increased coverage of TEVET-related programmes
	f) Develop a national agricultural mechanisation strategy to spearhead the agricultural mechanisation drive	National agricultural mechanisation strategy developed	Number of agricultural mechanisation strategies developed	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DCD	Availability of funds
	g) Enhance gender mainstreaming in agricultural mechanisation	Gender mainstreaming in agricultural mechanization enhanced	Percentage of women farmers having access to mechanisation	10%	5%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DCD	Availability of funds
			Percentage of youth farmers having access to mechanisation	15%	7%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture; DCD	Availability of funds

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
Monitoring of Policy Priority Area 2: Food and Nutrition Security							
General objective: To reduce the percentage of food insecure individuals by 50 percent and increase the percentage of the population meeting minimum dietary diversity to 50 percent by 2029							
Policy Outcome 3.3.1: Enhanced food and nutrition education							
To promote skills on food selection, processing and to improve dietary practices of household member	a) Promote nutrition education in food processing and preparation guided by the six food groups	Minimum dietary diversity achieved	Percentage of men meeting minimum dietary diversity	50%	2%,	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture, CSOs, District Nutrition Coordinating Committees (DNCCs), Village Nutrition Coordinating Committees (VNCCs), Demographic Health Survey (DHS)	Willingness of men to participate Availability of funds
			Percentage of women meeting minimum dietary diversity	75%	25%		
			Percentage of youth meeting minimum dietary diversity	50%	0%		
	b) Increase knowledge and skills of mothers and caregivers through nutrition education on appropriate food preparation and recommended child feeding practices	Improved nutrition status of children under 5	Prevalence rate of stunting	20%	37.1%, (2016)	Demographic Health Survey	Willingness of men to participate Availability of funds
			Prevalence rate of underweight	5%	12.5% (2016)	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey	
			Prevalence rate of wasting	<2%	2.6% (2020)		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
	c) Improve dissemination of extension and behavioural change communication messages on food and nutrition security	Recommended food security interventions disseminated	Percentage of households adopting and practicing recommended food security interventions	100%	67%	MVAC, Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) reports, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of funds
			Household dietary diversification promoted	Percentage of households diversifying their diets	75%	25%	Standardised Monitoring Assessment for Relief and Transition Method (SMART) Survey
		Minimum dietary diversification promoted among women	Percentage of women meeting Minimum Dietary Diversity (MDDW)	70%	25%	Demographic Health Survey	Availability of funds
			Feeding programmes for 6-23 months old children implemented	Percentage of 6-23 months old children meeting Minimum Acceptable Diet (MAD)	50%	25%	
		d) Promote the model village approach in implementing food and nutrition interventions	Food and nutrition interventions introduced to communities through model village approach	Percentage of model villages adopting innovative nutrition interventions	50%	25%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES
	Percentage increase in households meeting minimum dietary diversity requirement			75%	25%	Demographic Health Survey (DHS)	
	Gender barriers to food processing, marketing, availability, accessibility, and affordability reduced		Percentage of households implementing Household Approach for nutrition interventions	50%	15%	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES-AGRESS reports	Willingness of Service providers to offer inclusive services

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
	f) Improve accessibility, processing and preparation of nutritious crop, animal and fish-based foods	Availability, accessibility and affordability of nutritious foods from animal, vegetable, legumes, nuts fish and fruits sources increased	Percentage increase in households meeting minimum dietary diversity requirement Proportion of women meeting Minimum Dietary Diversity (MDDW) Proportion of 6-23 months old children who meet the Minimum Acceptable Diet (MAD)	75% 70% 50%	25% 25% 25%	Demographic Health Survey (DHS) Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES -AGRESS reports Demographic Health Survey (DHS)	Availability of adequate and diverse food
Policy Outcome 3.3.2: Increased production and consumption of diversified and nutritious foods							
To increase nutrient intake from diversified foods among household members	a) Improve, publicise and disseminate recipes on nutritious diets using diverse locally available foods through different media	Recipes of nutritious diets of diverse locally available foods developed and disseminated	Percentage increase in households meeting minimum dietary diversity requirement	75%	25%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES; Academics	Finances available to fund activities, skilled personnel available
			Percentage increase in the proportion of women meeting Minimum Dietary Diversity-Women (MDDW)	70%	25%	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), Demographic Health Survey	
	b) Increase access to nutritious food for pregnant women and lactating mothers through innovative food security interventions	Innovative food security interventions introduced	Percentage of 6-23 months old children meeting Minimum Acceptable Diet (MAD)	50%	25%	Demographic Health Survey (DHS)	Willingness of women to change cultural beliefs
			Percentage of women meeting Minimum Dietary Diversity-Women (MDDW)	75%	25%	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, Demographic Health Survey	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	c) Promote the production, utilisation, and consumption of indigenous and wild foods	Consumption of indigenous and wild foods promoted among women	Percentage of women consuming indigenous and wild foods	85%	71%	Malawi Demographic Household Survey	Indigenous and wild foods available
		Consumption of indigenous and wild foods promoted among men	Proportion of men consuming indigenous and wild foods	85%	62.7%		
		Consumption of indigenous and wild foods promoted among youth	Proportion of youth consuming indigenous and wild foods	85%	47.8%		
	d) Promote public awareness and knowledge transfer of nutrition-smart agricultural foods	Utilisation of bio-fortified crops increased	Number of farmers utilising bio-fortified crops	4.6 million	2.3 million	CGIAR Monitoring data	
	e) Diversify grain-dominated diets with legumes and nuts, fruits, and fishery products	Grain-dominated diets diversified with legumes and nuts, foods from animals, fruits, vegetables, fish, and fishery products	Percentage of households including legumes and nuts, foods from animals, fruits, vegetables, fish, and fishery products in diets	30%	15%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, DNHA; Department of Fisheries	Access to animal and fisheries products by households

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	f) Promote the integration of nutritious and balanced diets in social protection programmes to cater for the most vulnerable and food insecure households	Nutritious and balanced diets included in social protection programmes	Percentage of the population in need of humanitarian food assistance accessing nutritious and balanced diets	18%	37%	MVAC Reports	Availability of funds
				10%	Less than 1%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture, National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA)	Availability of bio-fortified maize Availability of funds
	g) Support integration of nutrition-smart agriculture in safety nets programmes	Bio-fortified maize included in safety net programmes	Percentage of bio-fortified maize in Strategic Grain Reserves	60%	15%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES	Agricultural offices willing to role model IHF
				20%	0%		
				20%	0%		
	h) Scale up Integrated Homestead Farming (IHF) in homes, health centres, schools, and agricultural offices	Homes mentored in IHF Health centres mentored in IHF Schools mentored in IHF	Percentage of households adopting IHF Percentage of health centres adopting IHF Percentage of schools and agricultural offices adopting IHF	120	1		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
To integrate food and nutrition into agriculture interventions for adequate and appropriate dietary practices	Policy Outcome 3.3.3: Increased nutrition-sensitive agricultural interventions						
	a) Intensify and support Home-Grown School Meals (HGSM) programmes in primary schools	Home-Grown School Meals Programmes (HGSM) in primary schools implemented	Percentage of schools implementing HGSM programmes	60%	15%	Reports from Agriculture Sector Food and nutrition Strategy (ASFNS), National Nutrition Information System	Willingness of communities to participate
	b) Scale-up integration of nutrition-smart agriculture crops into agricultural programmes and subsidies	Nutrition-smart crops integrated into agricultural programmes and subsidies	Number of nutrition-smart crops integrated into agricultural programmes and subsidies	5	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of funds
	c) Promote the integration of fish and livestock into local diets	Fish and livestock integrated into local diets	Percentage of households meeting minimum dietary diversity requirement	75%	25%	Reports from DHS, Ministry responsible for health	Willingness of farmers to integrate fisheries and agriculture
	d) Promote nutrition sensitive research to generate agricultural technologies	Nutrition sensitive agricultural technologies generated	Percent increase in number of nutrition sensitive agricultural technologies generated	50%	0%	Reports from National Commission for Science and Technology (NCST), Academia	Availability of funds

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
To ensure availability of wholesome, uncontaminated and safe food to household members	Policy Outcome 3.3.4: More effective postharvest management of diversified foods and food products						
	a) Increase access to climate friendly energy-saving and time-saving technologies in food storage, preservation, and processing	Access to climate friendly energy-saving and time-saving technologies in food storage, preservation and processing increased	Percentage of households using efficient food storage technologies	100%	25%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS; Ministry responsible for Industry and Trade	Availability of appropriate technologies
	b) Promote the use of efficient, environmentally friendly, and affordable food storage and processing technologies at all levels	Food losses due to poor storage and processing technologies reduced	Percentage reduction rate in post-harvest loss for at least 5 national priority commodity value chains	50%	33%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS	Availability of technologies
	c) Reduce post-harvest food loss through use of efficient technologies on perishable and non-perishable foods	Efficient food storage and processing technologies to prevent food loss introduced	Percent of households using efficient food storage technologies	40%	2%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Natural Resources, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, MBS	Clean energy and environmentally friendly packaging available and affordable Availability of efficient food storage technologies

