

Malawi

Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme

Supervision Report

Mission Dates: 25/04/2022 06/05/2022

Document Date: 16/06/2022

Project No. 1100001534

Report No. 6138-MW

East and Southern Africa Division
Programme Management Department

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADC	Area development committee (under local government)
ADD	Agricultural Development Division
AGRA	Alliance on Green Revolution for Africa
ASP	Area stakeholder panel
AEDC	Agricultural Extension Development Committee (at district level)
AEDO	Agricultural extension development officer (at section level)
AEZ	Agro-ecological zone
AfDB	African Development Bank
AGRESS	Agricultural Gender Roles Extension Support Services
AISP	Agricultural Infrastructure Support Programme (funded by the AfDB)
AOS	Annual outcome survey
APPSA	Agricultural Productivity Programme – South Africa region (World Bank funded)
ASP	Area stakeholder panel
ASWAp	Agricultural Sector Wide Approach
ASWAp-SP	ASWAp Support Programme (World Bank funded)
ATCC	Agricultural Technology Clearing Committee
AVO	Assistant veterinary officer
AWPB	Annual work plan and budget
BLS	Baseline survey
CA	Conservation agriculture
CAETS	Control of Agricultural Extension and Technical Services
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CIAT	International Centre for Tropical Agriculture
CIMMYT	International Wheat and Maize Improvement Centre
CISANET	Civil Society Agriculture Network
CC	Climate Change
CPM	Country Programme Manager
DA	Designated Account
DADO	District Agriculture Development Officer
DAECC	District Agriculture Extension Coordinating Committee
DAES	Department of Agricultural Extension Services
DAESS	District Agriculture Extension System Structure
DAHLD	Department of Animal Health Livestock Development
DAO	District Agriculture Office
DAPS	Department of Agricultural Planning Services
DARS	Department of Agricultural Research Services
DCD	Department of Crop Development
DEC	District executive committee
DLRC	Department of Land Resources Conservation
DOF	Department of Finance
DSA	Daily subsistence allowance
DSF	Debt sustainability framework (IFAD grant)
DSP	District stakeholder panel
EFA	Economic and financial analysis
EMC	Executive Management Committee
EPA	Extension planning area
ETG	Export Trading Group
FANRPAN	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FAOSTAT	Food and Agriculture Organization Statistics
FARMSE	Financial Access for Rural Markets, Smallholders, and Enterprise Programme
FBS	Farmer business school
FBO	Farmer based organisation
FGD	Focal group discussion
FIDP	Farm Input Diversification Programme (funded by the European Union)
FISP	Farm Input Subsidy Scheme
FFS	Farmer field school
FG	Farmer groups
FS	Farming systems
FY	Fiscal year
FMS	Financial management specialist
GAC	Group agricultural committee
GAP	Good agricultural practice
GSIS	Gender and social inclusion specialist (in SAPPS)
GoM	Government of Malawi
HA	Household approach
HH	Household
HHA	Household approach (to developing HH capacity)
HIV/AIDS	Human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome
HQ	Head quarters
ICRAF	International for Research in Agroforestry (World Agroforestry Centre)
ICRISAT	International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics
ICT	Information and communication technologies
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGP	Income generating project
IHF	Integrated Household Farming
IHPS	Integrated Household Panel Survey (implemented by the National Statistics Office)
IITA	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
IK	Indigenous knowledge (agricultural and other)
IMTR	Internal MTR of SAPP prepared by MoAIWD
IPC	Internal Procurement Committee

IRLI	Irish Rule of Law International
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute
K	Potassium (K ₂ O – potash)
KAP	Knowledge, awareness and practice
KM	Knowledge management
KMC	Knowledge management and communication
KMCO	KMC officer
LF	Lead farmer
LUANAR	Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
MIS	Management information system
MK	Malawian Kwacha
MPRS	Malawi Poverty Reduction Strategy
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoAIWD	Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Water Development
MoFEDP	Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Planning
MRA	Malawi Revenue Authority
MSc	Master of Science
MTR	Mid-term review (by SAPP)
NASFAM	National Smallholder Farmer Association of Malawi
N	Nitrogen
NAP	National Agricultural Policy
NAIP	National agricultural investment plan
NARS	National Agricultural Research System
NGO	Non-government organisation
NO	No objection
NPC	National programme coordinator
OPV	Open pollinated variety
ORMS	Operational results management system
P ₂ O ₅	Phosphate
PIM	Programme implementation manual
PMU	Programme management units
PO	Procurement Officer
PPF	Project preparation facility
PPO	Programme procurement officer
PPPD	Per person per day
PRA	Participatory rural appraisal
PS	Principal Secretary, MoAIWD
PSC	Programme steering committee
PTC	(SAPP) programme technical committee
PVS	Participatory Variety Selection
QDS	Quality declared seed
RIMS	Results Impact Management System (IFAD)
RLEEP	Rural Livelihoods and Economic Enhancement Programme
SAPP	Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme
SAPPS	SAPP Secretariat
SDR	Special drawing right
SHFS	Small holder food security farmers
SIVAP	Small Irrigation and Value Addition Programme (funded by AfDB)
SLM	Sustainable land management
SMS	Subject matter specialist
SOE	Statements of Expenditure
SCF	Small scale commercial farmers
SECAP	Social Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures
SP	Service provider
SLLP	Small scale livestock and livelihoods project
SSU	Seed services unit
TA	Technical assistance
TLC	Total Land Care (a Malawian NGO)
TP	Technological package
TPTC	Transitional Programme Coordination Team
TOR	Terms of reference
VAC	Village agriculture committee
VAT	Value added tax
VCF	Village challenge fund
VDC	Village development committee (under local government processes)
VfM	Value for money
WA	Withdrawal Application
WB	World Bank
USAID	United States agency for international development
USD	United States Dollar
Zn	Zinc
VSLA	Village savings and loan association

A. Project Overview

Region:	East and Southern Africa Division	Project at Risk Status:	Not at risk
Country:	Malawi	Environmental and Social Category:	Moderate
Project Name:	Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme	Climate Risk Classification:	Moderate
Project ID:	1100001534	Executing Institution:	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development
Project Type:	Research, extension and training	Implementing Institutions:	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development
CPM:	Ambrosio Barros		
Project Director:	not available yet		
Project Area:			

Approval Date:	13/12/2011	Last audit receipt:	27/12/2021
Signing Date:	24/01/2012	Date of Last SIS Mission:	06/05/2022
Entry into Force Date:	24/01/2012	Number of SIS Missions:	19
Available for Disbursement Date:	24/01/2012	Number of extensions:	1
First Disbursement Date:	08/08/2013	Effectiveness lag:	1 month
MTR Date:	01/05/2016		
Original Completion Date:	31/03/2023		
Current Completion Date:	31/03/2023		
Financial Closure:	not available yet		

Project total financing

IFAD Financing breakdown	IFAD	\$10,054,228
	IFAD	\$23,128,971
	Debt Sustainability Framework	\$23,128,948
	Debt Sustainability Framework	\$3,718,645
Domestic Financing breakdown	Private sector local	\$1,417,000
	Beneficiaries In-kind	\$2,000,000
	Beneficiaries	\$1,223,894
	National Government	\$4,231,207
	National Government (add 2)	\$41,109
	National Government In-kind	\$50,192
	Beneficiaries additional financing 2	\$27,406
	National Government (add)	\$2,800,000
	Beneficiaries In-kind	\$33,461
Co-financing breakdown,	Rural Poor Stimulus Facility	\$616,365
	Rural Poor Stimulus Facility	\$752,874
Project total financing:		\$73,224,300

Current Mission

Mission Dates:	25/04/2022 06/05/2022
Days in the field:	4

Mission composition: Putso Nyathi, Senior Regional Technical Specialist, Agronomist; and Team Leader
Nomindelger Bayasgalanbat, Social Inclusion and Nutrition Specialist
Zira Mavunganidze, Environment and Climate Specialist
James Ntupanyama, Policy and Institutions Specialist
Grace Nakanjakko, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist
Nancy Kaawe, Knowledge Management Specialist
Alice Abillu, Financial Management Specialist
Angelique Ramutsa, Procurement Specialist

Field sites visited: Field sites in Blantyre, Balaka and Lilongwe Districts - COORDINATES: Balaka District sites visited: (x_coord: 34.99674347, y_coord: -15.09437383; x_coord: 34.94677453, y_coord: -15.00995968; x_coord: 34.96030537, y_coord: -14.9925377; x_coord: 34.93961088, y_coord: -15.02905202; x_coord: 34.9639854, y_coord: -14.94549183; x_coord: 34.9413424, y_coord: -15.02846352; x_coord: 34.93979884, y_coord: -15.02936797) | Blaytyre District sites visited: (x_coord: 35.023216, y_coord: -15.750097; x_coord: 34.96126484, y_coord: -15.9092134; x_coord: 34.9709451, y_coord: -15.91217685; x_coord: 34.97183719, y_coord: -15.91197413; x_coord: 34.96355432, y_coord: -15.91199812; x_coord: 34.9637216, y_coord: -15.91185258; x_coord: 34.9639255, y_coord: -15.91192856; x_coord: 35.02301106, y_coord: -15.75018115) | Lilongwe District sites visited: (x_coord: 33.669052, y_coord: -14.241546; x_coord: 33.701035, y_coord: -14.211505; x_coord: 33.696579, y_coord: -14.214103; x_coord: 33.671207, y_coord: -14.200402; x_coord: 33.654671, y_coord: -13.973656)

B. Overall Assessment

Key SIS Indicator #1	∅	Rating	Key SIS Indicator #2	∅	Rating
Likelihood of Achieving the Development Objective		4.65	Assessment of the Overall Implementation Performance		4.58

Effectiveness and Developmental Focus		5	Project Management		4
Effectiveness		4	Quality of Project Management		5
Targeting and Outreach		5	Knowledge Management		5
Gender equality & women's participation		5	Value for Money		4
Agricultural Productivity		4	Coherence between AWPB and Implementation		4
Nutrition		5	Performance of M&E System		4
Adaptation to Climate Change		5	Social, Environment, and Climate Standards requirements		4

Sustainability and Scaling-up		5	Financial Management and Execution		5
Institutions and Policy Engagement		5	Acceptable Disbursement Rate		4
Partnership-building		5	Quality of Financial Management		5
Human and Social Capital and Empowerment		5	Quality and Timeliness of Audit		5
Quality of Project Target Group Engagement and Feedback		5	Counterparts Funds		5
Responsiveness of Service Providers		5	Compliance with Loan Covenants		5
Environment and Natural Resource Management		4	Procurement		5
Exit Strategy		4			
Potential for Scaling-up		4			

Relevance		5
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C. Mission Objectives and Key Conclusions

Background and Main Objective of the Mission

1. The Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme (SAPP) supervision mission (SM) was jointly conducted by the Government of Malawi (GoM) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) from 25 April to 06 May 2022. The central objectives of the Mission were to evaluate the overall progress of SAPP implementation in reference to its achievement of development goal and objective and provide necessary assistance to the government to improve implementation, with a specific focus on activities related to the exit strategy of the programme. Specifically, the mission addressed the following: (a) review implementation progress and plans of the programme activities and assess the likelihood of reaching the set targets; (b) review the implementation status of past recommendations by previous Supervision and implementation support (SISMs) missions; (c) review and assess SAPP performance in relation to fiduciary issues focussing on financial management, disbursement and procurement issues and assess compliance with loan covenants; (d) review and assess the pace of implementation and compliance against the annual work plan and budget (AWPB) and procurement plan for 2021/2022; (e) jointly review the log frame results for clarity and conformity with Operational Results Management System (ORMS) to enhance monitoring and reporting; (f) Review and support SAPP's response to challenges posed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility (RPSF); and g) assess project preparedness for exit to sustain gains from the project.
2. SAPP is implemented in the six districts of Blantyre, Chiradzulu, Balaka, Lilongwe, Nkhosakota, and Chitipa. The programme goal is to contribute to reduction of poverty and improved food security among the rural population. The specific development objective is to achieve a viable and sustainable smallholder agricultural sector employing Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs). The total programme costs are USD 51.1 million contributed as follows; IFAD (89.3%) where 50% is a loan and the other 50% is a grant. Part of the grant was used to finance a Programme Preparatory Facility (PPF) of almost USD 0.6 million. GoM contributes USD 4.2 million (8.3%) and beneficiaries contribute USD 1.2 million (2.4%). The Ministry of Finance requested Additional Financing (AF) for SAPP to bridge a financing gap due to exchange rate depreciation and to scale-up the programme to reach more beneficiaries in the same areas of intervention. The IFAD Executive Board confirmed the Additional Financing in August 2020. The additional financing included a 2-year extension of the project completion date. The USD 20 million of AF includes US\$2.8 million in a contribution from the Government of Malawi, USD 13.78 million from IFAD, USD 1.4 million from the private sector and USD 2 million from beneficiaries.
3. The SM was held in a hybrid format (physical and virtual), and included interactions with the SAPP Programme Management Unit (PMU); representatives from the Ministries of Agriculture and Finance; as well as programme beneficiaries during field visits. The mission team also interacted with implementing departments and partners, including Department of Agricultural Research (DARS), Department of Land Resources and Conservation (DLRC), Department of Crop Development (DCD), Department of Animal Health and Livestock Development (DAHLD), Department of Agricultural Extension Services (DAES) and Department of Agricultural Planning Services (DAPS). During the field visits, the mission visited sites in Blantyre, Balaka and Lilongwe Districts.

Key Mission Agreements and Conclusions

4. At its 11th year of implementation SAPP is effectively reaching 216,167 (80% of target) households and 1,111,550 household members indirectly. Implementation of the 2021/2022 AWP/B was adequate. Most of the planned activities were carried out by the departments and some targets surpassed. Delays in implementation were experienced due to the recent introduction of the disbursement caps by IFAD that resulted in a temporary halt of project funds as well as COVID -19 related delays. The project continues to experience low levels of reporting on immediate outcomes of project implementation. For example data on the performance of demos, profitability of weaned seed groups, village challenge funds recipients and livestock beneficiary performance among others is not being tracked and reported on.
5. However, despite low levels of reporting on immediate outcomes, SAPP has surpassed most of its development outcomes in relation to uptake and utilisation of good agricultural practices leading to increased production and productivity of targeted crop and livestock enterprises. The endline impact assessment confirmed that SAPP has had a positive impact on adoption of promoted technologies, higher staple yields, higher crop incomes and wage income, and households are more food secure and resilient. Field observations during the mission confirm the observed impact of SAPP. However, farmers continue to experience climate related shocks in their farming activities. As such, SAPP has identified farmers impacted by Tropical storm Ana in the targeted districts and developed a response plan. The response will need to be included in the AWP/B for 2022/23 by including affected households in the year interventions.
6. Overall, the project is on track to complete most started investment activities, especially because research activities as well as the extension and advisory activities have been adequately implemented.
7. **Disbursements:** As at 31 March 2022, SAPP has incurred total expenditures of USD 49.18million from all financing sources, equal to 96% of total approved project cost of USD 51.0million. This includes expenditure levels of 89% on the IFAD loan, 88% on the IFAD grant, 130% of government contribution and 290% of the allocated budget for beneficiaries' contribution. Cumulative expenditures for additional financing with a total approved budget of USD19.99 million totalled to USD12.439 million (62%) as at 31 March 2022. This includes an expenditure level of USD 6.73 million (67%) on the IFAD loan financing of USD 10.054 million and USD2.144 million (58%) on the IFAD grant financing of USD3.719 million. Domestic financing sources comprising government, beneficiaries and private sector contributions was at USD3.565 million (57%) out of a total budget of USD6.217 million.
8. The Rural Poor Stimulus Facility (RPSF1) grant financing of USD616, 365 anchored to the SAPP was fully disbursed and justified. SAPP also anchored RPSF 2 grant financing of USD752, 874 which became effective on 19 July 2021 and has a completion date of June 2022. As at 31 March 2022 cumulative expenditures on RPSF 2 were USD599, 307, equal 80% of the total approved budget.

9. **Project Management:** The mission noted that the Departments of Agriculture and Extension Services Structures (DAESS), which is linked to district council structures, has strengthened coordination with stakeholders and improved service delivery, including the provision of agricultural extension. Strong stakeholder collaboration and coordination through DAESS structures led to the successful implementation of planned activities by SAPP. As SAPP winds up in March 2023, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) should empower district councils to ensure continued functionality of DAESS.
10. Staff at field level continued to face mobility challenges thereby affecting the delivery of agricultural extension services. This has been exacerbated by delays in the procurement of 40 motorcycles for Agriculture Extension Development Coordinators (AEDCs) due to limited availability of forex in the country. The mission urges SAPP to follow up with the procuring entity to finalise the procurement of the motorcycles.
11. **Procurement:** The progress on the implementation of the 2021/2022 Procurement Plan is impressive in terms of procurement processes so far launched, but moderate in terms of fully complete processes with contracts duly signed. In total, the project planned to undertake forty-three (43) procurement processes. As of 31st March, 2022, twenty-eight (28) representing 65% had been launched, published, fully completed and contracts signed; while fifteen (15) procurement processes (which comprise 8 from Main SAPP and 7 for RPSF) corresponding to 35% were not yet initiated. Procurement activities that have not started will need to be initiated and expedited in order to ensure these activities are completed timely as planned.
12. **Key conclusions and recommendations**
13. Based on the progress described above, the Mission stakeholders agreed on the following detailed actions:
14. Revision of the AWP/B: SAPP should revise the AWP/B to incorporate farmers affected by cyclone Ana in the project areas. The AWP/B should also include allocations to DARS for a more comprehensive adoption study of new technologies in project sites and implementation of SECAP activities.
15. Procurement: Initiate and expedite the procurement for activities that have not started in order to complete all RPSF activities before project completion in June 2022 and before March 2023 for the main programme
16. Reporting: While there has been some reporting on outcomes and evidence of impact of project activities from the endline surveys, SAPP will need to improve reporting on immediate outcomes through consolidation of all the data on project outcomes collected at district level and report in the next mission and disaggregate youth data by gender.
17. Scaling up: SAPP has been performing very well and the benefits of the programme are evident at farmer level. Some interventions such as the livestock pass on scheme have shown signs of success and it would be prudent for the government to replicate such successful interventions in other districts outside SAPP. The programme should document any activities that have been taken up by other development partners, other IFAD funded projects in the country and by government programmes.
18. Sustainability: SAPP has revised exit strategy to incorporate comments from IFAD. Some exit strategy activities are already being implemented by the programme, for example DARS is now fully financing the production of basic seed, weaned seed multiplication groups have continued to produce seed and ventured into other enterprises without SAPP support and some have been linked to seed companies. At community level farmers have been empowered through the DAESS to demand for extension support and in community natural resource management through establishment of structures for the management of forests. SAPP should report on progress in the implementation of the exit strategy activities that are currently ongoing in future missions, for-example progress on the transformation of the seed services unit, community management of dug boxes and sustainable land Management (SLM) practices, performance of weaned seed producers, the loan scheme to be introduced for Village Challenge Fund (VCF) and integration of SAPP into the government Management of Information Systems (MIS) system. For SLM such as forest conservation activities, the programme will need to develop strategies to enable communities to generate incomes from conservation.

D. Overview and Project Progress

19. **Component 1. Adaptive Research** LF indicators: Long-term targets of the component are to ensure that 30% of appropriate agricultural technologies/GAPs are screened and adapted for each agro-ecology, 50% of the farmers and others are applying improved technologies or management practices and 60% of farmers are participating in at least one of the improved technologies.
20. **Subcomponent 1.1 Adaptive research**
21. **Adaptive research:** The Department of Agriculture Research Services (DARS) implemented 18 research managed trials against the target of 15 in 2021/2022 season, reaching a cumulative achievement of 275% since the project started. On level two researcher designed farmer managed trials, the department had 15 out of 13 planned trials implemented. For level three trials, 13 of 14 trials were implemented reaching a 175% cumulative achievement. A total of 760 farmers participated in the level 2 and 3 trials management. Other activities to support adaptive research included participation in district planning meetings by DARS staff, training of technicians on trial management, field days and presentation of results from trials implemented in the previous seasons which covered breeding, agronomy, conservation agriculture, plant protection, livestock, seed systems and soil sciences thematic areas to stakeholders. Learning tours and exchange visits have not been implemented due to COVID-19. The activity will be implemented in the coming year and will focus on regional tours to successful CA areas targeting technical staff from DARS.
22. The irrigation system in Chitedze has been equipped with solar pumps and pipes for irrigation. The use of the irrigation system

will commence during the winter production season to enable DARS to produce seed twice a year.