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	d) Build the capacity of producers of perishable and non-perishable foods and MSMEs in post-harvest management	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and fish producers trained in post-harvest management	Percent reduction rate in post-harvest loss for meat	50%	12%	Reports from Department of Animal Health and Livestock Development	Willingness of farmers to adopt improved storage technologies
			Percentage of post-harvest loss in fish	20%	37%	Reports from Department of Fisheries	
			Percentage of post-harvest loss in fruits	33%	38%	Reports from Department of Crops Development	Willingness of farmers and SMEs to be trained
			Percentage of post-harvest loss in vegetables	33%	38%		
			Percentage of fish producers trained	30%	0%	Reports from Department of Fisheries	
			Percentage of Micro, Small Medium Enterprises trained	30%	5%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Natural Resources, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, MBS	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Policy Outcome 3.3.5: A strengthened food and nutrition surveillance system							
To develop database and retrieval system for management of food and nutrition security information	a) Promote continuous data collection and management on food and nutrition	Database on food availability and nutrition status established	Number of databases established	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for agriculture, DNHA	Availability of funds
		National food security status monitored	Number of food status reports produced	4	1	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Economic Planning	Availability of funds
	b) Develop national Food Control Systems to ensure internationally acceptable food safety for both domestic and export markets	National Food Safety System developed	Number of National Food Safety System developed	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Health, DNHA	Availability of funds

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Monitoring of Policy Priority Area 3: Agricultural Commercialisation, Agro-Processing and Value Addition							
General objective: To increase the aggregate annual percentage growth of agricultural value added and the value of agricultural exports by 50 percent and 20 percent respectively by 2029							
I. Agriculture Commercialisation							
Policy Outcome 3.4.1: Improved access to lucrative and structured markets for all prioritised agricultural commodities							
To increase by 70% the proportion of farmers accessing lucrative markets by 2029	a) Facilitate the creation of structured markets for all prioritised agricultural commodities	Structured markets established for prioritised agricultural commodities	Proportion of farmers selling crops through structured markets	20%	9%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of funds
			Proportion of farmers selling livestock through structured markets	20%	0%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of funds
			Proportion of farmers selling fish through structured markets	20%	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for local Government, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of funds
To raise annual agricultural income by 50% by 2029	b) Increase the number and volume of commodities traded on structured/ formal market platforms	Volume of commodities traded on structured market platforms increased	Tonnage of commodities traded on commodity structured market platforms (MT)	Banana - 7,500	Banana - 5,000	Reports from Commodity exchange platforms, Ministry responsible for Trade, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, CGIAR Monitoring Survey	Availability of data

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
				Bio-fortified beans-35,000	Bio-fortified beans- 2,000		
				Bio-fortified maize- 5,000	Bio-fortified maize- 3,000		
				Cassava-6,500	Cassava-4,500		
				Common beans -8,000	Common beans-6,000		
				Cotton-10,000	Cotton- 8,000		
				Fish-9,000	Fish-7,000		
				Groundnuts - 6,000	Groundnuts - 4,000		
				Sunflower-4,000	Sunflower-2,200		
				Industrial Cannabis-2000	Industrial Cannabis-120		
				Macadamia - 25,000	Macadamia - 1,200		
				Maize- 13,000	Maize-10,000		
				Medicinal Cannabis-312.5	Medicinal Cannabis-75		
				Pigeon peas- 25,000	Pigeon peas- 4,000		
				Potatoes-7,500	Potatoes- 5,500		
				Rice-5000	Rice-3500		
				Soya Beans-12,000	Soya Beans- 9,000		
				Sunflower- 4,000	Sunflower -2,200		
				Sweet Potato-5,500	Sweet potatoes- 3,000		
				Tea- 11,000	Tea-8,500		
				Tobacco-18,000	Tobacco-15,000		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
	c) Restructure ADMARC to improve the performance of its commercial activities	ADMARC commercial activities enhanced	ADMARC net profit (% of revenue)	10%	0 (2022)	Reports from Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Agriculture budget reports	Willingness of staff to be trained
	d) Promote contract farming, out-grower schemes, and other appropriate market-driven farming models	Contract farming practised in priority value chains	Number of prioritised commodity value chains under contract farming arrangement	10	6	Reports from Ministry responsible for Trade and Cooperatives, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	
		Farmer participation in signed contract farming agreements	Proportion of farmers participating in signed contract farming arrangements (%)	Aggregate-50%	6.8%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES	
				Crops			
				Men-20%	Men - 6%		
				Women-20%	Women - 8.5%		
				Youth-20%	Youth- 3%		
				Livestock			
				Men-20%	Men- 8%		
				Women-20%	Women-10%		
				Youth-20%	Youth-4%		
				Fish			
				Men-20%	Men-0		
				Women-20%	Women-0		
				Youth-20%	Youth-0		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
<p>Policy Outcome 3.4.2: Improved access to market information for farmers, fish producers and agribusiness MSMEs</p> <p>To ensure that 80% of farmers have access to market information and make informed production decisions by 2029</p>	a) Promote the collaborative collection, processing dissemination of agricultural market data using a wide variety of media	Access of Agricultural market information increased	Percentage of farmers having access to market information	50%	9%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of funds
	b) Promote the generation and use of reliable, up-accessible, up-to-date and timely market information	Timely and up-to-date market information data generated	Number of weekly market information dissemination bulletins	5	1	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of funds
	c) Strengthen and harmonise agricultural market information systems	Revised manual on agricultural market information systems harmonised	Number of manuals on collection of agricultural market data reviewed	11	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of data
	d) Build capacity among commodity value chain players - including smallholder farmers, the YWVG and agricultural extension staff - on the use of market information	Smallholder farmers and agricultural extension staff trained on the use of market information systems	Percentage of value chain actors trained in use of market information systems	50%	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of funds and data

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	e) Promote the establishment of functional business forums, linkages, and market information centres	Markets accessed by farmers	Percentage of farmers having access to markets	80%	35%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Trade	Availability of data
Policy Outcome 3.4.3: Developed and improved agricultural market infrastructure, energy and transporting systems							
	a) Increase the share of the agricultural budget that goes to market development, agro-processing, and value addition	Public resource allocation to market development, agro-processing and value addition increased	Percentage of agricultural budget allocated to market development, agro-processing and value addition (%)	7%	2%	Ministry of Agriculture budget Government of Malawi financial statements	Favourable Macro-economic condition Availability of funds
	b) Promote the blue economy approach to unlock the potential of integrating fisheries and aquaculture in the wider agriculture-led socio-economic transformation and growth	Increased contribution of fisheries and aquaculture to GDP Integrated industrial parks established	Percent contribution of the fisheries and aquaculture to agricultural GDP Number of integrated industrial parks	10%	7.20%	Annual economic report	Availability of data
	c) Establish fully functional public and private warehouses across the country	Increased storage capacity of warehouse space in both rural and urban areas	Volume of goods stored	400,000 MT	270, 000 MT	Reports from Ministry responsible for Trade and Industry Reports from ADMARC	Availability of funds

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
	d) Facilitate rural roads and electrification programmes to support agricultural commercialisation	Rural paved roads	Total lengths (km) of rural paved roads	7,800 km	4,873 km	Reports from Ministry responsible for Transport	Availability of funds
		Rural electrification program implemented	Number of mini grids developed	3	1	Reports from Ministry responsible for Energy	Availability of funds
		Market accessed by producers and MSME	Number of rural sites connected to the grid	2,160	1,100	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture and Ministry responsible for Finance	Availability of data
	e) Improve hygiene conditions and phytosanitary facilities for all prioritised agricultural commodities	Compliance of agricultural commodities to sanitary and phytosanitary regulations	Percentage of prioritised agricultural commodities that comply with sanitary and phytosanitary regulations	100%	99%	Annual Economic Reports, Reports from Ministry responsible for Trade, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of data
		Compliance of producers to sanitary and phytosanitary regulations	Percentage of producers who are complying with sanitary, phytosanitary requirements	100%	99%	Reports from Malawi Bureau of Standards; Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of data

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks																																											
Policy Outcome 3.4.4: Improved capacity of agricultural producer organisations																																																		
To improve the performance of producer organisations, especially agricultural cooperatives	a) Support effective operations/ functionality of autonomous, self-reliant and democratically managed producer organisations	Participation of smallholder farmers in producer organisations	Percentage of farmers participating in producer organisations	50%	16%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Trade and Cooperatives	Availability of data																																											
	b) Promote access to business development services by farmers, fish producers and agribusiness MSMEs	Producer organisations trained in group management and business skills	Percentage of producer organisations trained in group management and business skills	50%	0%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Trade and Cooperatives	Availability of data																																											
	c) Strengthen capacity of YWVG MSMEs, YWVG cooperatives and other actors along various value chains in structured commodity marketing	Capacity of MSMEs, YWVG cooperatives and other value chain players strengthened	Farm profitability of prioritised commodity value chains for cooperative members (Gross margins)	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Banana-70%</td> <td>Banana-43%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cassava-70%</td> <td>Cassava-43%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coffee-70%</td> <td>Coffee-47%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Common beans-70%</td> <td>Common beans-49%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cotton-70%</td> <td>Cotton-36%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fish-70%</td> <td>Fish-41%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Groundnuts-70%</td> <td>Groundnuts-51%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Industrial Cannabis-30%</td> <td>Industrial Cannabis-43%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Macadamia-70%</td> <td>Macadamia-11%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maize-30%</td> <td>Maize-13%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medicinal Cannabis-90%</td> <td>Medicinal Cannabis 83%</td> </tr> </table>	Banana-70%	Banana-43%	Cassava-70%	Cassava-43%	Coffee-70%	Coffee-47%	Common beans-70%	Common beans-49%	Cotton-70%	Cotton-36%	Fish-70%	Fish-41%	Groundnuts-70%	Groundnuts-51%	Industrial Cannabis-30%	Industrial Cannabis-43%	Macadamia-70%	Macadamia-11%	Maize-30%	Maize-13%	Medicinal Cannabis-90%	Medicinal Cannabis 83%	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Banana-70%</td> <td>Banana-43%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cassava-70%</td> <td>Cassava-43%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coffee-70%</td> <td>Coffee-47%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Common beans-70%</td> <td>Common beans-49%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cotton-70%</td> <td>Cotton-36%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fish-70%</td> <td>Fish-41%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Groundnuts-70%</td> <td>Groundnuts-51%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Industrial Cannabis-30%</td> <td>Industrial Cannabis-43%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Macadamia-70%</td> <td>Macadamia-11%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maize-30%</td> <td>Maize-13%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medicinal Cannabis-90%</td> <td>Medicinal Cannabis 83%</td> </tr> </table>	Banana-70%	Banana-43%	Cassava-70%	Cassava-43%	Coffee-70%	Coffee-47%	Common beans-70%	Common beans-49%	Cotton-70%	Cotton-36%	Fish-70%	Fish-41%	Groundnuts-70%	Groundnuts-51%	Industrial Cannabis-30%	Industrial Cannabis-43%	Macadamia-70%	Macadamia-11%	Maize-30%	Maize-13%	Medicinal Cannabis-90%	Medicinal Cannabis 83%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture
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Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
(1) To raise profitability of prioritised agricultural value chains by 50% by 2029	a) Ensure competitive and fair pricing of agricultural commodities	Minimum farm gate prices information disseminated	Number of media platforms disseminating minimum farm gate prices per year derived from market information system	Crops-7	Pigeon peas-47%	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
				Livestock 7	Potatoes-70%		
				Fish-7	Rice- 43%		
					Sunflower-30%		
					Sweet Potato-80%		
					Tea-70%		
					Tobacco-45%		
Policy Outcome 3.4.5: Profitable agricultural value chains							
(1) To raise profitability of prioritised agricultural value chains by 50% by 2029	b) Promote the development of sustainable mega farms for efficient, commercial, climate-smart production of high value agricultural commodities	Markets price data on agricultural commodities disseminated	Number of sampled markets with agricultural commodity prices disseminated	90	7,272	Reports from Ministries responsible for Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
				Crops-5	Crops-3		
				Livestock 5	Livestock-0		
				Fish-5	Fish-0		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
	c) Initiate equitable land pooling or consolidation of land parcels among community members for smallholders to benefit from economies of scale through the agricultural commercialisation agenda	Productive land consolidated	Area of consolidated land (ha)	5,000	2,299	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
		Participation of farmers in land consolidation	Number of farmers consolidating their land	All-70,000 Male-37,000 Female-33,000	All-48,175 Male-22,547 Female-24,628	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
	d) Support consumer literacy programmes along the agricultural value chains to enhance demand	Consumer literacy programmes implemented	Number of consumer literacy programmes implemented	10	1	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
			Percentage of the population literate about a range of value-added products and their quality	70%	15%	Reports from MBS, Consumer Association of Malawi	Availability of data and funds

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks	
To increase access to finance by at least 50% for farmers and agribusiness enterprises by 2029	Policy Outcome 3.4.6: Improved access to finance for agricultural enterprises							
	a) Promote the development of and access to innovative agricultural value chain financing mechanisms	Matching grants and credit guarantees accessed by smallholder farmer groups	Percentage of farmers accessing matching grants and credit guarantees	Fish-20%	Fish- 2%	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds	
				Crops-20%	Crops-11.2%			
				Livestock- 20%	Livestock- 5%			
	b) Facilitate linkage to financial institutions for farmers and agribusiness MSMEs	Smallholder farmers and agribusiness MSMEs linked to financial institutions	Percentage of farmers and agribusiness MSMEs linked to financial institutions	Fish-20%	Fish- 2%			
				Crops-20%	Crops-11.2%			
				Livestock- 20%	Livestock- 5%			
	c) Promote access to financial products and services for farmers and agribusiness MSMEs	Smallholder farmers and MSMEs accessing financial products from financial institutions increased	Percentage of farmers having access to financial products	Fish-20%	Fish- 2%			
				Crops-20%	Crops-11.2%			
				Livestock- 20%	Livestock- 5%			

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
II Agro-processing and value addition							
Policy Outcome 3.4.7: Increased private sector participation in agro-processing, value addition and storage							
To increase private sector investments in agro-processing, value addition and storage by 20%	a) Build capacity among producer organisations and agribusiness enterprises in agro-processing and value addition emphasising health of people and the environment	Producer organisations trained in agro-processing and value addition	Percentage of producer organisations trained in agro-processing and value addition	30%	10%	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
	b) Incentivise private sector investments towards the prioritised commodity value chains	Studies on economic potential of prioritised commodities undertaken	Number of commodities for which economic studies were undertaken	15	0	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
	c) Establish one-stop-shops for all prioritised agribusiness application procedures	One-stop-shop established for prioritised commodities	Number of one-stop shops established per district	28	0	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
	d) Promote PPP arrangements in agro-processing and value addition initiatives and storage	Private sector investments in agriculture increased	Annual growth rate in domestic private sector investment in agriculture	10%	5%	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Policy Outcome 3.4.8: Increased agricultural value addition and agro-processing for farmers including YWVG To increase by at least 20% agricultural value added by 2029	a) Enhance local capacity for the manufacturing and maintenance of agro-processing equipment and machinery	High value agricultural processed and value-added products produced in the country	Growth of agriculture value added in local currency units (%)	35%	22.73%	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
	b) Promote trade expositions for agricultural value-added products in the domestic, regional and international markets	Expos organised and patronised	Number of producer organisations participating in Expos	15	6	Reports from Ministries responsible for trade and agriculture	Availability of funds
	c) Facilitate rural electrification programmes and access to portable water to support agro-processing hubs	Agro-processing hubs accessing rural electrification programmes	Value of agricultural imports displayed by domestic agricultural production	US\$150million	US\$ 100 million	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
	d) Promote agro-processing infrastructure development for all prioritised agricultural commodity value chain	Agro-processing activities increased	Percentage of farmer organisations involved in agro-processing	20%	5%	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Policy Outcome 3.4.9: Improved quality of agricultural commodities							
To improve quality and standards of agriculture products	a) Facilitate producer and MSME linkages to the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) to enhance product quality standards	Agricultural producer organisations and MSMEs linked to MBS	Number of producer organisations certified by Malawi Bureau of Standards	50	1	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
	b) Strengthen audit and accreditation systems for agricultural commodities	Audit and accreditation systems accredited by internationally recognised institutions	Number of audit and accreditation systems and accredited by internationally recognised institutions for prioritised commodity value chains	5	0	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
	c) Improve product quality and product safety for export-oriented processing clusters and for domestic markets	Guidelines for product quality and product safety for export-oriented processing clusters developed	Number of agricultural commodities with process control, product examination and certification services	20	10	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
			Number of export-oriented processing clusters using the guidelines for product quality and safety	4	0	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	d) Build capacities for the implementation of trade-related measures and safety standards for agricultural products to facilitate domestic, regional and global trade	Exports volumes for Malawi agricultural products increased	Percentage increase in value of agricultural exports for agricultural commodity value chains (Tea, coffee, rice, groundnuts fish)	50%	37 % (2021/22)	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
	e) Promote traceability of agricultural commodities for trade facilitation	Product/ commodity traceability guidelines developed	Number of product/ commodity traceability guidelines developed	1	0	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
Policy Outcome 3.4.10: Increased regional and global exports of value-added agricultural commodities							
To increase by 50% Malawi's agricultural exports by 2029	a) Strengthen the capacity for monitoring and reporting prevalent non-trade barriers in Malawi's agriculture export markets and addressing the country's agriculture non-trade barriers	Prevalent non-tariff barriers monitored and reported	Number of prevalent non-tariff barriers	3	7	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Resources and data availability