23. **Technology release:** Through a collaboration with Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) through an IFAD grant and Agriculture sector wide approach support programme (ASWAp-SP) to revise soil nutrient status maps and to develop area specific fertilizer recommendations for maize, five new fertilizer formulations have been approved and released for use in Malawi by the Agriculture Technology Clearing Committee (ATCC). Trial results for the new fertilizer formulations have shown significant increases in yield of 30 % above blanket recommendations and 300% above the control. DARS also released 12 new technologies, which are, six varieties (3 for soybean and 3 for pigeon peas), (ii) one agronomic technology on deep bed farming and 5 area specific fertilizers. The programme will release 14 more technologies in the 2022/23 season. On labour saving technologies, the department reports that within the technologies that have been released, deep bed farming and double row planting are reported to be labour saving. However, there has been no information on the extent of labour reduction with these technologies.
24. **Livestock support:** DARS partnered with LUANAR (Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources) in organizing a workshop to review some livestock technologies that are tested with farmers, which include hydroponic fodder production, rearing baskets, brick incubators and pasture production. Feedback has shown challenges with the quality of materials used for hydroponic fodder and the use of brick incubators hence low uptake of 37% and 21% respectively. Rearing baskets and pasture production were highly appreciated and adopted technologies by 100% and 84% of livestock farmers respectively. More on the uptake will be done in the upcoming adoption study
25. **Publication and production of extension materials:** As recommended in the previous mission, SAPP has developed nine manuscripts from the adaptive trials work to be published. The manuscripts are still under evaluation by the DARS editorial committees. However, the department has not identified potential journals for publication at the moment. As recommended in the previous mission, DARS has also compiled draft extension materials for the released technologies including one on area specific fertilizers.
26. **Sustainable land management:** The programme implemented Environment Social Management Plans (ESMPs) whereby 1061 out of 1411 ESMPs were executed in the year, representing 75% of annual achievement. SAPP procured and distributed 1,106kg of agroforestry seeds out of a target of 1115 kg and georeferenced 3080 sites out of a target of 5,193. In SAPP areas, the area under agroforestry stands at 2,740 ha, area under planting pits is 702 ha, area under manure 84, 667 ha, and area under Conservation Agriculture (CA) is at 6,095 against a target of 4,000 ha. Cumulatively, land area brought under climate-resilient practices is now at 605,273 ha against and end target of 505, 300 ha.
27. **Sub-component: 1.2: Seed production and management**
28. DARS produced basic seed using its own resources following weaning of the department from SAPP financing for this particular activity to ensure sustainability. During the reporting period, 1112 farmers from 72 farmer groups were registered for seed production. 38,046 MT of seed for groundnuts, soybeans, cowpeas and pigeon peas was sampled for certification, and 33, 81 MT passed giving an acceptance rate of 87%. The programme also monitored 81 agro dealers for compliance to seed handling and other practices.
29. **Component 2. Farmers Adoption of Sustainable Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs)**
30. LF indicators: (i) 40% of households continue to apply GAPs after Programme support is ended; (ii) 80% of extension staff trained and able to impart knowledge and skills on GAPs; (iii) 10,000 lead farmers have improved knowledge and skills in GAPs of their specialty and operating farmer field schools; (iv) 80% of farmers have improved knowledge and skills in GAPs and Improved agriculture and livestock production.
31. **Sub-component 2.1: Improved Agriculture Extension**
32. SAPP has exceeded cumulative targets in most of the activities under the subcomponent. This is largely due to unrevised targets for most of the project activities (except the outreach) after the additional financing.
33. Stakeholder meetings: SAPP has continued to organise stakeholder meetings from grassroots to national level. In some districts these stakeholder meetings have identified challenges and raised resources to support extension services. There are reports of improved empowerment of farmers through leadership positions and ownership of the programme activities.
34. Extension services. SAPP uses a number of extension methods to provide extension services to farmers and these include lead farmers training, use of demonstrations, Farmer Field Schools (FFS), Farmer Business Schools (FBS), field days and mobile unit, establishment of resource centres and dissemination of extension support via radio and Television (TV) and following the previous mission recommendations, pest diagnosis through plant doctors has been implemented in all but Blantyre district. During the reporting period, 4644 demos were mounted against a target of 4,056, 1796 lead farmers trained against a target of 1383, 3015 field days were conducted against a target of 3,362 and were attended by 42,998 male, 53,643 female and 11,873 Youth. Thirty three resource centres have been established against a target of 29 and equipped with IEC materials
35. Village Challenge Fund: This grant facility was introduced at MTR to assist farmers to access the needed inputs and services to practise good agricultural practices. In the reporting period 231 VCF proposals were submitted to the secretariat. The programme funded 119 groups (1,817 males, 2,636 females) against the annual target of 228 representing 52.2% achievement rate. Cumulatively, the programme reached 550 VCF groups against a programme target of 1110. The programme needs to focus on attaining the targets through engagement of more groups.
36. Nutrition: Integrated Homestead Farming (IHF) is promoted in the programme as one way of achieving a diversified diet for improving nutrition at household (HHs) level. The programme facilitated establishment of IHF to 19,766 HHs (11,317 males,

8,449 females and 4,814 youth) against a target of 13,133 which represent 150%. Cumulatively, 95,205 HHs are practising IHF out of the target of 16,900 HHs. About 35,030 HHs using improved energy and labour saving cooking stoves. Over-achievement is a result of high demand by households and up-scaling through pass-on programmes on the distributed inputs (crop seeds and links with pass-on livestock interventions). HHs are provided with varieties of indigenous vegetable seeds, extension services provided to HHs on production, integrated pest management (IPM), use of organic manure, harvest, processing, cooking and consumption. The programme facilitated the construction of labour and energy saving, improved cooking stoves, and knowledge on building animal shelters (goats, poultry and rabbits). The IHF is supplemented with nutrition education and behaviour change and communication combined with Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). The programme carried out nutrition surveys that indicate improvement in dietary diversity. The results showed that all HHs (100%) consumed staples and vegetables every day, followed by a group of spices, coffee and tea (76%), and pulses, legumes and nuts (71%), which were consumed on average 6 and 4 days per week respectively. Other food groups were consumed on average 3 days per week.

37. **Subcomponent 2.2 Access to improved inputs**

38. **Seed multiplication:** The programme supports seed groups for one year and thereafter the groups are weaned and expected to continue producing seed on their own. During the reporting period, the programme procured 59.7mt of basic seed (target 65MT) for assorted leguminous crops, which was distributed to 120 farmer groups for seed multiplication. A total of 72 groups (1112 farmers) were registered and certified for seed production by the seed services unit. Forty groups were linked to seed companies such as Afri-seeds co. Self Help Africa, and Multi Seed Company (MUSECO). In Blantyre 40% of the seed produced by seed multipliers was sold to local agrodealers.
39. The project has weaned a total of 104 groups and some have been linked to seed companies. A profitability analysis of the seed businesses has not been available to the mission to assess the viability of the seed producers. The mission interacted with a weaned group that has continued to produce seed using its own funds. The main challenges faced by the groups is access to storage facilities. SAPP will be targeting some of the groups to access the village challenge fund to finance their operations. SAPP needs to continue monitoring and reporting on the performance of weaned groups.
40. **Livestock support:** SAPP provides training to farmers on livestock production and animal health, distributes goats and chickens through a pass-on programme, promotes improved housing and feed production and preservation. For the reporting period, 68 leader farmers were trained against a target of 42 on livestock production and management, 1,792 farmers benefited from chicken pass on and 1,573 from goat pass on (1,875 goats and 3420 chickens in the initial direct investment). SAPP also conducted all the planned vaccination campaigns, achieved 15 out of 18 ha of pasture establishment and produced 5,211 hay bales out of a target of 7,000. The programme facilitated the construction of 694 improved goat kholas (houses) against the annual target of 535 and 541 improved chicken kholas against the annual target of 475 representing 130% and 114% respectively. To improve chicken production, the programme distributed 7 solar brooders (one per district) to pilot the technology for improved productivity. The programme has reported an increase in the total number of livestock over the years, their value and total sales.
41. **Rural Poor Stimulus Facility:** Through the research department, SAPP produced 1.8MT out of a target of 2MT of maize and distributed 1.3 MT to beneficiaries, produced 2MT of beans out of a target of 4 MT and produced 7,876 out of a target of 10,000 bundles of sweet potato. All the sweet potato seeds have been distributed. The programme also conducted trials on bio fertilizers and demonstrations on area specific fertilizer blends, distributed inputs for maize, rice, and sweet potato for demonstration purposes. The programme procured and distributed 1,500 chickens, 1,500 rabbits and 1,500 ducks to 150 chicken farmers, 300 rabbit farmers and 300 duck farmers. To provide extension services to farmers, SAPP broadcasted 113 radio and TV programmes on agriculture production, output markets and COVID-19. The programme also distributed agroforestry trees to 3,011 beneficiaries. The programme has reached 13,277 households out of a target of 17,500. Activities for RPSF are still ongoing and some procurement yet to be finalized.
42. **Tropical Storm Ana:** SAPP submitted a report on the assessment of Cyclone Ana impacts to SAPP beneficiaries and identified major areas of support to be provided. The programme will need USD 680,942 to support 15,997 farmers affected by the cyclone. This information needs to be reflected in the AWP/B for 2022/2023.
43. **Knowledge Management:** There is considerable cross-fertilization of the different components and between different departments through regular meetings and discussions. The sharing of good practices and knowledge between communities and between districts have been also implemented at various occasions. It was suggested to have a systematic farm to farm exchange visits to encourage farmers to learn from each other. Linkages with other IFAD projects [Financial Access for Rural Markets, Smallholders and Enterprise Programme](#) (FARMSE) and also linkages with other partners need to be further strengthened, especially for scale up of innovative and successful approaches that are proven to improve livelihoods. Documentation of success and knowledge products are important aspects of this project, it was advised that the project report is improved to clearly highlight these successes through qualitative and quantitative measurement and include them for exit of project and also for scaling up.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Revise targets for VCF groups Revise targets for VCF groups in the AWP/B and prioritise the selection and identification of deserving groups to meet the project target	DAES	06/2022
Present and report on the labour savings associated with some of the released technologies Identify potential journals for publication of manuscripts	DARS	09/2022
Track and document certified seed Track and document certified seed produced by all seed producers and disaggregate the data for weaned and currently supported groups	DCD/ DARS	09/2022
CA Learning Tour Prioritise the CA learning tour for technical staff	DARS	11/2022

E. Project implementation

a. Development Effectiveness

Effectiveness and Developmental Focus

Effectiveness

Rating: 4

Previous rating: 4

Justification of rating

44. SAPP is effectively reaching 216,167 (80% of target) households and 1,111,550 household members indirectly. SAPP has surpassed most of its development outcomes in relation to development, uptake and utilisation of good agricultural practices leading to increased production and productivity of targeted crop and livestock enterprises. The endline impact assessment confirmed that SAPP has had a positive impact on adoption of promoted technologies, higher staple yields, higher crop incomes and wage income, and households are more food secure and resilient. Field observations during the mission confirm the observed impact of SAPP. Qualitative studies need to be undertaken to assess the impact of SAPP on mainstreaming themes as well as assess adoption levels of promoted technologies.

Log-Frame Analysis & Main Issues of Effectiveness

45. SAPP interventions have had a positive impact on the project beneficiaries as confirmed from the results of the final impact assessment of the project. Beneficiaries observed a significant increase in the yield of legume crops including Soya bean- 60%, Pigeon peas- 80.39% and Beans- 212.68%. Maize yields only increased by 12.74%. Beneficiaries also increased their gross income from crop production by 28.4%. Other notable increases include crop diversification, food security (23.46% increase) and 25.8% increase in share of female headed farmers.

46. At outcome level, 67.2% (134.4% of target) of targeted households perceive legume varieties produced by research for intercropping with cereals are suitable, 79 % (225.7% of target) of farmers participating in the evaluation of GAPs in on-farm trials are indicate that GAPs respond to their concerns. Of these, 56% (112% of target) are women. The number of lead farmers with improved knowledge and skills in GAPs of their speciality and operate at least one demonstration plot per annum is currently 88.2% of the target of 13000 and 89% (178% of target) of targeted farmers are satisfied with agricultural advisory services.

47. At output level, SAPP has reached and surpassed most of the end targets and is on track to reach others still ongoing under both components. These include the number of rural producer organisations supported (424% of target), rural producers accessing production inputs and/or technological packages (659% of target), Land brought under climate-resilient practices (125% of target), People accessing facilitated advisory services (231% of target), Persons trained in production practices and/or technologies (107% of target for crops and 55% for livestock) and capacity building of government staff through training (134% of target).

48. Main Issues

49. Some indicators have been introduced in the log-frame after baseline, and therefore lack baseline data. The MTR recommended carrying out complementary surveys to establish baselines for indicators not covered in the 2014 baseline survey. Hence the need to have data retrieved from surveys such Annual Outcome surveys to enable the project to populate the logframe with the necessary information.

50. A number of qualitative studies had been envisaged to be undertaken by SAPP. These studies should shed light in particular on

the following aspects: i) analysis of the extent to which smaller and poorer farmers have been able to improve their productivity levels, and in particular the reasons why households with few agricultural implements and relatively small landholdings have limited incentives to adopt GAPs; ii) linkages between researchers-extension agents-farmers; iii) specific improvements in extension services as a result of SAPP; iii) an analysis of potential impacts on the environment, negative (e.g., from increased chemical use, additional irrigation, etc.) or positive (protective structures against soil erosion, reduced deforestation, etc.); iv) impact of SAPP on climate change resilience for smallholder farmers; v) assessment of gender-transformative changes (especially evaluation of HH approach) and youth; vi) impact assessment of nutrition interventions. While data on some of these aspects is collected through the regular reporting at output level and through the baseline/mid-line/ Annual Outcome Survey (AOS) at outcome level, this information is mostly quantitative and lacks depth.

51. Some aspects could not be analysed by the Impact Assessment at mid-line because these activities had just been introduced by the MTR. These are: i) village challenge funds; ii) legume-seed certifications; iii) activities to increase livestock ownership. Data on these will be particularly important at completion. Hence the need to ensure good data collection on these aspects at output and outcome level through the extension agents' regular reporting.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Adoption study Carry out an adoption study to assess adoption of all promoted technologies, Ensure that survey tools are shared with IFAD for quality assurance	DARS in liaison with other departments	01/2023

Development Focus

Targeting and Outreach

Rating: 5

Previous rating: 5

Justification of rating

52. This rating is assessed as satisfactory (5). The project targeting strategy is well implemented and the targeting performance is monitored regularly, with sex/age disaggregated data, but minor inconsistencies remain. The project and the mission team have reviewed the Logframe and the M&E database. As of May 2022, project outreach is 216,167 households (around 80% of the target), out of which 113,449 male and 102,718 female headed HHs, and about 107,814 youth. Women represent about 45% of the project beneficiaries. The project is likely to achieve both its goal and development objective's targets entirely. Cumulatively SAPP has reached a total of 203,687 (1 018 435 HH members) from a target of 260,750 (78% achievement) that includes 60,750 HHs from the RPSF; 97,756 of the HH reached are female headed (48%) and 105,931 non-female headed (52%). 8,973 household are youth headed.
53. Interactions with SAPP beneficiaries and implementing partners confirmed a good participation of women and youth in all programme activities and stories from the field provide a good qualitative indication of the results achieved (youth's participation is at 30%, women's participation on average is at 44%). Unfortunately it is not possible to indicate the specific outreach for young women since the youth data is not sex-disaggregated. Outreach data are also not available for vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, chronic debilitating diseases and ultra-poor.

Main issues

54. The project is targeting the most vulnerable groups, including HHs with people with disabilities (PWD), HHs with small children under the age of five, HHs with pregnant and lactating women, people affected by HIV and AIDS, and elderly. The field visits also confirmed the targeting and outreach and met with various vulnerable groups supported by the project. There is a need to practise a robust use of clear eligibility criteria and guidelines for easy selection and targeting of additional support required for remaining project duration. Additionally, data management processes of recording and reporting on beneficiaries should factor in an inclusive method of capturing experiences, participation, and representation of diversity. Data reporting should also disaggregate youth numbers by gender.
55. The mission visited beneficiaries assisted by Rural Poor Stimulus Facility (RPSF). As part of COVID-19 response, the project supported rabbit pass-on and bio-fortified maize and sweet potatoes seed pass-on interventions that targeted the poorest segments of the rural population. These are the elderly, women headed households, people with disabilities, landless, unemployed and informal workers that hit hard by COVID-19.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Targeting Improve reporting on targeting indicating specific criteria and quota by disaggregating youth by gender/sex	PMU	10/2022

Gender equality & women's participation

Rating: 5

Previous rating: 5

Justification of rating

56. The previous rating is maintained as Satisfactory (5/6). The gender equality and women empowerment concerns are integrated throughout all components as per the Gender Responsive Action Plan, implemented with support from the social inclusion Focal Point. Remote interactions with both beneficiaries and partners, confirmed that the activities conducted under component 1 and 2

have been inclusive. They contributed to the adoption of new good agricultural practices and tools and, thanks to the household approach, facilitated the reduction of women's workload, and enhanced their entrepreneurship skills, decision-making role and control of resources.

Main issues

57. The project makes a significant contribution to addressing gender needs: i) economic empowerment (surplus from IHF all managed by women, expenditure decisions from livestock income by women, more than 60 percent women participation in agriculture practices promoted by the project, many female lead farmers); ii) voice and decisions making (such as newly trained community extensions workers, village facilitators); iii) equitable workloads (greater gender awareness in the households and communities, gender-sensitive labour saving agriculture technologies). Gender transformative approach is well applied in the project. The mission team met with women farmers who have received various training provided by the project and also have been empowered through inclusive decisions making process on agriculture technologies to adopt. The mission noted that there is a greater gender awareness in the communities, gender-based violence is reduced and some incidents have been reported. There are notable changes in the project for women to own and control assets and support women's bargaining power. At household, women are empowered in decisions on expenditure of income towards health and nutrition outcomes. However, it is suggested to have more information on the changes in gender roles, relations, and women status induced by project activities.

58. Suggestions

59. It is suggested to produce and or make the following data and information available before the starting of the project completion review process:

- Further improve M&E data and analysis on the extent of women participation in project activities and their share of project benefits.
- Analysis/assessment of the changes promoted at the household level (workload, nutrition status, women influence on decision-making) or at the community level (participation in local elections or decision-making processes, representation in rural groups) by the project activities;
- Analysis/assessment of the impact of project's capacity-building activities on women

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Gender assessment Assessment of the gender transformative changes promoted by the project	PMU	12/2022

Agricultural Productivity

Rating: 4

Previous rating: 3

Justification of rating

60. The rating has increased from moderately unsatisfactory to moderately satisfactory. SAPP has reported that 73.3% of the programme beneficiaries (against a target of 50%) have improved yields and 70% of beneficiaries reported that their annual incomes over the past four years (2017-2021) had increased. More than 90% of beneficiaries were satisfied with SAPP interventions and expressed knowledge of GAPs. The preliminary findings from the endline survey conducted by the Results and Impact Assessment (RIA) division of IFAD has found an increased yield of about 12.5 % for maize, 60% for soybeans, 80% for pigeon pea for SAPP beneficiaries.

Main issues

61. The Annual Outcome Survey (AOS) also reports that there is evidence of uptake of some GAPs and the highly adopted practices are one -on -one spacing (64%), use of fertiliser (61%) and manure making (56%). Intercropping, crop rotation were practised by 32% of farmers while use of certified seed by 22%. The AOS has shown that 42% of interviewed farmers had practised CA for 5-9 years and 27% for 10-14 years, an improvement from the AOS of 2017. The endline survey also found increased uptake of no till, legume cover crop, crop rotation agriculture practices.

62. The AOS report also shows significant increase in production of crops and in goat and chicken numbers of SAPP supported areas compared to baseline. Total production of legumes over the years has increased up to more than 300% for some crops. Discussions with some beneficiaries have shown the benefits that farmers achieved from the pass on scheme, e.g., a chicken beneficiary was able to buy a goat from proceeds generated from chickens.