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	b) Promote niche markets for non-traditional products for exports through foreign missions and trade fairs	Niche markets for non-traditional products established	Number of non-traditional products with established niche markets	5.0	0	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
	c) Develop a profile for high impact agricultural enterprises that provide good returns on investment in international markets	Profile for high impact agricultural enterprises developed	Number of commodities defined as high impact and with good economic returns	1	0	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
	d) Promote compliance with commitments to bilateral, regional, continental and multilateral integration instruments	Compliance to bilateral, regional, continental and global integration instruments	Value of agricultural commodities exported to key markets (US\$ Million)	UK-50	UK-28.68	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds
				EU-300	EU-238.62		
				USA-20	USA-10.54		
				Africa- 100	Africa-69.09		
				ASIA-50	ASIA-39.86		
e) Strengthen linkages between Malawi's prioritised commodity value chains with regional and global value chains	Linkages of Malawi's prioritised commodity value chains with regional and global value chains	Value of prioritised commodity value chains exported (US\$ Million)	Tobacco-760.5	Tobacco- 507.3	Reports from Ministries responsible for Trade and Agriculture	Availability of data and funds	
			Tea-120	Tea -79.0			
			Sugar - 120	Sugar- 80.6			
			Cotton - 5.0	Cotton - 3.1			
			Coffee - 3.0	Coffee- 2.0			
			Pulses -10.0	Pulses -5.9			
			Edible Nuts -100.0	Edible Nuts -70.8			

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Monitoring of Policy Priority Area 4: Sustainable Management of Land, Water and other Natural Resources							
General Objective: To increase the percentage of agricultural land under sustainable land and water management, including climate-smart agricultural practices, to at least 30 percent by 2029							
Policy Outcome 3.5.1: Enhanced Integrated Catchment Management (ICM) approaches in SLM initiatives							
To enhance knowledge and skills in integrated catchment management planning and implementation	a) Institutionalise and operationalise the National Guidelines for Integrated Catchment Management and Rural Infrastructure in SLM programmes	National Guidelines for Integrated Catchment Management and Rural Infrastructure in SLM programmes integrated in District Development Plans	Number of District Development Plans with ICM and rural infrastructure in SLM programmes	28	0	District Council reports	Willingness of District Councils
	b) Build the capacity of staff and farmers on integrated catchment management	Knowledge and skills in integrated catchment management improved	Number of field staff with knowledge and skills in integrated catchment management	450	168	ASPRs, DLRC reports	Availability of resources
				All farmers - 650,000 Men - 350,000 Women - 250,000 Youths - 50,000	All farmers -435,050 Men-256,750 Women -178,300 Youths -29,180	ASPRs, District Council reports, DLRC reports	Availability of resources
c) Develop and implement decentralised catchment management plans	Shoreline management plans for fisheries developed Catchment and sub-catchment plans produced and implemented	Number of districts with shoreline management plans Number of sub-catchments planned	7 420	0	ASPRs, Fisheries Department reports ASPRs, Local Government Finance Committee reports	Willingness of the lakeshore districts Availability of resources	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
To promote afforestation and increase the proportion of land under sustainable land and water management to 30% by 2029	d) Promote afforestation and farmer-managed natural regeneration for catchment conservation and management	Protection and management of tree regenerates intensified	Number of sub-catchments plans implemented	420	280	ASPRs, Local Government Finance Committee reports	Financial support, willingness of the District Councils
	e) Promote land-use practices that minimise runoff, eutrophication, pollution and degradation of water bodies and fish ecosystems	Tree planting on the agricultural landscapes increased	Area under agroforestry (ha/year)	50,000	39,139	ASPRs, DLRC annual reports	Availability of resources
Area under sustainable land and water management practices increased		Annual increase in area under sustainable agriculture land management (ha)	700,000	230,000	NAP review report, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Increased extension services	
	Percentage of agricultural land under sustainable land and water management (%)	30%	15%	ASPRs, CAADP reports, DLRC reports, NAP review report	Availability of resources		
		Reduction in average soil loss in tons/ha/year	20	29	ASPRs, CAADP reports, DLRC reports, NAP review report	Availability of resources	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Policy Outcome 3.5.2: Enhanced resilience of production systems to climate change and other shocks							
To increase adoption of climate-smart technologies for crops, aquaculture and livestock interventions	a) Promote the adoption of climate-smart technologies in crop and livestock production, irrigation, aquaculture, and fisheries	CSA technologies practiced	Area under different CSA specific technologies (ha / year)	Conservation agriculture - 55,000 Soil nutrient management - 450,000 Water conservation and use efficiency - 20,000	Conservation agriculture-46,992 Soil nutrient management- 441,425 Water conservation and use efficiency-13,467	DAES, DLRC, DARS, DCD reports	Extension support
		CSA technologies adopted among farmers	Percentage of farmers adopting CSA technologies (%)	All farmers- 60% Men-20% Women-20% Youths-15% People with disabilities-5%	All farmers-35% Men-15% Women-16% Youths-3% With disabilities - 1%	DLRC reports, DAES reports, ASPRS	Extension support, New CSA technologies available
		Rainwater harvesting technologies adopted	Percentage of farmers practicing rainwater harvesting technologies (%)	All farmers-42% Men-17% Women-15% Youths-10%	All farmers-7% Men-3% Women-3% Youths-1%	DLRC reports, DAES reports, ASPRS	Willingness of farmers to adopt rainwater harvesting
To reduce contribution of agricultural sector to greenhouse emissions from 54% to 52.5% by 2029	b) Promote the development and adoption of water harvesting technologies c) Develop and/ or implement agricultural and land management practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions	Agricultural sector contribution to greenhouse emissions reduced	Percentage reduction in the contribution to greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture (%)	52.5%	54%	Malawi Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) report to UNFCCC	Funds availability

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
	d) Implement measures to reduce vulnerability of the fishers and fish farmers as well as aquatic ecosystems to climate change	Vulnerability of fishers and aquatic ecosystems to climate change reduced	Percentage of fishers with access to insurance	20%	0%	Fisheries Department Reports, ASPRs	Availability of weather insurance schemes for fishers
			Reduction in the proportion of fishers affected by extreme weather events	20%	35.9%	Fisheries Department Reports, ASPRs	Occurrence of extreme weather events
	e) Improve the dissemination of real time agro-climate data for planning and early warning	Area-specific agro-climate information products disseminated	Number of Area-specific agro-climate information products disseminated per year	24	8	DLRC reports, ASPRs,	Availability of climate data from the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services
			Number of Agricultural Development Divisions (ADDs) agro-climate maps revised	8	0	Maps, DLRC Reports	Availability of climate data from the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services
	f) Promote alternative sources of livelihoods to release pressure on land resources	Alternative off farm income generating activities supported	Proportion of farmers engaged in off farm income generating activities	All - 70%	All - 44%	DAES reports	Availability of off-farm income generating opportunities
			People with disabilities - 50%	People with disabilities - 20%			
			Male - 40%	Male - 30%			
			Female - 30%	Female- 14%			
			Youths -50%	Youths - 20%			

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Policy Outcome 3.5.3: Enhanced integrated soil fertility management practices							
Increase area put under integrated soil fertility management practices annually	a) Promote the effective use of organic, inorganic, and bioorganic inputs and practices for the improvement of soil health	Front-line staff trained on integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM)	Number of frontline staff trained on integrated soil fertility management	2000	168	ASPRs	Availability of resources to support training
		ISFM technologies implemented	Annual increase in area under ISFM (ha/year)	550,000 ha/year	460,000 ha/year	ASPR 2020/21, DLRC reports	Improved support for extension
Increase adoption of area-specific fertilizer recommendations	b) Promote application of area-specific fertilisers	Integrated soil fertility management practiced by farmers	Percentage of farmers practicing integrated soil fertility management	All farmers-50% Men-20% Women-15% Youths-10% People with disabilities-5%	All farmers-32% Men-15% Women-9% Youths-6% With disabilities-2%	DAES reports, DLT reports, ASPRs	Willingness of farmers to adopt ISFM
		Increased awareness of the area-specific fertilizer recommendations and new fertiliser formulations	Percentage of farmers aware of the area-specific fertilizer recommendations and new fertiliser formulations	All farmers: 75% Men-35% Women-30% Youths-10% People with disabilities-5%	All farmers- 20% Men-10% Women-7% Youths-2% With disabilities-1%	ASPRs, DARS reports, DLRC reports, DAES reports	
		Area-specific fertiliser recommendations adopted by farmers	Percentage of farmers adopting area-specific fertiliser recommendations	All farmers-30% Men-15% Women-10% Youths-5%	All farmers-0% Men-0% Women-0% Youths-0%		Availability of inputs like fertilizers

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Improve adoption of Conservation Agriculture and integrate SLM technologies in any input support initiative	c) Promote the adoption of conservation agriculture technologies	Conservation Agriculture practiced by farmers	Percentage of farmers practicing CA	All farmers- 50% Men- 20% Women- 20% Youths- 10%	All farmers-40% Men-17% Women-14% Youths-9%	ASPRs, DAES reports, DLRC reports	Willingness of young farmers to adopt CA
	d) Promote the integration of soil fertility enhancing crops and livestock in agricultural systems	Adoption of Intercropping with fertility enhancing crops in agricultural systems improved	Share of agricultural land under fertility enhancing crops intercropping	30%	20%	ASPRs, DAES reports, DLRC reports, APES	Availability of legume seed
	e) Integrate SLM practices into agricultural input support initiatives	Adoption of SLM technologies by beneficiaries of input support initiatives increased	Percentage of farmers practicing fertility enhancing crops intercropping	All farmers-35% Men- 15% Women-10% Youths-7% People with disabilities-3%	All farmers-20% Men-9% Women-7 % Youths- 3% People with disabilities-1%	ASPRs, DAES reports, DLRC reports, APES	Willingness of farmers to adopt
			Percentage of beneficiaries of input support programmes practicing SLM	All farmers-100% Men- 40% Women-45% Youths-10% People with disabilities-5%	All farmers-50% Men-20% Women-15% Youths-3% People with disabilities-2%	ASPRs, DAES reports, DLRC reports, APES	Robust policy support, Political will

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Policy Outcome 3.5.4: Measures to enforce and incentivise efforts in sustainable land management technologies are instituted							
Increase awareness of and demand for SLM interventions and incentivise through introduction of innovative incentive mechanisms	a) Promote mindset change for SLM through social marketing	Awareness and demand for SLM interventions increased among farmers	Percentage of farmers aware of SLM technologies	All farmers- 35%	All farmers- 25%	ASPRs, annual reports	Willingness of farmers to participate in awareness campaigns
				Men- 15%	Men-10%		
				Women- 10%	Women-6%		
				Youths- 7%	Youths- 5%		
				People with disabilities- 3%	People with disabilities- 4%		Availability of Resources
	b) Link SLM to innovative incentive mechanisms such as Payment for Ecosystem Services and inputs support programmes	SLM linked to carbon markets, Payment for Ecosystem or Watershed Services and other incentive mechanisms Implemented	Percentage of farmers benefiting from carbon trading, payment for ecosystem services and other mechanisms	All farmers- 35%	All farmers- 0%	ASPRs, annual reports	Projects supporting the incentives PES schemes established
				Men- 15%	Men- 0%		
				Women- 10%	Women- 0%		
				Youths- 7%	Youths- 0%		
				People with disabilities - 3%	People with disabilities- 0%		Availability of resources
	c) Promote use of media and digital technologies in the dissemination of SLM messages	SLM messages disseminated through media and digital technologies	Number of media platforms disseminating SLM messages	6	2	DLRC reports, DAES reports, ASPRs	Availability of SALM programmes on media coverage
				All farmers- 35%	All farmers- 17%		
				Men- 15%	Men-10%		
				Women- 10%	Women-5%		
				Youths- 7%	Youths- 2%		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Reduce environmental degradation arising from implementing agricultural initiatives	d) Promote knowledge and skills in land management for men, women and the youth	SLM technologies practiced by farmers	Percentage of farmers practicing SLM technologies	All farmers- 60% Men- 25% Women- 20% Youths- 10% People with disability- 5%	All farmers- 30% Men-15% Women-12% Youths- 2% People with disabilities- 1%	DLRC reports, DAES reports, ASPRS	Willingness of farmers to practice SLM
	e) Facilitate the development of Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA), and monitor implementation of environmental and social management plans for agricultural projects	Agricultural officers trained on Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) guidelines	Percentage of agricultural officers trained on the guidelines for Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) for different agricultural projects	All staff- 30% Men- 15% Women- 15%	All staff- 15% Men- 9% Women- 6%	Training reports, DLRC reports, EAD reports	Availability of staff, Cooperation from EAD
Facilitate the development of guidelines, and regulations on SLM	f) Facilitate the development of guidelines, and regulations on SLM	Agricultural officers trained in monitoring implementation of Environmental and Social Management Plans for agricultural projects	Percentage of agricultural Officers trained in monitoring implementation of Environmental and Social Management Plans for agricultural projects	All staff- 30% Men- 15% Women- 15%	All staff- 10% Men- 6% Women- 4%	Training reports, DLRC reports, EAD reports	Availability of staff, Cooperation from EAD
		Act on SLM developed	Number of Acts formulated to support SLM	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of resources
		Regulations on SLM developed	Number of regulations and control orders to support the Act	3	0		
Policy Outcome 3.5.5: Improved availability of, access to, and utilization of sustainable alternative sources of energy							
Increase number of households accessing alternative sources of energy and using energy serving technologies	a) Increase access by households to sustainable alternative sources of energy	Alternative sources of energy accessed by households	Number of households accessing alternative sources of energy other than fuelwood in rural areas	All households- 40%	All households- 22%	Department of Forestry reports, ASPRS, DLRC reports, Energy department reports	Funds availability
				Male headed households- 15%	Male headed households- 7%		
				Female headed households- 25%	Female headed households- 15%		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	b) Promote the use of energy-efficient technologies that save on the amount of fuelwood, time, and labour c) Promote the planting of multi-purpose agroforestry tree species d) Promote the establishment of individual, clan or community-managed woodlots	Use of energy-efficient technologies promoted Agro-forestry practice with multipurpose trees increased Individual, clan community managed village forest areas increased	Percentage of households using energy-efficient cooking technologies (cook stoves) Area under agroforestry annually (ha/year) Area of land under individual, clan community managed woodlots - village forest areas (ha)	All-30% Male headed households -10% Female headed households-20%	All-18% Male headed households-6% Female headed households-12%	Department of Forestry reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports Department of Forestry reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports Department of Forestry reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Availability of funds Availability of multi-purpose agroforestry tree seedlings or seeds Availability of land to establish woodlots
				50,000 90,000	39,139 47,250	Reports from Ministry responsible for Lands, DLRC reports, District Council report, Land Reform Implementation Unit reports	Cooperation from Local Councils and Ministry responsible for Lands, Availability of resources for roll out of land registration
				600	240	Reports from Ministry responsible for Lands, DLRC reports, District Council report, Land Reform Implementation Unit reports	Cooperation from Local Councils and Ministry responsible for Lands, Availability of resources for roll out of land registration
				600	240	Reports from Ministry responsible for Lands, DLRC reports, District Council report, Land Reform Implementation Unit reports	Cooperation from Local Councils and Ministry responsible for Lands, Availability of resources for roll out of land registration
Policy Outcome 3.5.6: Strengthened access to land and water resources and land tenure security							
To strengthen land tenure security through land registration and promote equal access to land.	a) Support the creation of local institutions for decentralised land administration	Local institutions for land administration created	Number of customary land committees	600	240	Reports from Ministry responsible for Lands, DLRC reports, District Council report, Land Reform Implementation Unit reports	Cooperation from Local Councils and Ministry responsible for Lands, Availability of resources for roll out of land registration

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Promote governance of tenure for land, forestry and fisheries	b) Promote equitable access to and control over land and water for agriculture, including irrigation	Increased awareness of the provisions for and equitable access to land	Percentage of the population aware of the provisions in the new land laws	All- 50%	All- 15%	Land Reform Implementation Unit reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Land redistribution initiatives availability
				Men- 20%	Men- 8%		
	c) Facilitate registration of agricultural land to strengthen tenure rights	Farmer with registered land under new Land Laws	Number of farmers with land rights recorded under the new Land Registries	Women- 15%	Women- 2%	Land Reform Implementation Unit reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Customary land Act 2016 rolled out
				Youths- 10%	Youths- 10%		
	d) Promote equitable access to fishing areas and fish farming zones	Fishing areas accessed by fishers	Number of fishers with access to fishing areas	With disabilities- 5%	With disabilities- 1%	Fisheries Department reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Cooperation of shore developers
				All- 185,000	All- 2,082		
	e) Use VGGT to facilitate attainment of secure tenure of land, fisheries and forestry by farmers, fishers, foresters, and irrigators	Fish farming zones accessed by fish farmers	Number of fish farmers with access to fish farming zones	Men- 75,000	Men- 1,095	Fisheries Department reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Support from youth and women
				Women- 75,000	Women- 987		
	e) Use VGGT to facilitate attainment of secure tenure of land, fisheries and forestry by farmers, fishers, foresters, and irrigators	Staff trained on land tenure rights	Number of staff trained on land tenure rights	Youths- 25,000	Youths- 7,880	Fisheries Department reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Cooperation from Lands
				People with disabilities - 10,000	People with disabilities - 3,140		
e) Use VGGT to facilitate attainment of secure tenure of land, fisheries and forestry by farmers, fishers, foresters, and irrigators	Staff trained in forestry tenure rights	Number of staff trained in forestry tenure rights	30,000	3,200	Fisheries Department reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Resources availability for training	
			10,000	600			
e) Use VGGT to facilitate attainment of secure tenure of land, fisheries and forestry by farmers, fishers, foresters, and irrigators	Staff trained in tenure rights for fisheries	Number of staff trained in tenure rights for fisheries	560	200	Land Reform Implementation Unit reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Resources availability for training	
			336	90			
e) Use VGGT to facilitate attainment of secure tenure of land, fisheries and forestry by farmers, fishers, foresters, and irrigators	Staff trained in tenure rights for fisheries	Number of staff trained in tenure rights for fisheries	336	24	Land Reform Implementation Unit reports, ASPRs, LRCD reports	Resources availability for training	
			336	24			