63. There is evidence of uptake of technologies from district level reports and at farmer level, and some productivity data from some districts. Data from Blantyre district shows that from the adaptive trials on double up legume system conducted in the district with 23 farmers, 817 farmers (314M, 503F, 34MY, 23FY) are reported to be practising the intervention on 326.8 Ha of land where on average yield has increased by 70% (from 1,474 Kgs/Ha to 2,350 Kgs/Ha) for the improved new groundnut varieties (CG9). There is also evidence of uptake of technologies following demonstration in Blantyre, for example out of the 6,586 farmers that have been hosting demonstrations under various thematic areas since the programme started, a total number of 32, 930 farmers are now practising soil fertility management, conservation agriculture, use of improved varieties and improved livestock production and management practices. However, this information needs to be consistently consolidated for all the districts and reported in upcoming missions.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Reporting on performance of demonstrations plots Compile and present reports on performance of demonstration plots (productivity) and uptake of technologies, productivity by season and by crop and by district from the databases available at district level	DAES/DCD	09/2022
Document changes in incomes Document changes in incomes per household from before and after the livestock support	DAHLD	09/2022

Nutrition

Rating: 5

Previous rating: 5

Justification of rating

64. The previous rating is maintained as Satisfactory (5/6). Nutrition-sensitive interventions are well-implemented in all planned activities. Nutrition-sensitive activities have been well received and are inducing a positive impact on nutrition. The project promoted integrated interventions such as conservation agriculture (CA), seed multiplication (nutritious legumes), pass on livestock (goat, chicken and rabbit), IHF (kitchen gardens), small-scale food processing, promotion of sweet potatoes, bio-fortified maize and rabbit pass-on through the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility (RPSF) and reforestation (fuel for cooking). The project promoted production diversification with local varieties of legumes, indigenous vegetables, fruits trees, maize and sweet potatoes for supporting dietary diversity. The livestock interventions encouraged consumption of animal sourced food through income and direct consumption at household levels. Nutrition education promoted cooking methods with different improved recipes using locally produced foods, use of improved energy and labour saving cooking stoves, promotion of balanced and diversified diets, nutritional value of different crops (e.g. micronutrients) combined with WASH.

Main issues

65. The project nutrition interventions are well articulated and include dietary intake and improved quality of diet for nutritionally vulnerable groups. Many households have established kitchen gardens (under IHF support) that supplement diets with more variety of micronutrient rich vegetables and fruits. Nutrition education is implemented to provide better understanding the essential connections between the choice of crops and nutritional needs and dietary practices of the family. The project promotes improved family and child feeding and caring practices through social behaviour change and communication on how to optimise the use of locally available foods and on how to prepare nutritionally adequate and safe foods for young children, including dietary needs for adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating mothers. Various nutrition education activities were implemented through food cooking demonstrations, food displays and open nutrition days awareness sessions. Approximately 100,330 HHs provided with targeted support to improve their nutrition (more than project's target). About 32,486 farmers were trained in dietary diversification, around 12,529 farmers received knowledge on food selection, preparation, processing, storage and utilisation. About 45 percent are women. The Quarterly dietary diversification assessment carried out every six months showed improvements in dietary diversification. However, assessment showed that less than 20 percent of HHs are consuming animal sourced food despite some improvements in dietary diversification.

66. Suggestions

67. It is proposed to provide additional small livestock (e.g., poultry and rabbit) directly to IHF beneficiaries and encourage the consumption of animal sourced food through nutrition education.

68. The IHF learning platforms have started to have a visible impact on nutrition knowledge, attitude and practices at household and community-wide levels. It will be important to sustain these efforts by further strengthening the capacity of the village level institutions to ensure continuation beyond project completion.

69. Case studies (e.g. videos) and success stories were developed and are available as knowledge products, the project is planning to create more of such knowledge products to capture the good practices and lessons learned. There is a need to systematically review good practices and documentation as well as its dissemination to communities and households.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Provision of small livestock to IHF beneficiaries Provisions of small livestock (e.g. poultry and rabbit) directly to IHF beneficiaries with strong nutrition education	DAES/PMU	12/2022
Guidelines for male village champions Develop simple guidelines on nutrition and dietary diversity for use by male village champions to create more interest and involvement of male in nutrition related interventions	DAES/PMU	12/2022
Nutrition materials Translation and printing different nutrition materials for distribution to communities	DAES/PMU	12/2022

Adaptation to Climate Change

Rating: 5

Previous rating: 5

Justification of rating

70. The progress and quality of implementation of the project's climate change adaptation interventions are satisfactory. SAPP has contributed to climate change adaptation and mitigation by promoting GAPs resilient to extreme climatic events, especially drought. The promotion of diversified cropping systems and farm management options adapted to local climatic variability and farming conditions has assisted risk management and improved crop productivity in the face of climate change. SAPP has surpassed its land under climate resilient practices target by 20% averaging 605, 273 ha against a set target of 505 300 ha.

Main issues

1. **Impact of extreme climatic events:** The targeted populations face extreme weather events. Farmers faced an unprecedented dry start to the production season during the current farming season, mid-season rainfall volatility, and multiple tropical storms (Tropical Storm Ana and Batsirai - late January Ana, Tropical storm Gombe mid-March), which resulted in crop yield loss and infrastructure with the most considerable impacts in southern Malawi. This, therefore, calls for continued strengthening of the resilience of the beneficiaries with climate-smart agriculture practices, including disaster risk management, contingency planning, and agricultural insurance to safeguard investments. The programme has developed a plan to assist the affected farmers through inputs. Access to climate information is essential. It is commendable that the programme already shares downscaled climate information in local languages. Already, the project has reached out to 162 778 people with climate information surpassing by 21% against an end target of 135 000 people. However, this information will need to be transmitted on time to all beneficiaries.
 2. The resilient rain-fed farming practices (drought-tolerant varieties, diversified cropping practices, conservation agriculture, pit planting, integrated soil fertility management), sustainable soil and water conservation, agroforestry, and water conservation and efficient water utilization (small scale irrigation) increased the coping mechanisms options for the beneficiaries. The promoted climate adaptation options, including good agricultural practices, attested the increased yields for some beneficiaries; for instance, a farmer confirmed an increase in yield from 1.166ha to 4.500ha per ha.
 3. **Training and adoption:** Considerable efforts have been made to train on Good Agricultural practices (GAPs). SAPP has reached 198,573 HHs through various GAP training, thus demonstrating the benefits of resilient climate practices, including sustainable land management. CA contributes to agricultural systems being more resilient to climate change. The AOS study has revealed an increase in farmers practising CA from 42% in 2017/18 to 66% in 2020/21. Some CA principles, such as crop rotation and maintaining a 30% minimum soil cover, have not been practical due to various household uses of the crop residues (animal feed and cooking). DLRC should scale up the awareness on the use of some legume crops like cowpeas as cover crops and intercropping to help with crop diversification in case crop rotation is not feasible due to farmers with small pieces of land rotation is not practical.
 4. **Climate mitigation:** There is scope for climate adaptation within the programme. The promotion of energy-saving cook stoves shows positive results by substantially reducing deforestation (65% per year) and saving 2-2.5t of CO2 emission per year. The programme has also supported a solar-powered irrigation scheme for DARS.
 5. **Climate resilience:** Diversifying farming systems by including goat and chicken pass-on has improved the resilience of farming households. Goats are relatively low-maintenance livestock. They are hardy and can survive a longer dry period than grains. In addition goats and chickens are easy to liquidate and proceeds from the sale of goats and chickens can provide additional income to the households needs. Results from the AOS indicated that 71.6% of beneficiaries confirmed that GAPs positively impacted their livelihoods in terms of resilience, among other impacts. The climate risk maps should provide further details on site-specific climatic threats, which may guide SAPP's interventions.
1. **Additional adaptation opportunities:** There is potential to strengthen indigenous climate risks management capabilities through the additional adaptation opportunities identified by the beneficiaries e.g., local Knowledge in Fall Armyworm Management and promotion of push-pull technologies. Farmers are also growing other indigenous drought tolerant crops such as sorghum, millets, and cassava.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Enhance adoption of conservation agriculture practices Enhance adoption of CA practices particularly use of cover crops and intercropping through campaigns and linkage with other SAPP interventions.	DLRC/PMU	11/2022
Monitor impact of climatic shocks Assess the level of resilience of the farmers with the IFAD's Resilience scorecard/index in order to better monitor and track the impact of the programme's interventions on the resilience capacities of the targeted group with support from IFAD	DLRC/PMU	11/2022

b. Sustainability and Scaling up

Institutions and Policy Engagement	Rating: 5	Previous rating: 5
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Justification of rating

71. Institutions and policy engagement is rated as satisfactory. The PMU financially supported the MoA for the preliminary review process of the National Agricultural Policy (NAP) and the formulation of the successor NAP. SAPP supported community based institutions to advocate for their needs from duty bearers. SAPP provided a platform to village based institutions for advocacy of development needs of SAPP communities and beneficiaries.

Main issues

72. SAPP financially (US\$13,000.00) supported the MoA to review the NAP and the subsequent formulation of the successor NAP. The mission noted that an inception report was produced as part of the preliminary NAP review process. SAPP supported community based institutions, including the Village Agricultural Committees (VACs) and Area Stakeholder Panels (ASPs) to advocate for development needs of their communities. The mission noted that the community based institutions are well organised, working effectively and successfully demanding for services from duty bearers.
73. The mission confirmed that a new Extension Planning Area (EPA) office is under construction as a result of the advocacy efforts of the community based institutions in Balaka district. The mission also confirmed that SAPP linked several farmer groups/cooperatives to access financial resources from a World Bank supported agricultural commercialization project for construction of warehouses and increased agricultural production. The mission urges the Programme Management Unit (PMU) to strengthen these linkages to allow for many more duty bearers to support smallholder farmers.
74. The mission noted that the VACs and ASPs provided effective facilitation services by articulating farmer demands at the village level using various participatory tools and approaches. The PMU should further strengthen the institutions and their advocacy approaches as part of SAPP's exit strategy.
75. SAPP developed guidelines for livestock pass on programmes for goats with the technical support provided by DAHLD. These guidelines have been adopted by FAO, Development Aid from People to People (DAPP) and other organisations implementing pass on programmes. SAPP supported DAES to develop the National Agricultural Extension Policy, which was submitted to cabinet for approval. The policy will be formally launched after the approval by cabinet.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Linkages with other partners The PMU to strengthen community based institutions for advocacy work as part of exit strategy	PMU	12/2022

Partnership-building	Rating: 5	Previous rating: 5
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Justification of rating

76. Partnership building is rated satisfactory. SAPP has continued to enjoy good working partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders, including the MoA, the Ministry of local Government (MoLG), the District Councils, the private sector, NGOs and community based partners. SAPP has over the past years experienced a good working relationship with MUSECO, a private sector partner working with smallholder farmer groups in seed multiplication and marketing.

Main issues

77. DARS partnered with LUANAR in the review of livestock technologies initiated by SAPP. The livestock department is exploring a partnership with LUANAR for a community based breeding programme. LUANAR will provide training to farmers on how to select breeds.
78. SAPP has built private sector linkages with seed companies that contract seed producers and with agro dealers such as Rural market development Trust (RUMARK) that buy seed from the same seed producers and sell agricultural inputs. In terms of

output market linkages, farmers are selling most of their produce locally without any formal linkages, especially livestock marketing.

79. SAPP supported beneficiary communities to build their own partnership arrangements with service providers, such as MUSECO for seed multiplication and marketing. This partnership has been working well. SAPP has linked its beneficiaries to other partners such as the World bank agricultural commercialisation project for access to more financial resources for agricultural production and storage structures.
80. SAPP has built its programme implementation arrangements based on effective partnerships at the district and community level. SAPP enjoys good and effective working partnerships with VACs, Village Development Committees (VDCs), ASPs, DAECCs and DSPs. This network of implementation partnerships is working effectively. The mission noted that these partnerships have contributed to smoothening the pass on programme of livestock (goats and chickens). Therefore, the mission urges the PMU to further strengthen and consolidate these partnership arrangements and enhance prospects for sustainability and ownership of programme interventions.

Human and Social Capital and Empowerment	Rating: 5	Previous rating: 5
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Justification of rating

81. This rating is assessed as satisfactory (5/6). Poor rural women, men and youth are being supported to increase their human and social capital and achieve empowerment. They gain some control over economic relations and institutions and actively participate in local decision-making processes. They are now in a better position to gain access to essential social and productive services.

Main issues

82. Women, men and youth empowered economically and socially through access to financial services (e.g. VCF), agriculture technological (e.g. CA demonstrations) and marketing assistance (e.g. seed multiplication groups), participation in various training for building leadership, engagement and empowerment, including social inclusion. This increased knowledge and technical skills of communities and ensured increased interest and ownership from beneficiaries. Interviews from field visits confirmed that women participants also reported making decisions at household level including controlling their resources and taking part in family well-being planning (e.g. spending on health and nutrition needs, sending kids to schools).

Quality of Project Target Group Engagement and Feedback	Rating: 5	Previous rating: 5
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Justification of rating

83. This rating is assessed as satisfactory (5/6). The project follows an inclusive and participatory process of community-based targeting and planning to ensure that collective development occurs and support is based on the needs identified by farmers and communities. There is considerable focus targeting in terms of capturing youth, poor HHs, smallholder-farmers particularly women when planning activities. Project activities are consulted using participatory methods at village levels, where community plans are consolidated. Interviews carried out with beneficiaries reveal that there has been an overall increase in household income, improvement in living conditions, ability to send kids to schools, improvement in food security and nutrition, high satisfaction with project interventions and adoption of various agriculture practices and technologies introduced by the project.

Main issues

84. A significant number of project beneficiaries including the poor women and youth groups participated in and were consulted about the project planned activities and were involved in village planning process and decision-making. The mission views that implementation of project activities and instruments will continue to ensure the quality of beneficiary participation of target groups. It is also noted that the beneficiaries are contributing to the project through in-kind (e.g. labour) for demonstration plots and covering costs for constructions of animal shelters for livestock interventions. The project adopted measures and processes to promote social inclusion and feedback loop through grievance redress mechanism at village level and at village consultation meetings. However, these need to be done in an effective manner by the project to document feedback, jointly identify shortcomings, use as key inputs for collective learning, reporting purposes and improved management and implementation of various activities at community level.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Systems for community monitoring and feedback Develop systems for community monitoring and feedback to be integrated in the M&E framework	PMU	12/2022

Responsiveness of Service Providers	Rating: 5	Previous rating: 5
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Justification of rating

85. The responsiveness of service providers is rated satisfactory. SAPP works with a wide range of service providers who are mainly government departments and seed companies in partnerships, which have been built over the past 10 years. A review of service

provision through the programme reports and field visits shows that SAPP service providers are implementing their activities well and beneficiaries are satisfied with provision of services by duty bearers.

Main issues

86. The service providers have been responsive to the needs of the beneficiaries through production of improved technologies (DARS) the provision of agricultural extension services through the department of agriculture extension services (DAES), resources and materials for seed multiplication and marketing through the Department for Crop development (DCD), agricultural technologies for crop and livestock production, provision of goats and poultry through the department of Animal Health and Livestock Development (DAHLD) and Sustainable land management by the Department of Land Resources Conservation (DLRC). SAPP has also empowered its target beneficiaries to advocate for provision of development needs for their communities. Going forward, SAPP is urged to empower the beneficiaries and community based institutions to undertake effective advocacy initiatives.
87. Multi Seed Company (MUSECO) has contracted 57 seed multipliers to produce seed since the beginning of the project and some farmers also sell their produce to agro dealers)
88. The suppliers who were contracted by SAPP were able to deliver the goods and services within the stipulated timelines as per the contract agreement, except for the procurement of motorcycles for DAES and DARS. The latter was delayed due to scarcity of foreign currency in Malawi. The delivery will be concluded by 15th May, 2022, instead of 31st March 2022.

Environment and Natural Resource Management	Rating: 4	Previous rating: 4
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Justification of rating

89. SAPP promotes good agricultural practices (GAPs), which are sustainable and environmentally friendly and are expected to generate several long-term environmental and social benefits. The GAPs are expected to create predominantly positive ecological impacts, whether adopted partially or fully. Significant efforts were made on planting multipurpose trees, agroforestry, conservation agriculture, manure making, and establishment of contours. These activities are expected to improve soil fertility, carbon sequestration, reduction in soil loss, and pollution of rivers and water bodies. Currently land under sustainable land management is 102 564 ha out of a target of 21 493 ha

Main issues

90. **Increased use of chemicals and pollution:** The potential use of inorganic fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides is of significant concern. However, the programme has devised mitigation measures that include training agricultural extension staff and farmers on the safe use and disposal of chemicals. The training also includes Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Farmers are being encouraged to use organic manure, which is environmentally friendly and low cost compared to inorganic fertilisers. Through agroforestry SAPP is promoting the use of fertiliser trees species with higher nutrient levels (i.e. *Faidherbia albida*, *Gliricidia sepium*, *Tephrosia vogeli*, *Albizia lebbeck* and *Lucaena sp*) which enhance soil fertility while reducing the use of expensive inorganic fertilizers. The trees alter micro-climate in the field, reduce run off, increase infiltration and water holding capacity and can play an increasingly useful role in farmers' fields with climate change. During the current reporting period 147 nurseries were established raising 1,029,000 seedlings.
91. DARS is currently **piloting** the use of bio-fertilizers which have the potential to not only reduce costs but contribute to environmentally friendly soil fertility enhancing technologies.
92. The progress on capacity building for sustainable land management is satisfactory particularly with 234 out of a target of 340 trained on sustainable land management.
93. The **programme** has potential to also reduce deforestation and pollution through the use of the clean energy stove. Cumulatively, 37,943 households out of an appraisal target of 31 000 are using the cook stoves, representing 122% achievement. The overachievement has been due to increased interest by farmers after realising the stove uses less firewood compared to traditional cooking methods and affordability.
94. The proposed **activities** on integrated catchment management are commendable which blends the objectives of environmental protection, sustainable agriculture, and natural resources management within catchments.
95. The proposed georeferencing for SAPP interventions can also be used to delineate established forest areas. SAPP can also **consider** initiating payment for ecosystem services for the established forest areas.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Environmental safeguards Training and monitoring the implementation of environmental safeguard (including safe use of pesticides).	DLRC/PMU	12/2022
Strengthening of community natural resources structures Ensure the strengthening of community natural resources structures and groups which are instrumental in continual monitoring of the environment and potential community based activities to raise income to enhance sustainable management of forest resources	DLRC/PMU	12/2022

Exit Strategy

Rating: 4

Previous rating: 4

Justification of rating

96. SAPP has developed an exit strategy and incorporated comments from IFAD. The exit strategy details how project gains will be sustained beyond the project. Some of the exit strategy activities are already being implemented. For example, DARS is funding basic seed production for SAPP groups using its own resources. Some seed production groups have been weaned and some are producing seed without project support.

Main issues

97. A total of 104 seed groups have been weaned from SAPP support. Of these 57 have been supported by a seed company, MUSECO and the rest are operating on their own with support from the agriculture departments. In Blantyre, Nankhwazi Seed Multiplication Group (9 males, 13 females, 3 male youth, 1 female youth) has graduated into a Cooperative and currently undergoing processes of becoming an Agro-dealer.
98. SAPP still needs to do more in securing financing for some of the activities through other means. Of particular focus would be linkages to IFAD ongoing projects that could potentially benefit SAPP farmers or scale up interventions.
99. Under natural resource management activities, SAPP should explore potential avenues for generating income from conservation. This could be through bee- keeping activities for promoting ecotourism in some of the model villages.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Link conservation groups to the VCF Link conservation groups to the VCF to start conservation related income generating activities such as beekeeping for sustainability of these initiatives	DLRC	10/2022

Potential for Scaling-up

Rating: 4

Previous rating: 4

Justification of rating

100. There are some SAPP activities that are already scaled up through other interventions but there is little documentation on these successful upscaled activities. There are also activities that could be scaled up through government mainstream support to farmers due to their success in SAPP. However, there has been limited efforts to document and initiate activities beyond SAPP

Main issues

101. The GAPs handbook produced by SAPP is used by PRIDE to promote GAPs. Following a successful livestock pass on scheme the guidelines developed by SAPP on the implementation of livestock pass on have been taken up by other development partners such as FAO, ASWAPII, CARD in their interventions. An IFAD funded Project PRIDE, included livestock pass on as part of the RPSF activities following the success from SAPP
102. Technologies released through SAPP could be scaled up through PRIDE, FARMSE and other development initiatives.
103. On seed production: Seed companies are accessing basic seed from DARS particularly for legumes for multiplication building on the initiatives by SAPP.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Document successes and scaling up Document initiatives that have been successful and have been taken up through other initiatives.	All Departments	10/2022

c. Project Management

Quality of Project Management	Rating: 5	Previous rating: 5
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Justification of rating

104. This component is rated satisfactory. The Executive Management Committee (EMC) of the MoA continued to provide effective programme guidance and direction to ensure effective delivery of SAPP's mandate. The EMC held its regular meetings planned for the year. The PMU also continued to provide effective programme implementation by collaborating closely with the departments and desk officers in the MoA, the District Agricultural Extension Coordinating Committees (DAECCs) using the DAESS approach and the community based institutions.

Main issues

105. The EMC held its regular meeting and approved the 2022/23 AWP&B and IFAD PMU provided a NO. SAPP organised a field supervision mission for the EMC in some SAPP districts to check on progress and noted satisfaction with the progress registered by the programme. The mission confirmed the observations of the EMC that IFAD/SAPP interventions are not visible. Therefore, SAPP should undertake measures to improve its visibility in the target districts.

106. The PMU continued to provide effective programme implementation management by working closely with the departments and desk officers in the MoA, DAECCs and the community structures under the District Agricultural Extension Service System (DAESS). The mission noted that the DAESS, which is linked to district council structures, has strengthened coordination with stakeholders and improved service delivery, including the provision of agricultural extension. The mission observed that the involvement of local structures such as ADCs and VDCs has smoothed the pass-on of livestock programmes, creating a fertile ground for sustainability and ownership of SAPP's interventions. Strong stakeholder collaboration and coordination through DAESS and DAECC structures led to the successful implementation of planned activities by SAPP. As SAPP winds up in March 2023, MoA should empower district councils to ensure continued functionality of DAESS and DAECCs.

107. The mission commends SAPP for conducting quarterly departmental, district and community based review meetings in order to strengthen collaboration with all stakeholders in the implementation of its activities. The quarterly review meetings form the basis for activities to be implemented in the subsequent quarter. SAPP also conducts departmental supervision missions and during this final year of implementation SAPP has planned to joint monthly departmental field visits. SAPP needs to further strengthen this, including reporting in order to minimise the possibility of double counting of the beneficiaries.

108. Regarding the rehabilitation of EPA offices, the mission noted that to date, SAPP has rehabilitated 21 out of 25 targeted EPA offices. The mission confirmed that the remaining offices will be rehabilitated during the 2022/23 AWP/B. The mission also noted that only 8 out of 21 rehabilitated offices have been connected to the national electricity grid by the Electricity Supply Commission of Malawi (ESCOM) despite full payment by SAPP. The MoA is urged to prevail over ESCOM to speed up the connection of EPA offices to the national electricity grid. SAPP should also finalise the rehabilitation of the outstanding EPA offices.

109. Staff at field level continued to face mobility challenges thereby affecting the delivery of agricultural extension services. This has been exacerbated by delays in the procurement of 40 motorcycles for AEDCs due to some logistical challenges. The mission urges SAPP to follow up with the procuring entity to finalise the procurement of the motorcycles.

110. The mission noted that SAPP districts experience up to 50% vacancy rate at Agriculture Extension Development Coordinator (AEDC) level. Considering that district councils have autonomy on staff recruitment, efforts need to be exerted by the councils to recruit its agricultural staff at the community level. SAPP is also urged to work with the MoA and the district councils to institutionalise the DAESS and DAECCs as part of the district governance system.

111. Regarding previous mission recommendations, the mission noted that the following actions were not implemented: i) the formal launch of the adaptive research strategy; ii). Orientation of newly absorbed agricultural extension staff on current agricultural extension approaches in use but not provided for in the curriculum of LUANAR; iii) To resolve outstanding transport challenges faced by AEDOs and DARS.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Functionality of DAESS and DAECC MoA to empower district councils to institutionalise functionality of DAESS and DAECC	PMU	12/2022

Knowledge Management	Rating: 5	Previous rating: 6
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Justification of rating

112. SAPP benefits from a KM&C strategy and a regularly updated results monitoring framework. The function is coordinated by a competent KM professional at PMU level, with a clear structure of roles and responsibilities of trained focal points at ADD and district levels. The programme facilitates cross-learning among stakeholders, and lessons are used to improve implementation. Lessons and best practices are widely disseminated, using high quality products that reference M&E data; and through various channels tailored to target audiences. The programme has an active online presence, including participation in CCARDESA, a regional Knowledge Management (KM) CoP under Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). The performance of KM in the programme is rated satisfactory, pending further documentation and dissemination of programme outcomes as highlighted in various sections of this report.

Main issues

113. All agreed actions identified during the last mission are addressed/ongoing (i.e., YouTube channel was set up and is being populated with video products/documentaries; and SAPP's existing social media presence strengthened with increased posting and a following that has grown to over 1000 from 500 during the last mission). The mission also noted that the programme actively shared SAPP knowledge on the CCARDESA Agriculture Information Communication and Knowledge Management Community of Practice under SADC. The mission recommends that SAPP participates in the IFADAfrica knowledge network.
114. KM activities are included in the AWPB, and plans to ensure continued availability of the MIS data and documentation are included in the exit strategy. The mission recommends that this activity include the integration/migration of the SAPP website - which is currently hosted externally through a subscription arrangement funded by the programme - into the ministry website.
115. SAPP has trained staff at the various levels on how to document case studies, success stories and best practices (11 case studies produced during the reporting period and a cumulative 267 staff of the 240 target trained in KM). SAPP also supported young high school level locals in the districts in agricultural extension training at the Natural Resources College, who were subsequently recruited in the government system as extension workers within their respective districts. A case study on the effectiveness and impacts of this approach is recommended.
116. The programme facilitates cross-learning among stakeholders through WhatsApp groups, meetings, writeshops, workshops, field days, exchange visits/farmer tours; and lessons are used to improve implementation. High quality products documenting successes and best practices i.e., on GAPs and extension approaches are captured in the local language, reference M&E data; and information is widely disseminated to the public and stakeholders through various formats and channels, i.e., print materials, video products/ documentaries, radio and TV programmes, newspapers, mobile campaigns and resource centers. During the review period e.g., 19 mobile van campaigns brought the cumulative achievement of mobile campaigns to 80%. These campaigns increase coverage with extension messages. SAPP also established 33 resource centers (reaching a cumulative achievement of 265%), which provide farmers with access to information on various GAPs through harmonised demonstrations and mini libraries. Farmers are also mobilised into radio listening groups to discuss and practice messages. DAES records listenership at 4,500,000 farmers (including lead and follower farmers).
117. SAPP KM activities have facilitated partnerships and collaboration, and the team has also assisted with the development of the KM&C strategies for other IFAD and government projects. SAPP has also contributed to policy dialogue, and the mission recommends that SAPP further strengthens its focus on synthesising qualitative and quantitative evidence to demonstrate the programme's successes in the areas of policy and scaling-up.
118. The mission was informed that activities related to the trial of a mobile messaging service with ESOKO (a mobile based text application to send information to farmers), have stalled due to unpaid licence fees. SAPP made progress in terms of participating in an initial trial, and setting up the database of famers to receive messages. SAPP intends to purchase airtime for its farmers and resume testing the innovation once the licence is renewed. The mission recommends that a study of the first trial be carried out to assess the effectiveness and benefits to farmers; and that SAPP explores a more sustainable way to deliver these services.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
IFADAfrica and online linkages Join the IFADAfrica network and post SAPP knowledge and products. Also establish interlinkages between the various SAPP spaces (website, SAPP facebook page, CCARDESA CoP, IFADAfrica, YouTube); e.g., links from YouTube to facebook and viceversa.	KMC Officer	07/2022
ICT4D lessons Document results and lessons from the trials on mobile based information services and their sustainability	PMU/ KMC Officer	09/2022
Migration of website Migrate the SAPP website to a more stable platform such as the ministry website to ensure continued availability of data and documentation.	MoA/ PMU / KMC Officer	12/2022
Case study on the training and recruiting of extension assistants Document the successes of SAPP initiative to train young locals from the districts in agricultural extension services through case studies.	PMU/KMC/DAES Officer	12/2022

Value for Money

Rating: 4

Previous rating: 4

Justification of rating

119. In terms of the key agriculture productivity indicators, SAPP has reported that 73.3% of the programme beneficiaries (against a baseline of 50%) have improved yields translating to 146,6% achievement rate. Further, 70% of beneficiaries reported that their

annual incomes over the past four years (2017-2021) had increased which is translating to 140% achievement against target. Lastly, the programme reported that more than 90% of beneficiaries were satisfied with SAPP interventions and expressed knowledge of GAPs, translating to 180% achievement of the target.

Main issues

120. SAPP has achieved these indicators using 132% of the total pool of resources allocated for outcome 1 of USD 4.998 million comprising the initial financing, additional financing, RPSF1 and 2. Additionally, for outcome 2 where the total resource allocation currently stands at USD57.119 million, SAPP has only utilised 87 percent of resources. To enhance the value for money reviews, the programme needs to improve the consolidation of programme level reports including reporting on outputs and immediate outcomes of project interventions.

Coherence between AWPB and Implementation	Rating: 4	Previous rating: 4
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Justification of rating

121. Implementation of the 2021/2022 AWPB was adequate. Most of the planned activities were carried out by the departments and some targets surpassed. Average financial progress at the end of the year was 87%. Average annual physical implementation progress for component 1 activities and outputs is 75% and 62% respectively with 35% of the activities fully completed. For component 2 the average annual implementation progress for activities and outputs is 117% and 147% respectively with 49% of the activities fully implemented. Delays in implementation were experienced due to the recent introduction of the disbursement caps by IFAD that resulted in a temporarily halt of project funds as well as COVID-19 related delays

AWPB Inputs and Outputs Review and Implementation Progress

122. The SAPP AWPB is aligned to the project chart of accounts to ensure harmonisation of the planned input activities with the related budget costs. This has been useful in guiding the project on tracking expenditures in relation to planned activities. However the format does not include output targets making it difficult to align them with cost items. The project should thus develop physical activity and output monitoring registers to facilitate easy assessment of performance of the physical progress measured against the AWPB.

123. The 2022/2023 AWPB had envisaged that the project would carry out an annual outcome survey to assess project outcomes at completion. Given that the IFAD RIA department has already carried out the final impact assessment of the project, the mission recommends a reallocation of the budget for the endline survey, to carry out a comprehensive adoption study as well as qualitative studies to assess the impact of mainstreaming themes on SAPP implementation.

124. Performance of the AWPB can be improved by ensuring that defined implementation activities are aligned to the project logframe to ensure coherence between planned activities and results

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Activity and output monitoring register Develop a separate activity and output monitoring register to be used in monitoring the performance of the AWPB in line with the output targets as set in the project logframe. Ensure regular update of the register	PMU M & E Specialist	06/2022
Review of the 2022/2023 AWPB Review the 2022/2023 AWPB to: (i) remove the budget for the planned Annual Outcome survey, re-allocate the funds to a comprehensive adoption study and qualitative surveys; (ii) allocate more resources to DARS to carry out the planned adoption study; and (iii) align activities to expected outputs to ensure results based AWPB and monitor the performance of the AWPB targets.	PMU	06/2022

Performance of M&E System	Rating: 4	Previous rating: 4
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Justification of rating

125. The performance of the SAPP M & E system remains moderately satisfactory. An M & E Plan was developed and updated in 2020 is in place to guide M & E processes within the project. Adequate M & E staff capacity is available at all implementing departments' levels and at the PMU. The project collects solid data on the key output indicators and regularly collects data on outcomes through structured annual outcome surveys. Qualitative information is largely missing, and will be needed to produce a completion report that has the necessary depth and does justice to SAPP's achievements as observed from the field visits during this mission. Furthermore, Information is scattered and not always available to the recently recruited M&E officer at PMU level, hence the need for better coordination efforts.

M&E System Review

126. **M&E system Review:** Adequate M & E capacity is available in terms of availability of dedicated M & E staff and Desk Officers at departmental level, to facilitate coordinated planning of SAPP activities, M & E reporting and harmonised processes for data

consolidation. Data is adequately disaggregated by gender and age. Annual outcome surveys have been carried out by the project to enable regular assessment of performance of project key outcomes. In addition, IFAD RIA carried out a midline and endline impact assessment to be able to provide data on project impact.

127. The project still experiences gaps in consolidated data for key output indicators and some intermediate outcomes of project implementation, making it difficult to analyse project performance. This is also mainly attributed to poor coordination among departments on reporting of this performance data. The mission recommends that the designated M & E officers at departmental level improve on coordination of information flow among the departments to facilitate harmonised setting of implementation and performance targets during planning and on reporting on project outputs and outcomes.

128. **M & E staff capacity:** SAPP PMU has experienced a high staff turnover of M & E staff thereby affecting continuity in the M & E function of the programme. The recently appointed M & E specialist still requires implementation support to enable him to effectively coordinate SAPP M & E.

129. **Data Management:** The project recently developed and rolled out a web-based MIS to facilitate day to day monitoring. Installation of the system has also been done at Implementing Department and District levels since February 2023 and training for the field staff who will be involved with data collection is ongoing and expected to be completed by August 2022. The mobile application platform of the MIS will be primarily used for data collection, while the web-based platform will be used for data customisation, data exchange as well as data analysis and reporting. The system follows the organisational structure of the ministry from the point of data collection at block level to departmental level (Block-Section-EPA-District-Agricultural Development Division (ADD) - MoA Department). In the meantime, the project is continuing to use the Excel based database for data management, which has limitations in adequate management of the complex and large project data. Further, there is noted limited data analysis to support evidence based M & E reporting. Hence the need to expedite the utilisation of the web-based MIS.

130. **Reporting on immediate outcomes:** The project continues to experience low levels of reporting on immediate outcomes of project implementation. For example data on the performance of demos, weaned groups, extension approaches among others is not being tracked and reported on. The mission recommends regular tracking and reporting on project immediate outcomes of project implementation.

131. Previous missions recommendations were not fully implemented. Only 3 out of 11 recommendations were implemented. Actions regarding data management still require to be implemented to improve data quality.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Outreach data Verify and update project outreach data	PMU and Departments	07/2022
Link activities to outputs Link activities to expected outputs and ensure harmonised reporting on outputs during consolidation of programme level reports.	PMU and Departments	10/2022
Implementation support Provide Implementation support to the M & E Officers at PMU and at implementing departments in preparation for project completion.	IFAD	11/2022
Data on outcomes Collect data and report on immediate outcomes of implementation of project interventions.	PMU and Departments	

Social, Environment, and Climate Standards requirements

Rating: 4

Previous rating: 4

Justification of rating

132. SAPP has developed necessary SECAP-related documents (SECAP review notes, ESMPs, climate risk analysis), and the documents' quality is satisfactory. 1061 out of 1411 environmental and social management plans have been executed during the reporting period, representing 75% of annual achievement. Cumulatively a total of 3 965 out of 2100 ESMPs have been developed since project inception representing 189% of the target. The Department of Land Resources Conservation and the PMU have ensured the use of environment and social safeguards requirements to screen SAPP's activities. According to 2020/21 AOS, 72.3% of households implemented environmental safeguards. Continual monitoring of environmental impacts and assessing the recommended mitigation measures is recommended.

SECAP Review

133. Burning of crop residues is still a problem. SAPP is encouraged to continue training farmers on the consequences of such practices on the environment.

134. The national authorities/partners are actively engaged in implementing SECAP requirements e.g The ESMPs are mainly developed and implemented by the Agriculture Extension Development Officers in collaboration with the communities whilst the monitoring plans are implemented by District staff (i.e. District Environment Sub-Committees and headquarters staff).
135. Among other mitigation measures identified, the ESMPs emphasise deforestation of lost forest area due to the programme's initiatives, compost manure curing and utilisation, compost manure curing, and integrated catchment conservation, emphasising soil and water conservation. The activities contribute to an indicator in the logical framework 3.2.2 percentage of Households reporting adoption of environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient technologies and practices whose target is 50% now at 60% achievement surpassing the target.
136. SECAP related documents have been produced. However, they are partially integrated in the AWPB, PIM, procurement and monitoring plan.
137. SAPP has developed a grievances redress mechanism to address conflict resolution as recommended during the last mission. It is important that beneficiaries are made aware of the mechanism. The project needs to establish an internal tracking system for keeping track of grievances/ complaints, current status, responsibilities.
138. The programme places a strong emphasis on gender equality and women's empowerment. Therefore, the risks of the Programme contributing to social inequities are minimised
139. The programme has provided support towards procurement of materials towards prevention of COVID-19 transmission including sensitization of beneficiaries on COVID-19 prevention measures.
140. In addition, among other social aspects elaborated in the ESMPs emphasis has been placed on sensitization of target communities on the preventive measures of HIV and AIDS.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Sensitization of beneficiaries on grievance redress mechanism Sensitize and strengthen beneficiaries' awareness of the developed grievance redress measures at all levels.	PMU	08/2022
Monitoring and reporting of ESMP Ensure consistent monitoring and reporting of the developed ESMPs and take proactive measures to mitigate any potential environmental risks.	PMU	12/2022
SECAP Related documentation Integrate fully, identified SECAP mitigation activities in the in AWPB (and budgeted), PIM, procurement and monitoring plan.	PMU/DLRC	

d. Financial Management & Execution

Acceptable Disbursement Rate	Rating: 4.0	Previous rating: 5
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Justification of rating

141. The programme is in its 10th year of implementation and the disbursement rate on IFAD initial financing is 98.6%, having disbursed SDR28.5 million of the SDR 28.9 million initial IFAD financing. There has been one extension and the revised completion date is 31 March 2023. Additional Financing of USD13.773 million, comprising SDR 7.3million (USD 10.05 4million) IFAD loan and SDR2.7 million (USD3.719 million) became effective on 11 Nov 2020 and will complete on 31 March 2023. The disbursement rate on the IFAD loan is 16% and on the IFAD grant is 20%.

Main issues

142. The Rural Poor Stimulus Facility (RPSF) grant financing of USD616, 365 anchored to the SAPP is fully disbursed. It became effective on 9 Dec 2020 and will complete on 31 Dec 2021.
143. SAPP experienced cash flow challenges between July 2020 and December 2020 due to the delayed approval of IFAD additional financing. This delayed implementation of SAPP seasonal activities in districts and ADDs during the peak disbursement period resulted in a low disbursement rate of 9% of the additional financing as at 31st March 2021. Nonetheless, the programme forecasts an execution rate of 40% of the approved AWPB for the current financial year ending 30th June 2021 (translating to ~USD 2 million of IFAD additional financing resources). The PMU forecasts to disburse USD6.6 million in the FY 2021/22 AWPB and the remaining funds of USD5.1 million during the nine months of the final project year ending March 2023. The mission agreed that in consideration of the strong link of SAPP disbursements to the agriculture season and that SAPP only has a 21 months implementation period, disbursements to SAPP need to be prioritized for the programme to achieve its goals.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Justify outstanding advance on initial IFAD loan and grant financing Submit to IFAD a WA to fully justify outstanding advance of US\$262, 384.90 on initial financing	PMU	06/2022

Fiduciary aspects

Quality of Financial Management

Rating: 5

Previous rating: 5

Justification of rating

144. SAPP timely produced and submitted interim financial reports and un-audited financial statements in line with IFAD guidelines. Quality of financial reports has improved as the programme submitted to the mission financial reports by component and category disaggregated by each financing source - original financing, additional financing and the RPSF. Monthly bank reconciliations are done timely and filing and retrieval of supporting accounting records is of adequate standards. Budgets are entered into the accounting software and used for expenditure monitoring and generation of SOEs is automated in the TOMPro accounting software. The programme has competitively hired justification assistants in SAPP districts to strengthen SAPP implementation.