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
		Land leases renewals adhering to SLM practices	Percentage of agricultural land lease renewals issued which were following SLM practices	100%	0%	Land Reform Implementation Unit reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Cooperation with the Ministry responsible for Lands
	f) Monitor and enforce agricultural land lease covenants to ensure compliance with conservation obligations	Land leases renewals compliant with conservation obligations	Percentage of agricultural leases complying with conservation obligations	70%	0%	Land Reform Implementation Unit reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Cooperation with the Ministry responsible for Lands
		Customary estate with land use plans	Percentage of registered Customary Estates with land use plans	50%	0%	Land Reform Implementation Unit reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Active involvement of DLRC staff in the registration processes
Policy Outcome 3.5.7: Land use planning at all levels is facilitated							
To generate, update and digitise land resources information and disseminate using different media platforms	a) Ensure proper selection of land for agricultural and other uses	District land use plans developed	Number of districts with land use plans	28	2	Land Reform Implementation Unit reports, ASPRs, DLRC reports	Availability of resources for Ministry responsible for Lands
	b) Ensure timely generation and dissemination of land resources information	Land resources information generated and disseminated timely	Number of updated vegetation and land use maps	8	0	Updated land use maps, reports	Availability of suitable satellite images
	c) Ensure safekeeping of data and information through proper library management	Database on land resource management created	Number of soil fertility maps for different nutrients	18	9	Soil nutrient maps	Availability of resources
			Number of databases on land resource management created	Electronic database- 1	Electronic database -0	Organised library database	Availability of a suitable room at DLRC, Availability of financial support for the database

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
		Knowledge management products on land resources developed	Number of Knowledge management products (posters, leaflets, policy briefs) per year	10	0	DLRC reports	Availability of a suitable room at DLRC, availability of financial support for the database
	d) Facilitate agro-ecological mapping and characterisation of attributes to inform area specific interventions	Revised agro-ecological maps	Number of revised agro-ecological maps	8	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of resources
	e) Digitise available land resources information and use digital platforms for wide dissemination	Land resources information digitised and disseminated	Percentage of land resources information digitized Percentage of land resources information disseminated	70% 70%	20% 20%	Reports, Ministry of Agriculture website	ICT hardware and software availability

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
Monitoring of Policy Priority Area 5: Agricultural Research and Innovation							
General Objectives: (i) To strengthen institutional capacity and improve coordination for efficient, effective service delivery in the agricultural sector							
Policy Outcome 3.6.1: Strengthened agricultural research systems and innovations in agriculture strategies							
To strengthen research and development and promote innovations in agriculture for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector	a) Increase public resource allocation and investments in agricultural and aquatic research and development, and innovations in line with the African Union (AU) targets	Resource allocated to agriculture research and development in line with AU targets	Total agriculture research spending as a share of agriculture GDP (%)	≥1%	<1%	National Research Council of Malawi reports, Ministry responsible for Agriculture expenditure reports	Availability of resources
	b) Promote collaborative research between and among National Agriculture Research institutions (NARs), international research organisations, the academia and the private sector in fostering research, innovation and development	New agricultural technologies jointly developed Commodity specific genetic improvement programmes implemented	Number of new technologies jointly developed Number of commodity-based genetic improvement (scaling up) programmes	65	59	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS; Department of Fisheries; ARET; NSO MIP-1 progress report; Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS, DAHLD MIP-1 progress report; Report from Department of Fisheries	Cooperation among partners Resource availability

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
Monitoring of Policy Priority Area 5: Agricultural Research and Innovation							
	c) Establish Technology Transfer Offices (TTO) in all public research institutions to enhance patenting and commercialisation of agricultural innovations and technologies	TTOs established in research institutions	Number of TTOs established in NARs	3	1	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DARS	Resource availability

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Monitoring of Policy Priority Area 6: Institutional Development, Coordination, and Capacity Strengthening							
General Objectives: (i) To strengthen institutional capacity and improve coordination for efficient, effective service delivery in the agricultural sector (ii) To increase the capacity-building and institutional architecture efficiency index to 60 by 2029							
I. Institutional Development and Coordination							
Policy Outcome 3.7.1: Improved stakeholder coordination in formulation, implementation and review of agricultural policies, programmes and projects							
To strengthen stakeholder coordination for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector	a. Build the capacity of the Ministry's policy implementation unit to coordinate sector players in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this Policy as well as the resultant programmes and projects	Technical Working Group meetings conducted	Number of Technical Working Group meetings conducted annually	4	2	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Joint Sector Review (JSR), ASPR	Cooperation among sector players
		Pillar Enabler Coordination Group meetings conducted	Number of Pillar Enabler Coordination Group meetings conducted annually	4	2		
		Strengthened coordination structures/mechanisms in the sector	Capacity and institutional architecture efficiency index	60%	20%	Institutional architecture efficiency index reports	
b. Strengthen sector coordination structures/mechanisms to promote stakeholder engagement, accountability, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness to enhance the sector's performance in the implementation of this Policy as well as the resultant programmes and projects	Multi-sectorial coordination body established and operational at national level	Number of multi-sectorial coordination body established and operational at national level	1	0	Reports Ministry responsible for Agriculture (JSR)		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
	c. Institutionalise the MW2063 coordination framework and the MW2063 Pillar Enabler Coordination Groups (PEGs), and harmonise with the current coordination structures in the sector	Technical Working Groups aligned to the MW2063 coordination framework	Number of Technical Working Group aligned to MW2063	3	5	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Joint Sector Review (JSR), ASPR	Stakeholder willingness
		Agriculture Pillar Enabler Coordination Group instituted	Number of Pillar Enabler Coordination Group instituted	1	1		
	d. Create and enforce a joint planning, and reporting framework for programmes and projects implemented by the private sector, Development partners, CSOs and other non-state actors	Joint sector plans developed	Number of annual joint sector plans developed	1	1	Sector annual programme of works	Willingness of stakeholder
		Joint sector reporting frameworks developed	Number of joint sector reporting frameworks developed	1	1	Final reporting framework	
		Joint sector annual work plans developed	Number of joint sector annual work plans	60	0	ASPR	
Policy Outcome 3.7.2: Enhanced implementation of agricultural policies, programmes and interventions and district and community level							
To strengthen policy, programme and project implementation for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector at district and community level	a. Enforce alignment, joint planning, and implementation of stakeholder agricultural plans, programmes and interventions with the District Development Plans (DDPs) and district agricultural investment plans, and this overarching agricultural Policy	DDPs and Investment plans aligned to NAP	Number of districts with DDPs and District Investment Plans aligned to NAP	28	9	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of resources
		District level agricultural development coordination structures capacitated	Capacity and institutional architecture efficiency index	60%	20%		Availability of resources
	b. Capacitate relevant district level agricultural development structures to effectively coordinate agricultural interventions and/or investments at the district and local council levels						

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
	c. Enhance public awareness of this and other related policies among all stakeholders	Policy, strategies, and program awareness improved	Policy compliance rate by stakeholders	100%	30%	Ministry responsible for Agricultural sector review reports	Stakeholder willingness to comply
Policy Outcome 3.7.3: Devolution of agriculture functions at district/local council level completed and local councils capacitated							
To enhance efficient agricultural service delivery at the local council level	a. Capacitate district level agricultural staff in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural sector initiatives	Agricultural staff at district council level recruited	Number of agricultural staff at district council level	3,000	2,800	Reports from Ministry responsible for Local Government, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of resources
		District agricultural staff trained in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural sector initiatives	Number of agricultural district staff trained	3,000	2,800		
	b. Increase budgetary resources to local authorities to support the implementation of the agricultural policies and programmes	Budgetary allocation to agricultural sector at district council increased	Share of central government transfers to agriculture at district council	5%	3%	Reports from National Local Government Finance Committee (NLGFC), Ministry responsible for Agriculture budget documents	Improved fiscal

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	c. Enhance the capacity of district and local councils to mobilise, manage, account for and track resources allocated for agricultural sector programmes and interventions	Financial management systems fully adopted at the district level	Number of districts fully adopting financial management systems	28	28	Reports from Ministry responsible for Local Government (National Local Government Finance Committee-NLGFC), Ministry responsible for Agriculture budget documents	Local councils fully capacitated
		District own generated revenue	Share of own generated revenue to total revenue at district level	70%	28% (Malawi National Human Development Report 2021)	Reports from Ministry responsible for Local Government (National Local Government Finance Committee-NLGFC); District Council reports	Local councils fully capacitated
	d. Promote autonomy in resource allocation decisions at district and local councils	District own generated revenue allocated to agriculture	Share of district own generated revenue allocated to agriculture	16%	0%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Local Government (National Local Government Finance Committee-NLGFC); District Council reports	Local councils fully capacitated

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks	
Policy Outcome 3.7.4: Improved institutional, legal and regulatory framework for effective and efficient service delivery in the agricultural sector								
To create and strengthen an enabling institutional, legal and regulatory environment for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector	a. Restructure and capacitate the Agricultural Mechanisation Unit of the Ministry to become a distinct department	Agricultural mechanisation department established	Number of agricultural mechanisation departments established	1	0	Agricultural sector reforms reports	Availability of resources	
	b. Resuscitate the former Land Husbandry Training Centre	The Land Husbandry Training Centre re-established	Number of Land Husbandry Training Centre re-established	1	0	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Agriculture		
	c. Facilitate restructuring of the DAHLD to strengthen coordination and support for livestock frontline staff and farmers	DAHLD Restructured into two departments	Capacity & Institutional Efficiency Index		1	0.6	Institutional Efficiency Index reports	
		Veterinary Services Department established	Number of Veterinary Services Departments established		1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Resource availability
d. Develop, review and update policies and legislations that govern the agricultural sector and relevant subsectors to support agricultural transformation	Livestock Production Health Department established	Number of Livestock Production Health Departments established		1	0			
	New and outdated legislations and policies developed, reviewed and updated	Numbers of legislations and policies developed, reviewed and updated		25	18	Policy review reports	Resource availability	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Policy Outcome 3.7.5: Increased investments for infrastructure development for improved agricultural service delivery							
To increase investments for infrastructure development	a. Improve the quality of housing, offices and laboratories for agricultural staff, especially at the research stations, district and local levels	Staff housing facilities constructed	Number of staff housing facilities rehabilitated	50	10	Ministry responsible for Agriculture administrative reports	
		Research offices constructed	Number of offices constructed	19	8	Ministry responsible for Agriculture administrative reports	
		Research offices rehabilitated	Number of offices rehabilitated	20	5	Ministry responsible for Agriculture administrative reports	
		Research laboratory facilities constructed	Number of laboratory facilities constructed	5	0	Ministry responsible for Agriculture administrative reports	
		Research laboratory facilities rehabilitated	Number of laboratory facilities rehabilitated	5	1	Ministry responsible for Agriculture administrative reports	
	b. Increase government budget and promote PPP as well as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) arrangements for improvement, maintenance and development of rural infrastructure	Private sector investment in PPP in the agricultural sector	Share of private sector investments in agriculture	20%	6.6%	Private sector Investment Reports	
		National budget disbursed to agriculture	Share of National budget disbursed to agriculture sector	>10%	11%	Ministry responsible for Finance Budget Disbursement Documents	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	c. Promote investments in rural electrification programmes to enhance access to electricity in agricultural development offices, staff houses, markets and agro-processing hubs in rural areas	Agriculture related facilities accessing electricity	Percentage of agriculture related facilities connected to electricity	80%	40%	Integrated Household Survey (IHS) data, National census, Ministry responsible for Agriculture reports, Ministry responsible for Energy reports	Availability of resources
Policy Outcome 3.7.6: Increased investments in the agricultural sector							
To increase investments in the agricultural sector for efficient and effective service delivery	a. Revise or update NAIP to be in tandem with the NAP 2024 and pillar 1 of MIP-1	Revised NAIP aligned to NAP	Number of NAIP aligned to NAP	1	0	Final NAIP II	
	b. Promote fair and balanced government budget that responds to the needs of YWVG across all the subsectors	Gender-responsive budgets developed	Share of budget allocated to YWVG dedicated programmes in agriculture	Women - 35%	Women-TBD	Ministry responsible for Finance Budget Disbursement Reports	
				Men-35%	Men-TBD		
				Youths - 20%	Youth-TBD		
				Vulnerable groups - 10%	Vulnerable groups-TBD		
		Research, innovation and agriculture development enhanced	Share of agriculture budget allocated to agricultural extension	6.6%	1.60%	Ministry responsible for Agriculture budget documents	
	c. Promote innovative resource mobilisation strategies to finance key programmes including scientific research and extension and the development of food systems		Share of agriculture budget allocated to research and development	≥1% of Agr GDP	<1%	Ministry responsible for Finance Budget Disbursement Reports	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	d. Promote adequate and balanced allocation of resources to the NAIP implementation in keeping with the goals and objectives of the MW2063 and MIP-1	Increased investments for agricultural development	Annual increase in agriculture public investment (USD)	543 million (IFPRI 2022 - Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) Modelling)	TBD	Ministry responsible for Finance reports, Malawi Government budget statements	
				Development part-ners - 472 million	215 million (2022)	Ministry responsible for Finance reports, Malawi Government budget statements	
				Government - 71 million	TBD		
	e. Facilitate the establishment of an agricultural investment bank	Agricultural investment bank established	Number of agricultural investment banks established	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Finance	Availability of resources
				10%	60%	Ministry responsible for Agriculture budget reports	
	f. Rationalise the agricultural budget to ensure an efficient and fair distribution of resources towards other subsectors of the agricultural sector such as research and development other than the inputs subsidy program	AIP reforms implemented	Share of agriculture budget allocated to input subsidy programme	1	0	Annual expenditure tracking and review reports	
				1	0		
	g. Strengthen the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit of the Ministry to conduct regular budget tracking and reporting and to enhance accountability and transparency in resource utilisation in the agricultural sector by all implementing agencies	Expenditure tracking and review system developed	Number of expenditure tracking and review systems developed	1	0		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks	
II. Capacity Strengthening								
Policy Outcome 3.7: Increased human and technical capacity of the Ministry responsible for Agriculture								
To strengthen human and technical capacity for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector	a. Recruit and retain more front-line workers, and specialised agricultural staff (such as extension workers and research technicians), with a specific focus on increasing female staff recruitment at all technical levels b. Enhance technical capacity and functionality of the Ministries, Departments, and Agencies in resource utilization/spending from increased allocation and/or funding from Development Partners (DPs), the government and other non-state actors c. Enhance the technical capacity of the frontline staff in the agricultural sector through regular and continuous training with particular attention paid to female staff	Vacancy rate reduced at all levels in the Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Ratio of agricultural extension service agents to farmers	1:1000	1: 2017	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture		
		Agricultural staff recruited	Recruitment rate increased (For men and women)	Male - 100 per annum Female- 90 per annum	Male - 50 per annum Female-40 per annum			
		Resource utilisation and/or spending within the Ministry improved	Capacity & Institutional Efficiency Index	60%	20%	Institutional Efficiency Index report		
		Agricultural frontline staff trained in various capacities	Number of agricultural front-line staff trained in various capacities (by gender)	Female - 900 Male -1200	Female - 560 Male - 560	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, ADD reports Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, ADD reports		
				Youth-750	Youth-700	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, ADD reports		
				People with disability - 150	People with disability- 28	Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, ADD reports		

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Policy Outcome 3.7.8: Strengthened agricultural extension systems for enhanced service delivery in agriculture							
To raise the proportion of farmers having access to agricultural extension and advisory services by 2029	d. Promote increased public resource allocation and investments for training, information sharing, and other extension support related services to farmers and MSMEs	Resource allocation and investments to agricultural extension increased	Ratio of agricultural extension service agents to farmers	1:1000	1:2017	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES	Availability of resources
			Share of agriculture budget allocated to agricultural extension	6.5%	1.60%		
		e. Promote use of innovative extension approaches among public and private service providers	Use of innovative extension approaches increased	Agricultural technology adoption index	0.6	0.3	ADD reports
	Percentage of farmers having access to agricultural advisory services			100%	70%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES	
				Women-100% Men-100% Youth-100%	Women - 35% Men-40% Youth-25%		
	f. Strengthen research-extension-farmer linkages for increased adoption of agricultural technologies for various agricultural and aquatic value chains	Research-extension-farmer linkages strengthened	Ratio of agricultural extension agents to farmers	1:1000	1:2017	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES	Resource availability
			Agricultural technology adoption index	0.6	0.3	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES	
	g. Harmonise extension messages among stakeholders to build necessary knowledge, skills, consensus, synergy, and collaboration across agricultural value chains among service providers	Agricultural extension messages harmonised	Percentage of agricultural extension messages harmonised	100%	60%	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
To strengthen research and development and promote innovations in agriculture for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector	Policy Outcome 3.7.9: Increased usage of ICT and digital infrastructure in agriculture						
	a. Promote the use of cutting-edge digital technologies and equipment in agricultural and aquatic research and development; agricultural production, extension, and marketing	Increased usage of ICT technologies in agriculture	ICT development index	2	1.5	MW2063, MIP-1 progress reports	Availability of funds
	b. Improve ICT infrastructure and networks at the Ministry, Districts and Local levels	ICT infrastructure and networks upgraded	Percentage of frontline staff using digital platforms for data collection and reporting	100%	20%	Reports from the Ministry responsible for Agriculture	Availability of resources
	c. Promote the use of ICT-based agricultural extension and market information sharing delivery systems to farmers and MSMEs	National Agriculture Management Information System up-scaled	Number of districts using NAMIS	28	12	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS	Availability of resources
			Number of NAMIS modules rolled-out	10	1	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS	Availability of resources
			Number of NAMIS generated messages disseminated	5	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS	Resource availability