Main issues

145. **Staff:** SAPP finance team at the PMU are government staff with adequate experience in programme management. In the implementing districts, justification assistants (JAs) and government personnel at the level of financial controllers execute SAPP accounting. The PMU has competitively recruited JAs for all SAPP districts to strengthen financial management (FM) arrangements during the additional financing phase.
146. **Budgeting:** Total approved budget for the 2020/21 AWP&B is MK4, 152,718,000 (USD 5,767,664) and as of 31st March 2021 expenditures amounted to MK1, 368,971,703 (USD 1,901,349.59) representing 32.97 percent execution rate. As at 31 March, 38% of the RPSF budget of USD616, 365 was executed, with 44% and 30% budget execution rates on component 2 and component 1 respectively. Low execution rates were attributed to liquidity bottlenecks arising from delayed IFAD approval of the additional financing and later by COVID 19 constraints in the first quarter of 2021.
147. The budget execution rate for the FY 2019/20 was 95% .Out of the total approved budget of MK4,067,575,072 (USD5,649,410) expenditures amounting to MK3, 869,729,509 (USD 5,374,624) were incurred.
148. Approved AWPB is uploaded in the accounting software up by category and component and activity level and this is used to monitor commitments on programme expenditures.
149. **Accounting and Financial Reporting:** Accounting for SAPP transactions at the PMU and implementing districts is done through TOMpro accounting software and to ensure quality and timeliness of accounting transactions at district level, they are captured in the central TOMpro system on a monthly basis . SAPP maintains a single currency general ledger, which poses challenges in the production of multi-currency financial reports.
150. SAPP's financial reporting is Excel-based and the PMU timely submitted to IFAD interim financial statements and unaudited financial statements meeting IFAD's standards. Previous IFAD missions had recommended that SAPP fully automates the accounting and financial reporting functions in the TOMpro during the extension phase. However, the mission assessed that the delayed start of the additional financing phase coupled with the COVID -19 constraints which may impede timely TOMpro system developments and training of staff,hence this exercise was deemed not feasible. .
151. **Internal controls:** There is an updated financial manual for SAPP and it is deemed adequate. There was no internal audit review of the programme due to implementation slowdown in the last semester of 2020. The PMU and implementing districts produced monthly bank reconciliations in a timely manner and of adequate standards. The mission reviewed WA number 51-55 and AF WA # 2 submitted to IFAD since the last SM. The provision of supporting documents was adequate and timely. During the review, the mission noted one erroneous posting made in March 2021 of MWK875, 000 (USD1, 134.60) which was included in the claim; and the mission confirmed the due reversal of this entry in the following month.
152. **Recommendations of previous missions and audits:** (i)Correction of initial advance recovery was done (ii) Reconciliations of a discrepancy in SAPP WAs schedule to IFAD's records was resolved (iii) Competitive recruitment of JAs to support accounting in districts was done (iii) Malawi Revenue Authority (MRA) refunded outstanding VAT and continues to refund outstanding VAT on quarterly basis.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Omprove General Ledger Postings controls		06/2021

Quality and Timeliness of Audit

Rating: 5

Previous rating: 5

Justification of rating

Quality and timeliness of annual audited financial statements is satisfactory.

153.

Main issues

154. Audit report for the year ended 30 June 2021 were received on time. The audit is performed according to standards acceptable to IFAD. The auditor expressed unqualified opinion on the programme's financial statements. Management letter is well prepared and includes both new findings and follow up on previous ones. The overall quality of financial reporting and audit is good.

Counterparts Funds	Rating: 5	Previous rating: 5
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Justification of rating

155. There were no outstanding VAT refunds at the time of this mission, The mission highlighted that IFAD pre-financing of GoM contribution in relation to duties and taxes does not represent best practice and can lead to declaration of ineligibility of expenditures. In line with the agreement reached between MoF and IFAD last year for the SAPP project, that if IFAD resources are utilized to pre-finance counterpart contributions for duties and taxes, the obligation will be settled on a quarterly basis.

Main issues

156. In addition to contributions through foregone taxes, the GoM also contributes to SAPP in form of salaries for programme staff and provision of office space at the PMU and in the implementing districts. The programme reported a total value of GoM contributions of USD 5.44 million as at March 2021, 30% above the appraisal target of USD4.2 million.

157. Beneficiaries' in-kind contribution is in the form of land and labour and as at 31 March 2021, the programme reported total beneficiaries contribution of USD 3.49 million against appraisal amount of USD1.2 million, representing 290% performance.

158. Private sector contribution was not included in the original Financing Agreement. In the additional financing, Private Sector contribution was set at US\$1.4 million.

<i>Agreed Action</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Agreed Date</i>
PIM update to include in-kind contribution valuation and accounting		09/2021

Compliance with Loan Covenants	Rating: 5	Previous rating: 5
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Justification of rating

159. SAPP is being implemented in compliance with key legal covenants. The mission did not identify any non-compliance that would significantly affect programme implementation or achievement of development objectives or violate IFAD's statutory requirements.

Procurement

Procurement	Rating: 5	Previous rating: 5
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Justification of rating

160. The Mission rated procurement as 5 (satisfactory), given the observed general compliance of procurement processes with IFAD Project Procurement Guidelines, Malawian regulations and good procurement practices. The procurement plan template is consistent with the IFAD format, although with the need to be updated on a regular basis. Additionally, the Programme is in compliance with its reporting obligations on the Contract Monitoring Tool (CMT) of the IFAD Client Portal. The programme has also demonstrated efficiency and transparency in providing all the documentation and information requested.

Procurement Review

161. Procurement Review

162. The procurement unit (PU) is composed of a Procurement Assistant appropriately qualified with experience in project procurement of goods, works and services. Based on the review of procurement activities, the performance of the staff is satisfactory.

163. The Procurement Plan (PP) is aligned with the AWPB and with provisions in the LtB. IFAD latest templates PP is used with all relevant information, apart from some shortcomings identified (delay of the initiation of the procurement process for some activities, the non-updated procurement implementation of some activities, and the unfilled column for the contract completion date).

164. The progress on the implementation of the 2021/2022 PP is impressive in terms of procurement processes so far launched, but moderate in terms of fully complete processes with contracts duly signed. In total, the project planned to undertake forty-three (43) procurement processes. As of 31st March, 2022, twenty-eight (28) representing 65% had been launched, published, fully completed and contracts signed; while fifteen (15) procurement processes (which comprise 8 from Main SAPP and 7 for RPSF) corresponding to 35% were not yet initiated.

165. The reason for the procurement not yet undertaken is the delay in providing the required technical specifications by the end user departments in order for the procurement unit to start the procurement processes. An example is the procurement of 250 push

bicycles which was planned to start on 24/08/2021 but technical specifications have not yet been provided. It is important therefore, that all parties involved from requisitions, provision of ToRs/technical specifications/BoQs, ensure that planned dates are observed to avoid delayed processes.

166. Technical specifications used for one of sampled tenders related to the acquisition of laptops and tablets do not give a range of sizes; they rather specify a size which can correspond to a certain brand. The procurement assistant should ensure that the relevant user departments draft generic technical specifications for goods, so as to increase competition and value for money.

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Procurement plan implementation End users and other parties involved in the procurement cycle should play their roles timely to avoid delays. (Providing technical specifications/ToRs on time to avoid low implementation of the PP).	PA/End User Departments	05/2022
Technical specifications for goods Draft generic technical specifications for goods so as to increase competition and value for money	PA/End User Departments	05/2022
Procurement planning Initiate and expedite the procurement for activities that have not started in order to complete them timely as planned The procurement plan should be updated on a regular basis. Contract completion date column should be always filled (Note: Immediate /Mid-June for RPSF procurement processes to be completed)	PA	06/2022

e. Key SIS Indicators

Likelihood of Achieving the Development Objective	Rating: 4.65	Previous rating: 4.54
Assessment of the Overall Implementation Performance	Rating: 4.58	Previous rating: 4.75

F. Relevance

Relevance	Rating: 5	Previous rating: 5
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Justification of rating

167. Relevance is rated as satisfactory. The development objective of SAPP is still relevant in the current environment being experienced by smallholder farmers especially as it relates to improving agricultural productivity and commercialisation of smallholder farming to improve food security and incomes. The development objective is also relevant to the Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (COSOP) strategic objectives, Malawi's agenda 2063 and the 10-year implementation plan. The implementation arrangements of SAPP are well designed and in reaching out to the beneficiaries. The target population is still relevant, comprising women, men, girls, boys and people with disabilities. SAPP should institutionalise the community based structures and continue to undertake capacity building of the institutions and the beneficiaries for sustainability of SAPP's interventions.

G. Agreed Actions

Agreed Action	Responsibility	Agreed Date
Overview and Project Progress		
Revise targets for VCF groups Revise targets for VCF groups in the AWP/B and prioritise the selection and identification of deserving groups to meet the project target	DAES	06/2022

Present and report on the labour savings associated with some of the released technologies Identify potential journals for publication of manuscripts	DARS	09/2022
Track and document certified seed Track and document certified seed produced by all seed producers and disaggregate the data for weaned and currently supported groups	DCD/ DARS	09/2022
CA Learning Tour Prioritise the CA learning tour for technical staff	DARS	11/2022
Development Effectiveness		
Reporting on performance of demonstrations plots Compile and present reports on performance of demonstration plots (productivity) and uptake of technologies, productivity by season and by crop and by district from the databases available at district level	DAES/DCD	09/2022
Document changes in incomes Document changes in incomes per household from before and after the livestock support	DAHLD	09/2022
Targeting Improve reporting on targeting indicating specific criteria and quota by disaggregating youth by gender/sex	PMU	10/2022
Enhance adoption of conservation agriculture practices Enhance adoption of CA practices particularly use of cover crops and intercropping through campaigns and linkage with other SAPP interventions.	DLRC/PMU	11/2022
Monitor impact of climatic shocks Assess the level of resilience of the farmers with the IFAD's Resilience scorecard/index in order to better monitor and track the impact of the programme's interventions on the resilience capacities of the targeted group with support from IFAD	DLRC/PMU	11/2022
Gender assessment Assessment of the gender transformative changes promoted by the project	PMU	12/2022
Provision of small livestock to IHF beneficiaries Provisions of small livestock (e.g. poultry and rabbit) directly to IHF beneficiaries with strong nutrition education	DAES/PMU	12/2022
Guidelines for male village champions Develop simple guidelines on nutrition and dietary diversity for use by male village champions to create more interest and involvement of male in nutrition related interventions	DAES/PMU	12/2022
Nutrition materials Translation and printing different nutrition materials for distribution to communities	DAES/PMU	12/2022

Adoption study Carry out an adoption study to assess adoption of all promoted technologies, Ensure that survey tools are shared with IFAD for quality assurance	DARS in liaison with other departments	01/2023
Sustainability and Scaling up		
Procurement of pushbikes and motorbikes Fast-track procurement of pushbikes and motorbikes for EPAs	DAES/PMU	03/2021
Link conservation groups to the VCF Link conservation groups to the VCF to start conservation related income generating activities such as beekeeping for sustainability of these initiatives	DLRC	10/2022
Document successes and scaling up Document initiatives that have been successful and have been taken up through other initiatives.	All Departments	10/2022
Linkages with other partners The PMU to strengthen community based institutions for advocacy work as part of exit strategy	PMU	12/2022
Systems for community monitoring and feedback Develop systems for community monitoring and feedback to be integrated in the M&E framework	PMU	12/2022
Environmental safeguards Training and monitoring the implementation of environmental safeguard (including safe use of pesticides).	DLRC/PMU	12/2022
Strengthening of community natural resources structures Ensure the strengthening of community natural resources structures and groups which are instrumental in continual monitoring of the environment and potential community based activities to raise income to enhance sustainable management of forest resources	DLRC/PMU	12/2022
Project Management		
Activity and output monitoring register Develop a separate activity and output monitoring register to be used in monitoring the performance of the AWPB in line with the output targets as set in the project logframe. Ensure regular update of the register	PMU M & E Specialist	06/2022
Review of the 2022/2023 AWPB Review the 2022/2023 AWPB to: (i) remove the budget for the planned Annual Outcome survey, re-allocate the funds to a comprehensive adoption study and qualitative surveys; (ii) allocate more resources to DARS to carry out the planned adoption study; and (iii) align activities to expected outputs to ensure results based AWPB and monitor the performance of the AWPB targets.	PMU	06/2022
IFADAfrica and online linkages Join the IFADAfrica network and post SAPP knowledge and products. Also establish interlinkages between the various SAPP spaces (website, SAPP facebook page, CCARDESA CoP, IFADAfrica, YouTube); e.g., links from YouTube to facebook and viceversa.	KMC Officer	07/2022

Outreach data Verify and update project outreach data	PMU and Departments	07/2022
Sensitization of beneficiaries on grievance redress mechanism Sensitize and strengthen beneficiaries' awareness of the developed grievance redress measures at all levels.	PMU	08/2022
ICT4D lessons Document results and lessons from the trials on mobile based information services and their sustainability	PMU/ KMC Officer	09/2022
Link activities to outputs Link activities to expected outputs and ensure harmonised reporting on outputs during consolidation of programme level reports.	PMU and Departments	10/2022
Implementation support Provide Implementation support to the M & E Officers at PMU and at implementing departments in preparation for project completion.	IFAD	11/2022
Functionality of DAESS and DAEC MoA to empower district councils to institutionalise functionality of DAESS and DAEC	PMU	12/2022
Migration of website Migrate the SAPP website to a more stable platform such as the ministry website to ensure continued availability of data and documentation.	MoA/ PMU / KMC Officer	12/2022
Case study on the training and recruiting of extension assistants Document the successes of SAPP initiative to train young locals from the districts in agricultural extension services through case studies.	PMU/KMC/DAES Officer	12/2022
Monitoring and reporting of ESMP Ensure consistent monitoring and reporting of the developed ESMPs and take proactive measures to mitigate any potential environmental risks.	PMU	12/2022
Data on outcomes Collect data and report on immediate outcomes of implementation of project interventions.	PMU and Departments	
SECAP Related documentation Integrate fully, identified SECAP mitigation activities in the in AWPB (and budgeted), PIM, procurement and monitoring plan.	PMU/DLRC	
Financial Management & Execution		
Improve General Ledger Postings controls		06/2021
PIM update to include in-kind contribution valuation and accounting		09/2021
Procurement plan implementation End users and other parties involved in the procurement cycle should play their roles timely to avoid delays. (Providing technical specifications/ToRs on time to avoid low implementation of the PP).	PA/End User Departments	05/2022

<p>Technical specifications for goods</p> <p>Draft generic technical specifications for goods so as to increase competition and value for money</p>	<p>PA/End User Departments</p>	<p>05/2022</p>
<p>Procurement planning</p> <p>Initiate and expedite the procurement for activities that have not started in order to complete them timely as planned The procurement plan should be updated on a regular basis. Contract completion date column should be always filled (Note: Immediate /Mid-June for RPSF procurement processes to be completed)</p>	<p>PA</p>	<p>06/2022</p>
<p>Justify outstanding advance on initial IFAD loan and grant financing</p> <p>Submit to IFAD a WA to fully justify outstanding advance of US\$262, 384.90 on initial financing</p>	<p>PMU</p>	<p>06/2022</p>

Malawi

Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme

Supervision Report

Logical Framework

Mission Dates: 25/04/2022 06/05/2022

Document Date: 16/06/2022

Project No. 1100001534

Report No. 6138-MW

East and Southern Africa Division
Programme Management Department

Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme

Logical Framework

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2022)	Cumulative Result (2022)	Cumulative Result % (2022)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
Outreach	1.b Estimated corresponding total number of households members							Annual progress report/	Annually	M&E & component leader	
	Household members	0		1 303 750	34 395	1 145 945	87.896				
	1.a Corresponding number of households reached							Annual progress report/ Database	Annually	M&E & Component leader	
	Women-headed households	0		104 300	2 253	102 718	98.5				
	Non-women-headed households	0		156 450	4 626	113 449	72.5				
	Households	0		260 750	6 879	216 167	82.9				
	1 Persons receiving services promoted or supported by the project										
	Males	0		130 375	3 655	191 471	146.9				
	Females	0		130 375	3 224	168 054	128.9				
	Young			69 113	2 299	107 814	156				
Total number of persons receiving services	0		260 750	6 879	359 525	137.9					
Project Goal Contribute to reduction of poverty and improved food security among the rural population.	Prevalence rates for rural poverty in project districts decline by 20%							1) Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey 2) KAP food survey 3) Integrated household panel survey (IHPS) conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO) 4) Agriculture Production Estimates Survey (APES) conducted by DAPS with NSO			Absence of significant external shocks (economic, climatic, etc.)
	Rural poverty rate	49.2		39							

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2022)	Cumulative Result (2022)	Cumulative Result % (2022)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
	Households experiencing one hungry season decreased from 29% to 21% in project districts (RIMS)							1) Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey 2) KAP food survey 3) Integrated household panel survey (IHPS) conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO) 4) Agriculture Production Estimates Survey (APES) conducted by DAPS with NSO			
	Households	29		21							
	Targeted households with improvement of at least 20% in household assets ownership index (RIMS)							1) Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey 2) KAP food survey 3) Integrated household panel survey (IHPS) conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO) 4) Agriculture Production Estimates Survey (APES) conducted by DAPS with NSO			
	Households			30							
	Prevalence of chronic malnourished children decreased							1) Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey 2) KAP food survey 3) Integrated household panel survey (IHPS) conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO) 4) Agriculture Production Estimates Survey (APES) conducted by DAPS with NSO			
	Chronic malnourished children	35		30							
Targeted households with increased dietary diversification (ASWAp 3)							1) Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey 2) KAP food survey 3) Integrated household panel survey (IHPS) conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO) 4) Agriculture Production Estimates Survey (APES) conducted by DAPS with NSO				
Households			50								
Development Objective A viable and sustainable smallholder agricultural sector employing good agricultural practices (GAPs)	Increase of land under improved management practices (GAPs)							1) Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey 2) KAP survey on GAPs and other adoption surveys (ASWAp, ASWAp-SP) 3) Annual outcome survey covering farmers' perception on the GAPs (focus groups, key informants)			1) Farming system resilient to climatic shocks 2) Farmers are well linked to input and output markets
	Increase			40							

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2022)	Cumulative Result (2022)	Cumulative Result % (2022)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
	Targeted households reporting improvement in fertility and reduction in use of inorganic fertilizer for similar or higher crop yield							1) Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey 2) KAP survey on GAPs and other adoption surveys (ASWAp, ASWAp-SP) 3) Annual outcome survey covering farmers' perception on the GAPs (focus groups, key informants)			
	Households			50							
	1.2.4 Households reporting an increase in production							Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey 2) KAP survey on GAPs and other adoption surveys (ASWAp, ASWAp-SP) 3) Annual outcome survey covering farmers' perception on the GAPs (focus groups, key informants)	Annually	DAES M&E	
	Total number of household members			651 874							
	Households			50							
	Women-headed households			52 150							
Households			130 375								
Outcome 1. Appropriate agricultural technologies/GAPs developed and understood by potential beneficiaries	Targeted households who perceived that legume varieties produced by research for intercropping with cereals are suitable							1) Annual outcome survey covering farmers' perception on the GAPs released / promoted by research (focus groups, key informants) 2) Socio-economic survey 3) KAP survey on GAPs 4) Project baseline			GAP packages suitable for adoption by target groups will be identified and accepted by potential beneficiaries.
	Households			50							
	Technologies evaluated that meet farmer criteria with respect to yield, fit in cropping system, food (seed size, colour, cooking, taste), storage characteristics							1) Annual outcome survey covering farmers' perception on the GAPs released / promoted by research (focus groups, key informants) 2) Socio-economic survey 3) KAP survey on GAPs 4) Project baseline			
	Technologies			60							
	% of farmers participating in the evaluation of GAPs in on-farm trials are women and % of them indicate that GAPs respond to their concerns							1) Annual outcome survey covering farmers' perception on the GAPs released / promoted by research (focus groups, key informants) 2) Socio-economic survey 3) KAP survey on GAPs 4) Project baseline			
	Female farmers			50							

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2022)	Cumulative Result (2022)	Cumulative Result % (2022)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
	Farmers indicating that GAPs respond to their concerns			35							
Output 1.1 Action research programmes which develop/refine GAP packages adapted to various agro-ecological and socio-economic contexts	GAP technologies adapted and released by DAR disaggregated by commodity and area of focus							1) Extension circulars on GAP release 2) Reports of trials and demonstration 3) Measurements of crop productivity 4) Annual outcome survey covering farmers' perception of technologies tested on-farm and of key informants (lead farmers, AEDOs, etc.) 5) Reports of annual review meetings			1) Suitable GAPs already exist on the shelf; Staff have skills 2) Germplasm available through collaboration with CGs 3) Farmers actively participate in adaptive research activities 4) Consultation of farmers by research
	GAP technologies			12							
	Beans Varieties										
	Cowpeas variety										
	Agronomic technologies										
	Stress tolerant varieties recommended/released for various agro-ecologies in Malawi (disease, nutrient, parasitic weeds and water)							1) Extension circulars on GAP release 2) Reports of trials and demonstration 3) Measurements of crop productivity 4) Annual outcome survey covering farmers' perception of technologies tested on-farm and of key informants (lead farmers, AEDOs, etc.) 5) Reports of annual review meetings			
	Varieties			8							
	Number of GAPs released that reduce labour for women							1) Extension circulars on GAP release 2) Reports of trials and demonstration 3) Measurements of crop productivity 4) Annual outcome survey covering farmers' perception of technologies tested on-farm and of key informants (lead farmers, AEDOs, etc.) 5) Reports of annual review meetings			
	GAPs										
	Government officials and staff trained (RIMS)										
Males			360				1) Extension circulars on GAP release 2) Reports of trials and demonstration 3) Measurements of crop productivity 4) Annual outcome survey covering farmers' perception of technologies tested on-farm and of key informants (lead farmers, AEDOs, etc.) 5) Reports of annual review meetings				
Females			240								

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2022)	Cumulative Result (2022)	Cumulative Result % (2022)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
Output 1.2 On-going processes for certifying legume seed for multiplication and farmer use	Estimated demand for pre-basic and basic seed for legume by species is covered by the production of DARS							1) Reports 2) Focused survey of seed multiplication sites			1) Budget availability 2) Weather conditions conducive 3) Basic and G1 seed available in adequate quantities
	Demand			50							
	Quantity of legume seed certified annually by SSU, disaggregated by main species							1) Reports 2) Focused survey of seed multiplication sites			
	Legume seed										
	Beans										
	Cowpeas										
	Groundnuts										
	Pigeon peas										
	Soyabeans										
Seed produced by local farmer groups being QDS certified							1) Reports 2) Focused survey of seed multiplication sites				
Seeds			50								
Outcome 2. Widespread farmer adoption of crops and livestock GAPs leading to improved agricultural productivity and nutrition	Lead farmers have improved knowledge and skills in GAPs of their speciality and operate at least one demonstration plot per annum							1) Lead farmers' database 2) Quarterly and annual progress reports from districts and implementing partners 3) Survey on extension staff and lead farmers' knowledge and skills 4) KAP GAPs survey 5) Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey			Farmers will be willing and able to procure the necessary inputs to sustain use of GAPs after support ends
	Farmers			13 000	2 456	13 923	107.1				
	Women			50	45						
	Targeted farmers consider that at least 2 GAPs have been useful to improve their farming system, disaggregated by gender							1) Lead farmers' database 2) Quarterly and annual progress reports from districts and implementing partners 3) Survey on extension staff and lead farmers' knowledge and skills 4) KAP GAPs survey 5) Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey			
	Farmers			50							
	Males			60							
	Females			40							

Results Hierarchy	Indicators						Means of Verification			Assumptions		
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2022)	Cumulative Result (2022)	Cumulative Result % (2022)	Source	Frequency		Responsibility	
	Targeted farmers satisfied with agricultural advisory services disaggregated by gender						1) Lead farmers' database 2) Quarterly and annual progress reports from districts and implementing partners 3) Survey on extension staff and lead farmers' knowledge and skills 4) KAP GAPs survey 5) Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey					
	Farmers			50								
	Males			60								
	Females			40								
	Targeted farmers satisfied seed availability and access, disaggregated by gender						1) Lead farmers' database 2) Quarterly and annual progress reports from districts and implementing partners 3) Survey on extension staff and lead farmers' knowledge and skills 4) KAP GAPs survey 5) Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey					
	Farmers			50								
	Males			60								
	Females			40								
	Village/community plans formulated (RIMS)						1) Lead farmers' database 2) Quarterly and annual progress reports from districts and implementing partners 3) Survey on extension staff and lead farmers' knowledge and skills 4) KAP GAPs survey 5) Baseline and final impact / RIMS survey					
	Plans			2 682								
	1.2.2 Households reporting adoption of new/improved inputs, technologies or practices											
	Total number of household members											
	Households			50								
	Women-headed households											
	Households											
3.2.2 Households reporting adoption of environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient technologies and practices												
Total number of household members												

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions			
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2022)	Cumulative Result (2022)	Cumulative Result % (2022)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility				
	Households			50										
	Women-headed households													
	Households													
	1.2.8 Women reporting minimum dietary diversity (MDDW)													
	Women (%)													
	Women (number)			17 600										
	Households (%)													
	Households (number)													
Household members														
Output 2.1 Improved agricultural extension services accessible to women, men and youth groups (raising awareness and sensitizing about use of GAPs)	1.1.4 Persons trained in production practices and/or technologies							1) Lead farmers' database 2) Quarterly and annual progress reports from districts and implementing partners			1) Adequate number of suitably qualified extension service providers will be available 2) Adequate research-extension-farmer linkages			
	Men trained in crop			75 000		83 289	111.052							
	Women trained in crop			75 000		76 987	102.649							
	Men trained in livestock			75 000		38 674	51.565							
	Women trained in livestock			75 000		43 083	57.444							
	Total persons trained in crop			150 000		160 276	106.851							
	Total persons trained in livestock			150 000		81 757	54.505							
	Households accessing goats on pass on								Quarterly	DAHLD				
	Women-headed households			10 548	235	3 850	36.5							

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions	
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2022)	Cumulative Result (2022)	Cumulative Result % (2022)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility		
	Non-women-headed households			10 548	494	3 870	36.7					
	Households			21 095	729	7 720	36.6					
	Households accessing chickens on pass on									Quarterly	DAHLD	
	Women-headed households			11 916								
	Non-women-headed households			11 916								
	Households			23 832								
	People accessing facilitated advisory services (RIMS)											
	Males			105 120				1) Lead farmers' database 2) Quarterly and annual progress reports from districts and implementing partners				
	Females			95 911								
	Number of farmer groups/projects accessing VCF									Quarterly	DCD/DAHLD	
	Number of farmer groups/projects			1 010				Lead farmers' database, quarterly and annual progress reports from districts and implementing partners				
	People accessing development funds (RIMS)											
	Males			105 000				1) Lead farmers' database 2) Quarterly and annual progress reports from districts and implementing partners				
	Females			52 500								
	3.1.4 Land brought under climate-resilient practices									Annually	DAES/DLRC	
	Hectares of land			505 300		630 227	124.7	1) Lead farmers' database 2) Quarterly and annual progress reports from districts and implementing partners				
	3.1.2 Persons provided with climate information services									Annually	DLRC	
	Males			80 000	13 848	98 350	122.9	Progress Reports				
	Females			55 000	14 381	92 657	168.5					
	Young			35 000	4 895	24 913	71.2					

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2022)	Cumulative Result (2022)	Cumulative Result % (2022)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
	Persons provided with climate information services			135 000	28 229	191 007	141.5				
	2.1.2 Persons trained in income-generating activities or business management										
	Males			97 040		33 112	34.1				
	Females			74 576		28 841	38.7				
	Young					5 571					
	Persons trained in IGAs or BM (total)			171 616		61 953	36.1				
	2.1.3 Rural producers' organizations supported										
	Total size of POs			77 760		76 272	98.1				
	Rural POs supported			3 600		6 672	185.3				
	Males			38 880		37 882	97.4				
	Females			38 880		38 390	98.7				
	Young					709					
Output 2.2 Women, men and youth target group has access to necessary inputs for sustained adoption of GAPs	MT of improved legume seeds produced by year by seed producer farmer groups							1) Records maintained by partners engaged to undertake seed multiplication and distribution 2) Lead farmers' database 3) Quarterly and annual progress reports from districts and implementing partner			It will be possible to engage suitable partners for seed multiplication and distribution, agro-dealer support and rural financial services
	Legume seeds produced			1 100							
	1.1.3 Rural producers accessing production inputs and/or technological packages										
	Males					29 545					
	Females					36 391					
	Young					8 848					

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2022)	Cumulative Result (2022)	Cumulative Result % (2022)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
	Total rural producers			10 000		65 936	659.4				
	2.1.3 Rural producers' organizations supported										
	Total size of POs			10 000		27 272	272.7				
	Rural POs supported			500		2 122	424.4				
	Males			5 000		14 013	280.3				
	Females			5 000		13 259	265.2				
	Young					3 116					
	1.1.7 Persons in rural areas trained in financial literacy and/or use of financial products and services										
	Males			6 354		8 233	129.6				
	Females			7 166		8 662	120.9				
	Young			769		1 273	165.5				
	Persons in rural areas trained in FL and/or use of FProd and Services (total)			13 520		16 895	125				
	1.1.8 Households provided with targeted support to improve their nutrition										
	Total persons participating			180 000		406 612	225.9				
	Males			70 000		155 066	221.5				
	Females			110 000		251 546	228.7				
	Households			36 000		82 362	228.8				
	Household members benefitted			158 400		18 965	12				

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions		
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2022)	Cumulative Result (2022)	Cumulative Result % (2022)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility			
	Young			45 000		101 869	226.4	Progress reports	Semi-annually				
	Women-headed households			22 000		49 987	227.2						
	Households using cook stoves												
	Households			31 000									
	Women-headed households			18 330									
	Non-women-headed households			12 220									

Malawi

Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme

Supervision Report

Appendix 1: Financial: actual financial performance; by financier by component and disbursements by category

Mission Dates: 25/04/2022 06/05/2022

Document Date: 16/06/2022

Project No. 1100001534

Report No. 6138-MW

East and Southern Africa Division
Programme Management Department

Appendix 1: Financial: actual financial performance by financier; by component and disbursements by category

Table 2A: Financial performance by financier

Financier	Appraisal (USD '000)	Disbursements (USD '000)	Per cent disbursed
Original finance			
IFAD loan	23,166	20,514	89%
IFAD grant	22,534	19,743	88%
Government original finance	4,200	5,440	130%
Beneficiaries	1,200	3,485	290%
Sub total Original Finance	51,100	49,182	96%
Additional Finance			
IFAD loan	10,054	6,732	67%
IFAD grant	3,719	2,144	58%
Government	2,800	1,574	56%
Beneficiaries	2,000	1,107	55%
Private Sector	1,417	884	62%
Sub total Additional Finance	19,990	12,441	62%
RPSF 1	616	616	100%
RPSF 2	753	753	100%
Total	72,459	62,993	87%

Table 2B: Financial performance by financier by component (USD '000)

(i) Original Financing

Component	IFAD Loan			IFAD Grant			Government			Beneficiaries			Total		
	Budget at MTR	Actual	%	Budget at MTR	Actual	%	Budget at MTR	Actual	%	Budget at MTR	Actual	%	Budget at MTR	Actual	%
1.Adaptive Research	1,542	1,739	113%	1,542	1,739	113%	700	2,063	295%				3,784	5,541	146%
2.Farmer Adoption of Good Agricultural Practices	18,165	15,949	88%	17,533	15,465	88%	1,600	2,205	138%	1,200	3,485	290%	38,498	37,104	96%
3.Programme Management and Knowledge Management & Monitoring	3,459	2,826	82%	3,459	2,539	73%	1,900	1,172	62%				8,818	6,537	74%
Total	23,166	20,514	89%	22,534	19,743	88%	4,200	5,440	130%	1,200	3,485	290%	51,100	49,182	96%

(ii) Additional Financing

Component	IFAD Loan			IFAD Grant			Government			Beneficiaries			Private Sector			Total		
	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%
1.Adaptive Research	918	635	69%				136	80	59%							1,054	715	68%
2.Farmer Adoption of Sustainable GAP's	7,866	5,118	65%	3,719	2,144	58%	2,535	1,404	55%	2,000	1,107	55%	1,417	884	62%	17,537	10,657	61%
3.Programme Management and Knowledge Management & Monitoring	1,270	977	77%				129	90	70%							1,399	1,067	76%
Total	10,054	6,730	67%	3,719	2,144	58%	2,800	1,574	56%	2,000	1,107	55%	1,417	884	62%	19,990	12,439	62%

(iii) RPSF 1

Component	RPSF Grant 1		
	Appraisal	Actual	%
1.Adaptive Research	98,724	98,724	100%
2.Farmer Adoption of Sustainable GAP's	406,135	406,135	100%
3.Programme Management and K & M	111,506	111,506	100%
Total	616,365	616,365	100%

(iii) RPSF 2

Component	RPSF Grant 2		
	Appraisal	Actual	%
1.Adaptive Research	61,111	49,888	82%
2.Farmer Adoption of Sustainable GAP's	677,874	537,299	79%
3.Programme Management and K & M	13,889	12,119	87%
Total	752,874	599,307	80%

Table 2C: IFAD loan disbursements (SDR, as at 30 April 2022)

	Category Description	Allocated	Disbursed	Pending WA *	Balance	%
1	Vehicles, Motorcycles & Equipment	908,000.00	623,008.07		284,991.93	69%
2	Technical Assistance, Trainings, Workshop & Studies	1,214,000.00	1,037,676.31		176,323.69	85%
3A	Support for Adaptive Research	833,000.00	924,434.68		(91,434.68)	111%
3B	Support for Knowledge Management & Communication	497,000.00	427,444.70	-	69,555.30	86%
4A	Support for Improved Agriculture Extension	7,052,000.00	7,273,433.60	-	(221,433.60)	103%
4B	Support for Access to Key Agricultural Inputs	2,724,000.00	2,441,864.01	-	282,135.99	90%
5A	Salaries & Allowances	222,000.00	148,369.52		73,630.48	67%
5B	Incremental Operating Costs	1,200,000.00	1,551,263.02	-	(351,263.02)	129%
	Authorised Allocation		138,331.49		(138,331.49)	0%
	Total	14,650,000.00	14,565,825.40	-	84,174.60	99%

Table 2D: IFAD grant disbursements (SDR, as at 30 April 2022)

	Category Description	Allocated	Disbursed	Pending WA *	Balance	%
1	Vehicles, Motorcycles & Equipment	839,500.00	614,471.88		225,028.12	73%
2	Technical Assistance, Trainings, Workshop & Studies	811,500.00	733,310.36		78,189.64	90%
3A	Support for Adaptive Research	835,000.00	924,392.46		(89,392.46)	111%
3B	Support for Knowledge Management & Communication	267,000.00	119,659.04	-	147,340.96	45%
4A	Support for Improved Agriculture Extension	7,129,000.00	6,939,821.50	-	189,178.50	97%
4B	Support for Access to Key Agricultural Inputs	2,724,000.00	2,907,745.64	-	(183,745.64)	107%
5A	Salaries & Allowances	172,000.00	112,997.97		59,002.03	66%
5B	Incremental Operating Costs	1,472,000.00	1,614,757.73	-	(142,757.73)	110%
	Authorised Allocation		48,858.99		(48,858.99)	0%
	Total	14,250,000.00	14,016,015.57	-	233,984.43	98%

Table 2E: IFAD Additional Financing loan disbursements (SDR, as at 30 April 2022)

	Category Description	Allocated	Disbursed	Pending WA	Balance	%
200008	Consultancies	4,100,000.00	2,667,523.96		1,432,476.04	65%
200016	Operating Costs	310,000.00	238,491.97		71,508.03	77%
200018	Salaries & Allowances	250,000.00	173,132.54		76,867.46	69%
200021	Vehicles	2,640,000.00	991,703.25		1,648,296.75	38%
270001	Authorised Allocation		694,492.67		(694,492.67)	0%
	Total	7,300,000.00	4,765,344.39		2,534,655.61	65%

Table 2F: IFAD Additional Financing grant disbursements (SDR, as at 30 April 2022)

	Category Description	Allocated	Disbursed	Pending WA	Balance	%
200021	Vehicles	2,700,000.00	1,168,284.56		1,531,715.44	43%
270001	Authorised Allocation		347,246.34		(347,246.34)	0%
		2,700,000.00	1,515,530.90		1,184,469.10	56%

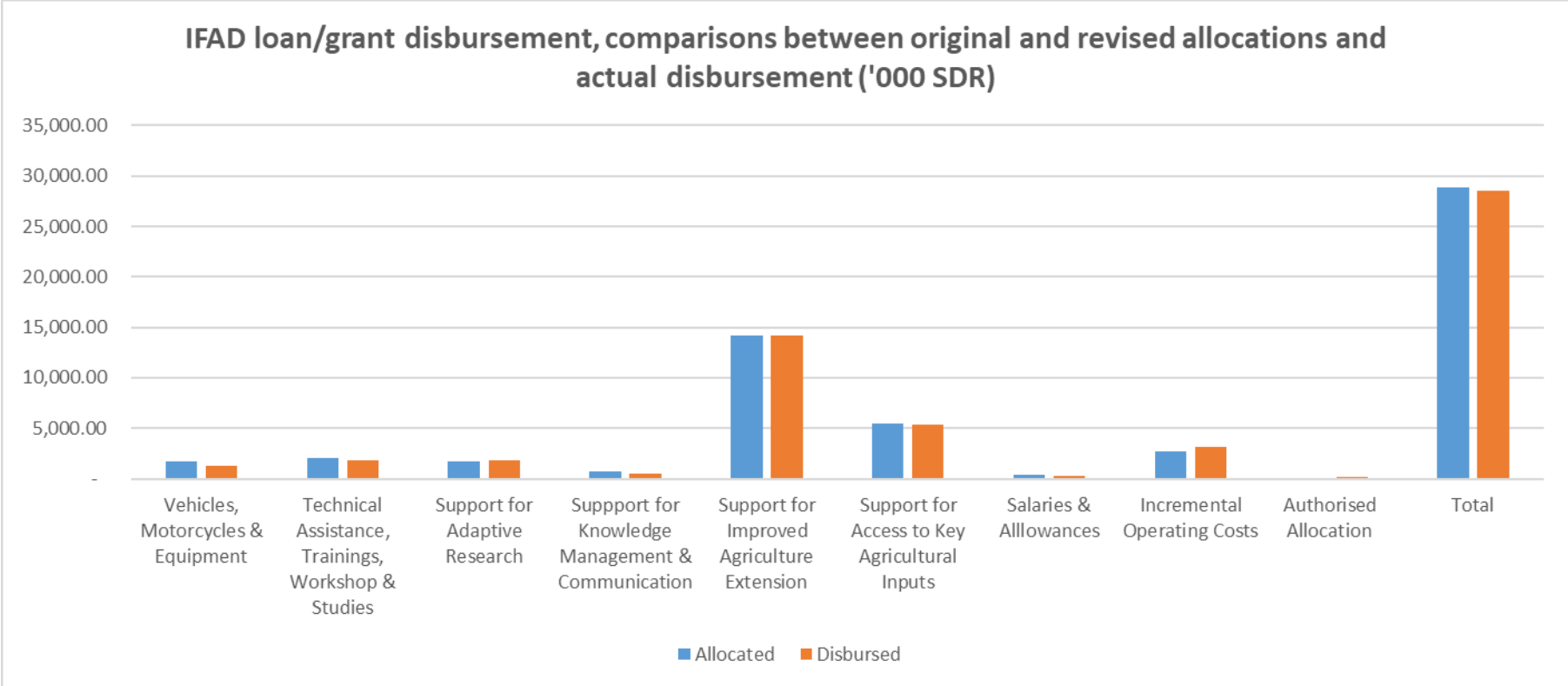
Table 2G: RPSF 1 disbursements (USD, as at 30 April 2022)

	Category Description	Allocated	Disbursed	Pending WA	Balance	%
200008	Consultancies	66,859.00	66,858.56		0.44	
200013	Good, Services and Inputs	503,279.00	503,278.42		0.58	100%
200016	Operating Costs	46,227.00	46,226.92		0.08	100%
270001	Authorised Allocation		1.10		(1.10)	0%
	Total	616,365.00	616,365.00		-	100%

Table 2H: RPSF 2 disbursements (USD, as at 30 April 2022)

	Category Description	Allocated	Disbursed	Pending WA	Balance	%
200008	Consultancies	61,111.00	-		61,111.00	
200013	Good, Services and Inputs	677,874.00	-		677,874.00	0%
200016	Operating Costs	13,889.00	-		13,889.00	0%
270001	Authorised Allocation		752,874.00		(752,874.00)	0%
	Total	752,874.00	752,874.00		-	100%

Figure 1: IFAD loan/grant disbursement, comparisons between original and revised allocations and actual disbursement



Malawi

Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme

Supervision Report

Appendix 2: Physical progress measured against AWP&B

Mission Dates: 25/04/2022 06/05/2022

Document Date: 16/06/2022

Project No. 1100001534

Report No. 6138-MW

East and Southern Africa Division
Programme Management Department

Appendix 2: Physical progress measured against AWP&B

SAPP 2021/22 ANNUAL PHYSICAL IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX: COMPONENT 1