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Policy Outcome 3.7.10: A Gender Transformative Approach and equitable access to capacity building initiatives, resources and programmes in agriculture are promoted							
To strengthen institutional capacity for efficient and effective service delivery in the agricultural sector	a. Develop and sustain capacity of YWVG farmers to engage with financing institutions and access available finances	Access to finance by YWVG engaged in agriculture increased	Percentage of YWVG engaged in agriculture with access to financial services	80%	17%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Integrated Household Survey (IHS), Integrated surveys in Agriculture, CAADP Biennial Reports (BR), Population and housing census	Resource availability
				Female -35%	Female-16%		
				Male -35%	Male -18%		
				Youth -50%	Youth - 10%		
		People with disability-5%	People with disability - 0%				
	b. Strengthen workplace HIV/AIDS interventions in the MDAs, value chain players and the private sector	HIV/AIDS interventions mainstreamed in the agriculture activities	Number of HIV/AIDS agricultural-related interventions implemented annually	3	1	Ministry responsible for Health HIV/AIDS reports	Resource availability
	c. Develop and sustain the capacity of agriculture technicians in the Gender Transformative Approach at the household level, and in gender mainstreaming among stakeholders	Capacity of Agricultural Technicians in Gender Transformative Approach improved	Percentage of Agriculture Technicians with capacity in Gender Transformative Approach	100%	50%	Ministry responsible for Agriculture reports	Resource availability
	d. Promote capacity building in HIV and AIDS management and gender mainstreaming in agriculture	Improved capacity in HIV and AIDS management and gender mainstreaming in agriculture	Percentage of Agriculture Technicians with capacity in HIV and AIDS management and gender mainstreaming	100 %	70%	Ministry responsible for Agriculture reports and Ministry responsible for Health HIV/AIDS reports	Resource availability

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
	e. Promote mindset change including social norms to encourage YWVG farmers to access productive resources such as land; to participate in decision making; and to have control of income and other proceeds from food and income security	Mindset change programmes implemented	Number mindset change programmes implemented	100	70	Ministry responsible for Agriculture reports: DAES	Resource availability
Policy Outcome 3.7.11: Improved performance management, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) systems in agriculture							
To strengthen M&E systems in the agricultural sector	a. Recruit and deploy M&E officers at the Ministry headquarters, research stations, as well as in district and local councils	Vacant positions for M&E staff filled	Number of staff for Planning and M&E at Ministry of Agriculture	68	29	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS	Resource availability
	b. Build technical capacity of M&E staff through relevant training at headquarters, district and in local councils	Staff trained in M&E	Number of staff trained in the Department	68	29	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS	Resource availability
	c. Capacitate M&E departments by providing modern ICT equipment, software and internet support at headquarters and in local councils	A fully functional web-based M&E system for agriculture established	Number of functional web-based M&E systems established	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS	Availability of resources Willingness to implement
	d. Fast-track the rolling out and increase coverage of the National Agricultural Management Information System (NAMIS) at national and district council levels	NAMIS used country-wide	Number of districts using NAMIS	2	12	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS	Availability of resources Willingness to implement
	e. Link the NAMIS to national/ central M&E system of MIP-1, and other relevant systems	NAMIS linked to MIP-1 M&E system	Number of MIP-1 M&E systems linked to NAMIS	1	0	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAPS	Availability of resources Willingness to implement

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
	f. Strengthen linkages between the Ministry and data agencies like NSO	Increased collaboration between the MoA and data agencies	Number of Memorandum of Understanding signed between the MoA and data agencies	5	1	Reports from DAPS	Willingness to collaborate on data issues
III. Risk Management							
Policy Outcome 3.7.12: Enhanced resilience of the agricultural sector							
To promote risk management and enhance the resilience of the agricultural sector	a. Strengthen early warning systems in agriculture for enhanced disaster/risk preparedness and resilience	Early warning systems monthly bulletin/reports produced	Number of early warning monthly bulletin/reports produced	12	1	Ministry responsible for Agriculture reports on food security, Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) reports	Availability of funds
		Households resilient to climate and weather-related shocks	Share of households resilient to climate and weather-related shocks	All - 85% Men-headed household - 35% Women headed households - 31%	All - 60% Men Headed - 20% Women Headed - 19%	Ministry responsible for Agriculture reports on food security, MVAC reports Ministry responsible for agriculture reports on food security, MVAC reports	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/Risks
		Public agricultural production risk transfer tools adopted	Number of drought policies procured annually	1	1	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture and Finance	Availability of resources
			Number of anticipatory policies procured annually	1	0		
			Number of Livestock policies procured annually	1	0		
			Number of flood policies procured annually	1	0		
			Private expenditure on agricultural insurance premiums	MK625 million	MK1 billion		
		Private agricultural production risk transfer tools adopted	Number of agricultural insurance products developed and promoted	10	2	Ministry responsible for Finance, RBM, MoA reports, Finscope reports	Willingness of stakeholders
			Percentage of farmers participating in various insurance schemes	Crops-20%	Crops-8%	Insurance companies' financial statements, Ministry responsible for Finance reports	Willingness of farmers
b. Develop and promote a wide range of agricultural insurance products and services among all farmer categories and types, as well as fish producers		Agricultural insurance products developed and promoted	Number of drought policies procured annually	1	1	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture and Finance	Availability of resources
			Number of anticipatory policies procured annually	1	0		
			Number of Livestock policies procured annually	1	0		
			Number of flood policies procured annually	1	0		
			Private expenditure on agricultural insurance premiums	MK625 million	MK1 billion		
b. Develop and promote a wide range of agricultural insurance products and services among all farmer categories and types, as well as fish producers		Agricultural insurance products developed and promoted	Number of agricultural insurance products developed and promoted	10	2	Ministry responsible for Finance, RBM, MoA reports, Finscope reports	Willingness of stakeholders
			Percentage of farmers participating in various insurance schemes	Crops-20%	Crops-8%	Insurance companies' financial statements, Ministry responsible for Finance reports	Willingness of farmers

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
				Livestock - 5%	Livestock - 0%	Ministry of Agriculture progress reports	
				Fisheries - 20%	Fisheries - 0%	Agricultural sector performance reports	
	c. Develop and/or promote drought-tolerant crop varieties and livestock breeds	Farmers adopting drought-tolerant crop varieties and livestock breeds	Percentage of farmers adopting drought-tolerant crop varieties and improved livestock breeds	Crops - 5%	Crops - 0.70%	Research institutions, Ministry of Agriculture	
				Livestock - 2%	Livestock - 0.08%	Reports from Research institutions, Ministry of Agriculture	
			Percentage of national cropped area planted to drought tolerant varieties	All - 5%	All - 0.40%	NSO - agricultural sector reports, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	
				Maize-10%	Maize-0.8%	NSO - agricultural sector reports, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	
				Groundnuts - 3%	Groundnuts - 0.4%	NSO - agricultural sector reports, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks	
				Wheat - 2%	Wheat - 0.1%	NSO - agricultural sector reports, Ministry responsible for Agriculture		
				Soya - 4%	Soya - 0.3%	NSO - agricultural sector reports, Ministry responsible for Agriculture		
	d. Capacitate and enhance the management of the strategic food reserves and ensure their linkage to regional strategic food reserves		Quality of grain maintained in strategic grain reserves	Percentage of grain maintained (stored) with quality	100%	70%	National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) reports, Ministry responsible for Agriculture	
					635,000MT	287,000 MT	Ministry responsible for Agriculture reports	
	e. Enhance the quality of market information systems for management of risks associated with agricultural markets		Market information accessed by farmers	Percentage of farmers accessing market information	Female -45%	Female - 30%	Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Integrated Household Survey (IHS) reports	
					Male - 65%	Male - 45%		
f. Promote integrated management and control of pests and diseases		Reduced animal disease prevalence	Average prevalence rate of animal diseases	<7%	9.95%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAHLD	Resources available	

Objective	Strategy	Output	Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Source of verification	Assumptions/ Risks
To promote safe handling of agro-chemicals in order to reduce risk to people and the environment	g. Promote safe handling and disposal of agro-chemicals and use of animal drugs	Extension workers and agro-dealers trained on disposal of agrochemicals and use of animal drugs	Percentage of extension workers and agro-dealers trained	90%	80%	Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture: DAES, ADD reports	
			Personal Protective Equipment used by agro-dealers	90%	32%	Ministry of Agriculture: DAES, ADD reports	
		Reduced cases of self-poisoning	Percentage of self-poisoning cases	20%	79%	Reports from Environmental Health Division, Reports from Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Pesticide Control Board, EAD	The various institutions are willing to collaborate
			Exposure to risk of agro-chemicals reduced	Men - 5% Women -15% Farmers - 5% Children - 0%	Men - 20% Women - 40% Farmers - 25% Children -16%	Reports from Environmental Health Division, Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Pesticide Control Board, EAD	The various institutions are willing to collaborate



Designed by
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE EXTENSION SERVICES
AGRICULTURE COMMUNICATION BRANCH
P.O. BOX 30145
LILONGWE
MALAWI.

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