OUTPUT/ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	Unit of Measure	2021-22 AWP TARGET	2021-22 AWP ACTUAL	% AWPB	LoP Target	Cummulative Actual	% APPRAISAL	Comments/Remarks
1.1 Action research programmes which develop/refine GAP packages adapted to various agro-ecological and socio-economic contexts	GAP technologies adapted and released by DAR disaggregated by commodity and area of focus								
	GAP technologies	Number	15	12	80%	12	19	158%	Previous technologies include: 3 Bean varieties include : NUA 35-early maturing (55-60 days; 2T/Ha), Cim-Dwarf-01-12-2- Early maturing (57 - 60 days; 2.5T/ha) and VTTT 924/10-4 - early maturing and high yielding(61-70 days; 3T/ha). 3 Agronomic technologies include 1)Double row planting of ground nuts, 2) Soya bean planting partern, and 3) Double-Up legume
	Beans Varieties	Number	0	0		5	3		No new bean varieties were released in 2021. research on going on 2 bean variety trials
	Cowpeas variety	Number	0	0		1	1		Cowpea variety released with support from SAPP.
	Agronomic technologies	Number		6		6	9		Deep bed planting patern released in 2021, and 5 Area Specific fertiliser recommendations
	Stress tolerant varieties recommended/released for various agro-ecologies in Malawi (disease, nutrient, parasitic weeds and water)								
	Varieties	Number		3		8	3	38%	3 Pigeon pea varieties (Mthawajuni Oyera, Mthawajuni Ofiira, and Mthawajuni wamawanga)
	Number of GAPs released that reduce labour for women								

OUTPUT/ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	Unit of Measure	2021-22 AWP TARGET	2021-22 AWP ACTUAL	% AWPB	LoP Target	Cummulative Actual	% APPRAISAL	Comments/Remarks
	GAPS		1	1	100%	4	3	75%	Deep bed farming technology was released in 2021. Others released previously Soya bean planting and Double row plantings for g/nuts.
Government officials and staff trained (RIMS)									
	Staff trained	people	104	79	76%	600	807	135%	The trainings were provided to staff from all implementing departments .
	Males	Number	64	47	73%	360	530	147%	
	Females	Number	40	32	80%	240	277	115%	
Activities									
1.1.1 Research planning and management									
1.1.1.1 Carry out Field visits for focus group discussions with farmers participating in the field trials	No. of field visits	Number	7	7	100%				The FGDs involved 109 farmers (61 females and 48 Males). The breakdown is as follows: 14 farmers in Lilongwe (7 m, 7f); 19 farmers in Balaka (11f, 8m); 24 farmers in Blantyre (12f, 12m); 21 farmers in Chiradzulu (13f, 8m); 14 farmers in Chitipa (7f, 7m) and 17 farmers in Nkhhotakota (11f, 6m)
1.1.1.2 Preparation and review of researcher-extension and farmer managed trial protocols	No. of trial protocols	Number	15	18	120%				Trial protocols on 18 research trials were reviewed with host farmers and front line staff. The protocols were found to still be valid and farmers were encouraged to continue managing the trials following the protocols
1.1.1.3 Carry out Pre-season orientation workshop on trial management for DARS	No. of workshops	Number	1	1	100%				The workshop was attended by DARS staff at the center

OUTPUT/ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	Unit of Measure	2021-22 AWP TARGET	2021-22 AWP ACTUAL	% AWPB	LoP Target	Cummulative Actual	% APPRAISAL	Comments/Remarks
1.1.1.4 Presentation of annual results and planning for technology approval and dissemination	Workshop report	Number	1	1	100%				At the workshop, ongoing research trials were reviewed and approved for 18 technologies
1.1.2 Capacity building for adaptive research									
1.1.2.1 Provide Short training for DARS staff	No. of staff trained	Number	104	79	76%				Short term training was conducted on crop breeding, agronomy, livestock production and good laboratory practices, scientific proposal development and report writing. Other areas covered included protocols and data collection and management in adaptive research. Staff were picked from DARS
1.1.2.2 Organise Regional study tour on CA upscaling	No. of study tours	Number	2	-	0%				Tour couldnt be conducted due to travel limitations related to Covid-19. Tour focus was aimed at learning how to increase CA adoption rate in the project area. This is planned to be done in 2022/2023FY
1.1.2.3 Look and learn exchange visits	No. of exchange visits		20	3	15%				The visits involved 55 farmers from 2 districts of Lilongwe-30 and Nkhotakota-25. The visits mainly focused to best land management practices. Low performance attributed to covid 19
1.1.3 Agronomic research in response to beneficiaries' priority problems									
1.1.3.1 Researcher managed adaptive trials	No. of research managed trials		15	18	120%				Adaptive trials are ongoing at 8 Research stations covering 18 managed trials including 5 on Breeding , 7 on CA, 1 on water stress and 1 on plat pathology-Fall Army Worm and 4 trials on soil improvement

OUTPUT/ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	Unit of Measure	2021-22 AWP TARGET	2021-22 AWP ACTUAL	% AWPB	LoP Target	Cummulative Actual	% APPRAISAL	Comments/Remarks
1.1.3.2 Conduct Field days for subject matter specialists	No. of field days		3	2	67%				These were mainly attended by district staff from all relevant departments. A total of 41 people attended. Staff members from research were 5 (3 males, 2 females). 36 farmers participated (26 women and 10 men) in Rivirivi extension planning area (EPA) in Balaka district
1.1.3.3 Conduct Researcher-extension managed on-farm trials	No. of on-farm trials		15	15	100%				Some trials are only done on-station at the moment. The trials are also monitored and supervised by staff from DAES. DAES focuses on ensuring that farmers are complying to the research protocols set by DARS
1.1.3.4 Review of trial results and produce report at district level	No. of reports		7	-	0%				Activity delayed due to covid related travel restrictions
1.1.3.5 Carry out Farmer managed on-farm trials	No. of farmer managed trials	Number of Host Farmers	14	13	93%				These were initially 70 assuming 10 per district, but were later reduced to 2 per district. They are mainly farmer initiated monitored by DAES and DARS. They are mainly done through the FFS in the districts of Blantyre and Chiradzulu. So far they are on soil improvement practices using Mbeya fertilisers
1.1.4 Characterisation of nutrient status of soils									
1.1.4.1 Update existing soil database and contribute to re-mapping	No. of reports	Number of reports	1	1	100%				Re-mapping was concluded and soil data base was updated in relation to the area specific fertiliseres needed for each crop. There is still need to develop the plan for application of area specific fertilisers . However some demosntrations are currently ongoing
1.1.5 Research on adoption behaviour									

OUTPUT/ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	Unit of Measure	2021-22 AWP TARGET	2021-22 AWP ACTUAL	% AWPB	LoP Target	Cummulative Actual	% APPRAISAL	Comments/Remarks
1.1.5.1 Carry out Adoption studies	No. of studies		2		0%				Planned for 2022-2023 FY. The scope will be for all technologies promoted by the programme to be evaluated for adoption
1.1.6 Small livestock support research									
1.1.6.1 Study on feeding	No. of reports		1	-	0%				Evaluations for technologies for livestock feeding is ongoing at all research stations. Arising from previous evaluations of the livestock research interventions, the scope for livestock research has been expanded beyond feeding to cover brooding and incubation in order to reduce the mortality rate of the livestock
Output 1.2: On-going processes for certifying legume seed for multiplication and farmer use	Estimated demand for pre-basic and basic seed for legume by species is covered by the production of DARS								
	Demand	Percentage				50			To be reported from records of DARS and DCD and other channels. Currently not being tracked.
	Quantity of legume seed certified annually by SSU, disaggregated by main species								
	Legume seed - Number	MT	100	52	52%		707.24		
	Beans - Number	MT	2	0	0%		1.15		
	Cowpeas - Number	MT	13	5	38%		38.64		
	Groundnuts - Number	MT	70	35	50%		554.02		
	Pigeon peas - Number	MT	5	3	60%		22.01		
	Soyabeans - Number	MT	10	9	90%		93.42		
	Seed produced by local farmer groups being QDS certified								
Seeds - Percentage (%)						50			

OUTPUT/ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	Unit of Measure	2021-22 AWP TARGET	2021-22 AWP ACTUAL	% AWPB	LoP Target	Cummulative Actual	% APPRAISAL	Comments/Remarks
Activities									
1.2.1 Maintenance and production of pre-basic and basic seeds									
1.2.2 Capacity building for regulation and certification									
1.2.2.1 Refresher training of Seed Services Unit inspectors in field inspection	No. of trainings		2	1	50%				30 Seed Inspectors from Seed Services Unit were trained (23 males, 7 females)
1.2.2.2 Collect/facilitate collection of seed samples for testing in collaboration with SSU (DARS)	No of samples		80	151	189%				Over performance was attributed to higher demand of the seed. SSU has evolved into Malawi Seed Regulatory Authority (MSRA). There is need to improve assessment of demand of seed to improve target setting
1.2.3 Certified seed inspection									
1.2.3.1 Conduct seed inspection	No. of inspections		12	8	67%				Seed inspections are time bound. The Unit is constrained with timely release of resources. Disbursement caps introduced in the middle of implementation of the AWPB which resulted in a halt in release of funds
1.2.4 Monitoring of certified seed in the market									
1.2.4.1 Monitoring of Agro-dealer and certified seed in the market	No. of monitoring visits		20	19	95%				Out of the 81 Agrodealers 76 were found complying while 5 were not complying. Representing non-compliance of 6.6%. Breakdown of seed management standards by Agro-dealers per districts is as follows: Nkhotakota (all 20 were

OUTPUT/ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	Unit of Measure	2021-22 AWP TARGET	2021-22 AWP ACTUAL	% AWPB	LoP Target	Cummulative Actual	% APPRAISAL	Comments/Remarks
									complying); Chitipa (10 complied, 1 not); Chiradzulu (all 16 complied); Blantyre (10 complied, 2 not); and Balaka (20 Complied, 2 not)
1.2.4.2 Train staff in monitoring of agro-dealer and certified seed in the market	No of staff trained		95	100	105%				80 males, 20 females

SAPP 2021/22 ANNUAL PHYSICAL IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX: COMPONENT 2

OUTPUT/ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	Unit of Measure	2021-22 AWP TARGET	2021-22 AWP ACTUAL	% AWPB	LoP Target	Cummulative Actual	% APPRAISAL	Comments/Remarks
Out put 2.1: Improved agricultural extension services accessible to women, men and youth groups (raising awareness and sensitizing about use of GAPs)	1.1.4 Persons trained in production practices and/or technologies								
	Men trained in crop	Persons	1782	1949	109%	75000	16038	21%	The number crop farmers to be trained were over tagerted
	Women trained in crop	Persons	2551	2549	100%	75000	22959	31%	
	Men trained in livestock	Persons	1390	2202	158%	75000	14423	19%	
	Women trained in livestock	Persons	1390	1943	140%	75000	15971	21%	
	Total persons trained in crop	Number	4333	4498	104%	150000	38997	26%	
	Total persons trained in livestock	Number	2780	4145	149%	150000	30394	20%	The number of livestock farmers was over targeted
	Households accessing goats through pass-on								
	Women-headed households	Number	500	646	129%	10548	3690	35%	
	Non-women-headed households	Number	500	927	185%	10548	4225	40%	
Households	Number	1000	1573	157%	21095	7915	38%	During the early stages of implementation there was a higher mortality rate for the animals due to supply of very young animals and sourcing animals from far distances. Remedial measures were introduced about 2017, aimed at improving animal health (distribution of drug boxes, local sourcing, intensive supervision of the pass-on as well as direct injection of animals to formely TLC supported groups.	

Households accessing chickens on pass on								More women are participating more in chicken production due cultural set up
Women-headed households - Number	Number	500	907	181%	11916	6113	51%	
Non-women-headed households - Number	Number	500	885	177%	11916	4926	41%	
Households - Number	Number	1000	1792	179%	23832	11039	46%	
People accessing facilitated advisory services (RIMS)								
Total number of people facilitated		260 750	224 244	86%	201 031	464 011	231%	Some of the farmers accessing advisory services are not main SAPP beneficiaries. For examples community members with chickens or goats also access vaccination belonging to SAPP groups. Mobile campaigns organised by SAPP other non-SAPP beneficiaries also attend.
Males - Number		130375	116607	89%	105120	243765	232%	
Females - Number		130375	107637	83%	95911	220246	230%	
Number of farmer groups/projects accessing VCF								
Number of farmer groups/projects	Groups	228	119	52%	1010	510	50%	The VCF should be targeted to balance participation by farmers from all 3 categories
People accessing development funds (RIMS)								
Total number of people accessing funds	people	5 645	4 453	79%	157 500	21 068	13%	
Males	Number	3 025	1 817	60%	105000	8 585	8%	
Females	Number	2 620	2 636	101%	52500	12 483	24%	More women participate in agricultural productivity and men participate mainly in marketing.
Youth	Number	1 062	900	85%	47250	2 786	6%	
3.1.4 Land brought under climate-resilient practices								

Hectares of land - Area (ha)	Ha	21 493	102 564	477%	505300	605 273	120%	The over achievement for 2021 was due to high cost of inorganic fertilisers. Therefore more farmers were engaged in making manure especially in Lilongwe district. Further the programme intensified manure making and catchment conservation campaigns
3.1.2 Persons provided with climate information services								
Males	Number	13848	1896	14%	80000	84502	106%	The low performance is due to under reporting by some sections on farmers reached with climate informate when undertaking climate information campaigns.
Females	Number	14381	2024	14%	55000	78276	142%	
Young	Number	4895	980	20%	35000	20018	57%	
Persons provided with climate information services	Number	28 229	3 920	14%	135000	162778	121%	
2.1.2 Persons trained in income-generating activities or business management								
Males	Number	1 835	1 422	77%	97040	13 960	14%	
Females	Number	1 831	2 207	121%	74576	20 697	28%	
Young	Number	883	746	84%		3 417		
Persons trained in IGAs or BM (total)	Number	3 666	3 629	99%	171616	34 657	20%	
2.1.3 Rural producers' organizations supported								
Total size of POs - Organizations	Number	11317	9288	82%	77760	63340	81%	
Rural POs supported - Organizations	Number	394	310	79%	3600	1925	53%	
Males	Number	5835	4207	72%	38880	28869	74%	
Females	Number	5482	5081	93%	38880	34471	89%	
Young	Number	2469	2626	106%	23 328	12956	56%	

Activities

2.1.1 Stakeholder participation and R&D linkages

2.1.1.1 Conduct planning and review meetings		Number	4 038	2 698	67%				Review meetings were held at national, district, area levels (1-NSP, 31-DAECC, 15-DSP and 317-ASP, 2334-VAC). Only 1 NSP level meeting was held due to covid -19 travel related restrictons which limited movement of persons
2.1.1.2 Facilitate community based Monitoring and Evaluation	Number of meetings	number of meetings	270	368	136%				These are carried out as and when needed at village level to review implementation of planned activities. SAPP facilitates this process through provision of IEC materials
2.1.1.3 Conduct local and international study tours on Decentralized Extension & GAPs	Number of tours organised	Number	23	2	9%				Only local tours were organised for staff and no international tours organised due to covid 19 limitations. The local tours covered the model village approach
2.1.1.4 Conduct gender and youth sensitive PRAs	No of engendered PRAs	Number of Sessions	78	103	132%				PRA sessions were conducted at village level mainly to new areas for identification of constraints and possible solutions
2.1.1.5 Implement Household Approach among selected Lead Households	No of households reached	Number	3 479	3 523	101%				
	Women headed households	Number	1 705	1 797	105%				
	Non-women headed	Number	1 774	1 726	97%				

2.1.2 National and ADD agriculture Extension support and promotion services

National support and promotion services

2.1.2.1 Conduct review on extension policy, strategies and concepts	Number of Concepts	Number	2	1	50%				NAEAS strategy launched and review and development of new NAEAS policy is ongoing
Knowledge management activities									
2.1.2.2 Establish and strengthen Resource centres	Number of resource centres supported	Number	29	33	114%				The role of the resource centres is to provide extension and advisory services to farmers through information and electronic media. To date 244 resource centres have been established in the project area
2.1.2.3 Produce IEC materials (posters, leaflets, DVDs and TV documentaries)	Number of Posters,leaflets, DVDs	Number	20 007	5 723	29%				Production of the materials was affected by delay in development and pretesting of the materials and limited availability of resources to facilitate timely printing of the materials
2.1.2.4 Produce and air radio and TV programmes	Number of radio programmes produced and aired	Number	91	216	237%				The increase in the number of programmes was necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition more programmes were designed and implemented through Zodiak and 3 community radios besides the MBC
2.1.2.5 Conduct mobile unit campaigns	Number campaigns implemented	Number	24	19	79%				These were necessitated by the need to continue with extension messaging during the covid 19 pandemic
2.1.2.6 Document and disseminate best practices on GAPs and extension approaches through seminars, community of practice and workshops	Number of best practices disseminated	Number	22	28	127%				These cover a range of subjects including CA- 4, Goat Pass-on-4,Soya Seed Multiplication - 4, VCF- 4, G/Nut Seed Multiplication- 4, Soil Fertility Management- 4 and Farmer Business School- 4

2.1.2.7 Conduct exchange visits	Number of Visits conducted	Number	2	1	50%				The exchange visit was planned by Lilongwe ADD and Blantyre ADD. The focus was on one group learning from best practices of implementation of interventions better than the others.
2.1.2.8 Train staff on knowledge management	Number of staff trained		89	18	20%				Training was conducted in the last quarter of the year. Previously these couldn't be conducted due to competing priorities based on time
	Number of male staff		49	12	24%				
	Number of female staff		40	6	15%				
2.1.3 Integrated agricultural extension management at local level									
DADO support									
2.1.3.1 Facilitate development and implementation of Environmental and social management plans	Number of safeguard plans		1 411	1 061	75%				These are carried out at environmental catchment level
2.1.3.2 Facilitate implementation of Environmental and Social monitoring plans	Number of plans		1 537	753	49%				Implementation of the community level plans was affected by covid-19 pandemic- restrictions on large gatherings
2.1.3.3 Train Subject Matter Specialists on GAPs and extension methods	Number of SMSs trained		170	-	0%				This activity was deferred to be implemented in May 2022
EPA support									
2.1.3.4 Train staff in FBS	Number of staff trained as trainers		83	105	127%				This training activity was undertaken as a priority activity for sustainability of interventions.
	Number of male staff		49	66	135%				
	Number of female staff		34	39	115%				
2.1.3.5 Train staff on savings and investment	Number of staff trained		106	102	96%				
	Number of male staff		56	66	118%				
	Number of female staff		50	36	72%				
2.1.3.6 Train staff on gender mainstreaming	Number of staff trained		188	157	84%				
	Number of male staff		99	73	74%				

	Number of female staff		89	84	94%				
2.1.3.7 Train staff on FFS	Number of staff trained		98	84	86%				
	Number of male staff		31	40	129%				
	Number of female staff		37	43	116%				
2.1.3.8 Train staff on sustainable land mangement (CA, SFI, SWF, RWH, GIS/GPS)	Number of staff trained		340	235	69%				
	Number of male staff		35	133	380%				
	Number of female staff		30	102	340%				
2.1.3.9 Rehabilitate and Electrify EPA infrastructure	Number of Structures		18	4	22%				More offices will be rehabilitated in 2023. This delievable was affected by delays in the procurement process and electricity connection prioritisation
2.1.3.10 Train staff in Group dynamics,	Number of staff trained		66	20	30%				This activities were affected by COVID 19 restrictions on gathering. The time planned to undertake this activity COVID 19 cases were high.
	Number of male staff		35	9	26%				
	Number of female staff		31	11	35%				
2.1.3.11 Train staff in Market oriented farm planning and management	Number of staff trained		101	141	140%				The over achievement was due to inclusion of newly recruited AVOs
	Number of male staff		45	85	189%				
	Number of female staff		56	56	100%				
2.1.3.12 Train staff in message development	Number of staff trained		30	-	0%				
	Number of male staff		15	-	0%				
	Number of female staff		15	-	0%				
2.1.3.13 Train staff on gender responsive PRAs	Number of staff trained		113	109	96%				
	Number of male staff		60	50	83%				
	Number of female staff		53	59	111%				
2.1.3.14 Train staff in IGP organization and management	Number of staff trained		148	107	72%				
	Number of male staff		87	43	49%				
	Number of female staff		61	64	105%				
2.1.3.15 Facilitate fortnightly training sessions for field staff	Number of sessions		864	586	68%				
Lead farmer support									

2.1.3.16 Train lead farmers on specific technologies	Number of Lead Farmers trained		1 383	1 796	130%				The trainings were on various specific technologies such as management of demonstration plots, organization of field days, Farmer Field Schools, Conservation Agriculture (CA), small-stock management, food preservation and budgeting, facilitation skills, intercropping of legumes and gender mainstreaming.
	Number of male farmers		681	979	144%				
	Number of female farmers		702	817	116%				
	Number of youth farmers		367	547	149%				
2.1.3.17 Train lead farmers in gender mainstreaming	Number of Lead Farmers trained		1 080	972	90%				
	Number of male farmers		505	511	101%				
	Number of female farmers		575	461	80%				
	Number of youth farmers		282	199	71%				
2.1.3.18 Facilitate district based lead farmer network	Number of networks		18	19	106%				
2.1.3.19 Provide support to lead farmers (Dust Coat, Harver sack, Bicycle)	No of lead Farmers supported		200	9	5%				
2.1.3.20 Facilitate lead farmers planning and review meetings	Number of review meetings		88	108	123%				
2.1.3.21 Conduct a lead and follower farmer assessment	Number of assessments		2	-	0%				
Demonstration plots									
2.1.3.22 Mount demonstrations	No. of harmonised demonstrations		4 056	4 644	114%				

	No of male farmers		19 557	10 937	56%				
	No of female farmers		9 972	8 234	83%				
	Number of youth farmers		10 723	5 971	56%				
2.1.3.23 Mount on farm adaptive research trials	Number of on-farm trials		193	206	107%				
	Number of male farmers		112	84	75%				
	No of female farmers		191	123	64%				
	No of youth farmers		90	73	81%				
2.1.3.24 Conduct field days	No of field days		3 362	3 015	90%				Over achievement was due to more farmers in the community were willing to participate especially at section level
	Number of male farmers		25 928	42 898	165%				
	No of female farmers		46 262	53 643	116%				
	Number of youth farmers		9 434	11 873	126%				
2.1.3.25 Source and distribute inputs for Harmonized Demonstrations	MT		120	173	144%				
2.1.3.26 Orient staff on management of harmonized demonstrations	Number of staff		675	461	68%				
	Male		354	322	91%				
	Female		221	139	63%				
2.1.3.27 Orient host farmers on management of harmonized demonstrations	Number of farmers		4 244	5 277	124%				
	Number of male farmers		2 016	3 374	167%				
	No of female farmers		2 228	1 903	85%				
	Number of youth farmers		1 114	975	88%				
2.1.3.28 Facilitate georeferencing of SAPP intervention sites	Number of interventions		5 913	3 080	52%				
Other extension support / approaches									
2.1.3.29 Establish FFS	No of FFS established		97	246	254%				
	Number of male farmers		969	1 310	135%				
	No. of female farmers		1 204	984	82%				

	Number of youth farmers		349	453	130%				
2.1.3.30 Establish FBS	No. of FBS established		95	61	64%				
	Number of male farmers		1 226	868	71%				
	Number of female farmers		1 242	655	53%				
	Number of youth farmers		666	395	59%				
2.1.3.31 Facilitate establishment of model villages	No of Model villages		107	129	121%				
	Number of male farmers		12 611	6 839	54%				
	Number of female farmers		9 533	8 493	89%				
	Number of youth farmers		3 428	3 500	102%				
2.1.3.32 Facilitate establishment of clusters and mndandandas	Number of clusters		820	1 039	127%				
	Number of male farmers		22 009	19 270	88%				
	No. of female farmers		18 535	16 739	90%				
	Number of youth farmers		4 262	7 939	186%				
	Number of mndandandas		103	141	137%				
	Number of male farmers		11 054	15 359	139%				
	Number of female farmers		10 897	14 766	136%				
	Number of youth farmers		4 758	5 908	124%				
Other Activities on DADO & EPA Support									
2.1.3.33 Backstop and supervise demonstrations on improved crop related technologies	No of visits	Visits	2	13	650%				
2.1.3.34 Facilitate implementation of sustainable land mangement (CA, SFI, SWF, RWH, GIS/GPS)	Area under SLM	Ha	21 493	102 564	477%				
2.1.4 Capacity strengthening of farmers and organisation development									

Farmer group development

2.1.4.1 Train farmers on savings and investment	No. of farmers trained		1 429	3 742	262%				The overachievement resulted from the Programme exit strategies' brainstorming sessions which were carried during the season where most farmers wanted to be opened up on savings and investment skills
	Number of male farmers		681	1 488	219%				
	No. of female farmers		1 100	2 254	205%				
	Number of youth farmers		318	1 151	362%				
2.1.4.2 Form Associations and cooperatives	Number of cooperatives		17	19	112%				
	Number of male farmers		975	968	99%				
	No. of female farmers		1 027	1 023	100%				
	Number of youth farmers		524	749	143%				
2.1.4.3 Form farmer IGP groups for vulnerable farmers	No. of IGP groups formed		149	172	115%				
	Number of male farmers		1 835	1 422	77%				
	No. of female farmers		1 831	2 207	121%				
	Number of youth farmers		883	746	84%				
2.1.4.4 Facilitate farmer organisations linkages to markets	Number FBOs linked		176	92	52%				
2.1.4.5 Train AEDC/SMS on leadership and group management	Number of Staff		63	18	29%				
	Number of male staff		53	8	15%				
	Number of female staff		10	10	100%				
2.1.4.6 Train AEDOs on leadership and group management	Number of Staff		30	-	0%				
	Number of male staff		10	-	0%				
	Number of female staff		20	-	0%				
2.1.4.7 Train lead farmers & group leaders on leadership and group management	Number of lead farmers		508	404	80%				
	Number of male farmers		244	226	93%				

	Number of female farmers		264	178	67%				
	Number of youth farmers		165	88	53%				
2.1.4.8 Implement competitive village challenge fund	Number of projects		228	119	52%				Underachievement was due to concentration on level three activities that requires more money
	Number of male farmers		3 025	1 817	60%				
	Number of female farmers		2 620	2 636	101%				
	Number of youth farmers		1 062	1 131	106%				
2.1.5 Household nutrition improvement									
2.1.5.1 Promote use of improved stoves among farmers	No. of farmers using stoves		950	4 020	423%				The overachievement was due to farmers willingness to buy the stoves. Farmers buy using their own resources.
	Number of male farmers		550	2 181	397%				
	Number of female farmers		349	1 849	530%				
	Number of youth farmers		370	591	160%				
2.1.5.2 Backstop/Facilitate establishment of integrated homestead farming	Number of Households practicing IHF		13 133	19 766	151%				Over achievement is a result of high demand by households and up scaling through pass-on programme on the distributed inputs.
	Number of male farmers		6 094	11 317	186%				
	Number of female farmers		7 151	8 449	118%				
	Number of youth farmers		3 089	4 814	156%				
2.1.5.3 Backstop/Conduct food demonstrations on new recipes, displays and open days	No of demonstrations		1 211	1 213	100%				
	Number of male farmers		9 537	6 701	70%				
	No of female farmers		13 574	14 169	104%				
	Number of youth		4 966	6 966	140%				

	Number of displays		660	1 152	175%				The overachievement is because farmers uses locally available food.
	Number of male		8 339	5 264	63%				
	Number of female		9 556	14 155	148%				
	Number of youth farmers		2 546	8 530	335%				
	Number of open days		44	40	91%				
	Number of male		3 396	2 465	73%				
	Number of female		5 301	7 967	150%				
	Number of youth		1 220	2 729	224%				
2.1.5.4 Train farmers on dietary diversification	Number of farmers trained		19 520	32 486	166%				
	Number of male farmers		9 550	19 714	206%				
	Number of female farmers		9 970	12 772	128%				
	Number of youth farmers		3 924	12 124	309%				
2.1.5.5 Train farmers on food selection, preparation, processing, storage and utilization	Number of farmers trained		7 020	12 529	178%				
	Number of male farmers		3 530	6 419	182%				
	Number of female farmers		3 490	6 110	175%				
	Number of youth farmers		2 636	3 079	117%				
2.1.5.6 Conduct assessments on dietary diversification	No of household monitored		1 147	2 361	206%				The assessment report revealed that there is low intake of animal source foods among households. This has prompted the programme to increase number of households supported with small stocks for improved and easy access to meat and animal products.
	Number of male farmers		587	1 531	261%				
	Number of female farmers		560	830	148%				
	Number of youth farmers		228	560	246%				

2.1.5.7 Train lead farmers on importance of micronutrients in the body	Number of farmers trained		310	741	239%					
	Number of male farmers		128	415	324%					
	Number of female farmers		182	326	179%					
	Number of youth		98	190	194%					
2.1.5.8 Train staff in nutrition surveillance (consumption patterns, 24 dietary recalls, food diary)	Number of staff trained		124	87	70%					
	No. of male staff		98	58	59%					
	No. of female staff		26	29	112%					
2.1.5.9 Train staff on dietary diversification, food selection, preparation, processing and utilization	Number of staff trained		202	164	81%					
	Number of male staff		111	101	91%					
	No. of female staff		91	63	69%					
Output 2.2 Women, men and youth target group has access to necessary inputs for sustained adoption of GAPs	MT of improved legume seeds produced by year by seed producer farmer groups									
	Legume seeds produced	MT	52	32.81	63%	1100	688.05	63%		
	1.1.3 Rural producers accessing production inputs and/or technological packages									
	Males	Number	1625	2379	146%	5000	11584	232%		
	Females	Number	1625	2098	129%	5000	12140	243%		
	Young	Number	975	945	97%	3000	7116	237%		
	Total rural producers	Number	11317	9288	82%	10000	23724	237%		
	2.1.3 Rural producers' organizations supported									
	Total size of POs - Organizations	Number	11317	9288	82%	10000	23724	237%		
	Rural POs supported - Organizations	Number	394	310	79%	500	909	182%		
	Males	Number	1625	2379	146%	5000	11584	232%		
	Females	Number	1625	2098	129%	5000	12140	243%		
	Young - Young people	Number	975	945	97%	3000	7116	237%		
	1.1.7 Persons in rural areas trained in financial literacy and/or use of financial products and services									
	Males	Number	681	1488	219%	6354	8916	140%		
Females	Number	1100	2254	205%	7166	11831	165%			

Young	Number	318	1151	362%	769	4053	527%	
Persons in rural areas trained in FL and/or use of FProd and Services (total) - Number of people	Number	1781	3742	210%	13520	20747	153%	The overachievement resulted from the Programme exit strategies' brainstorming sessions which were carried during the season where most farmers wanted to be opened up on savings and investment skills
1.1.8 Households provided with targeted support to improve their nutrition								
Total persons participating	Number	20265	32295	159%	180000	187852	104%	
Males	Number	9624	17736	184%	70000	87256	125%	
Females	Number	10641	14559	137%	110000	100596	91%	
Households - Households	Number	13133	19766	151%	36000	95205	264%	
Household members benefitted - Number of people	Number	20000	18965	95%	158400	18965	12%	
Young - Young people	Number	5725	7893	138%	45000	24859	55%	
Women-headed households - Households	Number	7151	8449	118%	22000	44700	203%	
Households using cook stoves								
Households	Number	899	4030	448%	31000	37943	122%	The overachievement is due to more farmers willing to construct the cook stoves which requires less firewood
Women-headed households	Number	349	1849	530%	18330	19983	109%	
Non-women-headed households - Number	Number	550	2181	397%	12220	17960	147%	
Activities								
2.2.1 Seed multiplication and access								
2.2.1.1 Source and distribute basic legume seed for multiplication	MT		65	60	92%			basic seed is for seed multiplying while seed for varietal demonstration is certified seed of new varieties for farmers' awareness and upscaling on usage
2.2.1.2 Source and distribute seed for varietal demonstrations	MT		67	61	91%			

2.2.1.3 Source and distribute Basal fertilizers	MT		40	60	149%				
2.2.1.4 Source and distribute UREA fertilizers	MT		50	61	123%				
2.2.1.5 Conduct seed multiplication site verification	No of Sites verified		1 358	35	3%				
2.2.1.6 Identify legume seed multiplication farmers and QDS farmer groups for registration	No groups		125	48	38%				
2.2.1.7 Link seed multiplication groups to seed companies	No of groups		120	1 051	876%				
2.2.1.8 Facilitate registration of seed multiplication farmer groups	No of groups registerd		125	120	96%				
2.2.1.9 Identify seed producers /companies for legume seed multiplication.	No of producers identified and report		3	40	1333%				
2.2.1.10 Conduct seed inspection visits	No of visits		4	72	1800%				
2.2.1.12 Conduct staff training in proper leguminous crop storage and production	Number of staff trained		114	114	100%				The staff were mainly Crops Officers and AEDOs in SAPP districts
	Male		60	60	100%				
	Female		54	54	100%				
2.2.1.13 Conduct farmer training in proper leguminous crop storage and production	No of farmers trained		795	760	96%				
	male		260	250	96%				More female farmers availed themselves to the training than males.
	female		535	545	102%				
2.2.1.14 Conduct staff training in modern seed multiplication technologies	Trainingof staff		90	85	94%				
	male		60	60	100%				
	female		30	25	83%				

2.2.1.17 Conduct staff training in pre and post-harvest crop mgt	No. of staff trained		63	85	135%				The training introduced new technology on use of PICS bags.
	male		35	40	114%				
	female		33	45	136%				
2.2.1.18 Conduct farmer training in pre and post-harvest crop mgt	No of farmers trained		1 402	1 385	99%				
	Male		650	637	98%				
	Female		752	748	99%				
2.2.1.19 Conduct migratory pest surveillance monitoring and control visits	No of visits		25	59	236%				
2.2.1.20 Train staff in migratory pest management	No of staff trained		92	80	87%				The activity was affected by COVID 19
	male		60	58	97%				
	female		32	22	69%				
2.2.1.21 Train farmer in migratory pest management	No of farmers trained		1 214	1 198	99%				
	Male		500	494	99%				
	Female		714	704	99%				
2.2.1.22 Conduct farmer training in modern seed multiplication technologies	No of farmers trained		731	1 120	153%				The planning did not include VCF beneficiaries, however during training, those involved in seed multiplication were included.
	Male		372	568	153%				
	Female		350	552	158%				
2.2.2 Access to small stock and support services									
2.2.2.1 Conduct sensitization meetings on livestock	No of meetings		1	1	100%				
2.2.2.2 Identify farmers and form groups to be engaged in small stock programme	No. of farmers		780	780	100%				
2.2.2.3 Facilitate improved small-stock khola construction	No. of kholas		1 010	1 235	122%				

2.2.2.4 Procure and distribute small-stock for pass on programme.	Number of small stock		5 700	5 295	93%				
2.2.2.5 Establish pastures and conserve livestock feeds	Hactares (Ha)		18	17	94%				
2.2.2.7 Conduct mass chicken vaccination campaigns	No of vaccination campaigns		3	3	100%				The same chickens and goats vaccinated and dewormed in the previous quarters was still the same covered. 1715901 chickens vaccinated and 695883 goats dewormed
2.2.2.8 Conduct goat deworming campaigns	No of deworming campaigns		3	3	100%				
2.2.2.9 Conduct small stock health inspection, collect and analyze samples for various diseases.	No of reports		3	3	100%				
2.2.2.10 Conduct Supervisory visits to the programmes sites	No of visits		3	3	100%				
2.2.2.11 Maintainance of motorcycles & Motor vehicles	No. of M/cycles		16	16	100%				
2.2.2.13 Conduct livestock staff refresher course in livestock management, leadership and group dynamics	Number of livestock staff refreshed		80	122	153%				
2.2.2.14 Train livestock lead farmers in lead farmers concept, livestock management, leadership and group dynamics	Number of livestock lead farmers trained		124	118	95%				
2.2.2.15 Train livestock farmer groups in livestock management, leadership and group dynamics	Number of farmers		52	52	100%				
2.2.2.16 Train livestock front line staff in specimen collection	Number of staff trained		56	56	100%				

2.2.2.18 Conduct training of AVOs at Mikolongwe College	No of AVOs trained		46	46	100%				
2.2.2.20 Conduct disease surveillance	No of reports		3	3	100%				
2.2.2.21 Conduct training for staff in drug box management as a business	No. of staff		63	59	94%				
2.2.2.22 Train drug box management committees in drug box management as a business	No. of committees		52	52	100%				
2.2.3 Strengthened linkages with inputs and output markets including financial services									
2.2.3.1 Update & consolidate inventory of agro dealers in the district	No of inventories		8	8	100%				
2.2.3.2 Conduct interface meetings to link seed multiplication groups with STAM, seed companies and agro-dealers	No of meetings		9	3	33%				
2.2.3.3 Conduct agro dealer training on proper use and storage of seed and agrochemicals	No of agro dealers		150	50	33%				
	male		100	34	34%				
	female		50	16	32%				

Malawi

Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme

Supervision Report

Appendix 3: Compliance with legal covenants: status of implementation

Mission Dates: 25/04/2022 06/05/2022

Document Date: 16/06/2022

Project No. 1100001534

Report No. 6138-MW

East and Southern Africa Division
Programme Management Department

Appendix 3: Compliance with legal covenants: status of implementation

Section	Covenant	Target/Action Due Date	Status/	Remarks
			Date	
Section 4.02.	PCU to open and maintain programme Account (in the Reserve Bank of Malawi)	Pre Disbursement	Complied	
Section 7.05.	Procurement of goods, works and services carried out accordance with procedures laid down in Schedule 3.	Continuous	Complied	
Section 4.04	Insurance of vehicles, equipment and civil works financed from the loan proceeds to be consistent with sound commercial practice.	Continuous	Complied	
Section 4.05, section 9.03 (b)	Audit report submitted to IFAD	31 December each year	Complied	Report for FY2020/21 submitted on time
Section 4.06	Progress reports to be submitted to IFAD on a quarterly basis.	Continuous	Complied	
Schedule 4, para 7	AWPB to be submitted to the Fund, for its review and comments.	31 Jan each year	Partial Complied	AWPB for FY2022/23 was submitted to IFAD on 11 March 2022 but IFAD's approval was granted before the revised start of government financial year on 1 April 2022
Schedule 3 para 3 (2)	MoAIWD will ensure that an adequate number of staff is assigned to the Programme implementation. Key staff shall consists of M&E officer, Knowledge Management and Communications Officer, a Procurement Officer(s), and two Accountants who would be assigned the Programme immediately upon entry into effect of this Agreement	Continuous	Complied	

Schedule 4, para 8.03 (a)	A Mid Term Review (MTR) to be carried out jointly by the Borrower and IFAD	Mid –term	Complied	
Schedule 4, para 16	Programme to be exempted from all import duties, excise taxes and value added tax(VAT on investment expenditures	Continuous	Complied	MRA has settled all VAT refunds for SAPP as at 31 December 2021
GC Section 9.02	Deliver to the Fund detailed financial statements of the operations, resources and expenditures related to the programme for each Fiscal Year prepared in accordance with standards and procedures acceptable to the Fund and deliver such financial statements to the Fund within four (4) months of the end of each Fiscal Year.	31 July each year	Complied	Aligned to the revised government fiscal year starting on 1 April
GC Section 9.03	(a) Each Fiscal Year, have the accounts relating to the programme audited in accordance with auditing standards acceptable to the Fund and the Fund's Guidelines on programme Audits (for Borrowers' Use);	31 March each year	Complied	Aligned to the revised government f year fiscal starting on 1 April
GC Section 9.04. (a)	The Borrower and the programme Parties shall promptly furnish to the Fund such other reports and information as the Fund shall reasonably request on any financial matter relating to the Financing or the programme or any programme Party	Continuous	Complied	

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Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme

Supervision Report

Appendix 7: Integrated Project Risk Matrix (IPRM)

Mission Dates: 25/04/2022 06/05/2022

Document Date: 16/06/2022

Project No. 1100001534

Report No. 6138-MW

East and Southern Africa Division
Programme Management Department

Overall Summary

Risk Category / Subcategory	Inherent risk	Residual risk
Country Context	Substantial	Substantial
<i>Political Commitment</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Substantial</i>
<i>Governance</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Substantial</i>
<i>Macroeconomic</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Substantial</i>
<i>Fragility and Security</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Substantial</i>
Sector Strategies and Policies	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Policy alignment</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
<i>Policy Development and Implementation</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
Environment and Climate Context	Substantial	Substantial
<i>Project vulnerability to environmental conditions</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Substantial</i>
<i>Project vulnerability to climate change impacts</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Substantial</i>
Project Scope	Substantial	Moderate
<i>Project Relevance</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
<i>Technical Soundness</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	Substantial	Moderate
<i>Implementation Arrangements</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
<i>Monitoring and Evaluation Arrangements</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
Project Financial Management	Moderate	Low
<i>Project Organization and Staffing</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Project Budgeting</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Project Funds Flow/Disbursement Arrangements</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Project Internal Controls</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
<i>Project Accounting and Financial Reporting</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
<i>Project External Audit</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>
Project Procurement	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Legal and Regulatory Framework</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Substantial</i>
<i>Accountability and Transparency</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
<i>Capability in Public Procurement</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Public Procurement Processes</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
Environment, Social and Climate Impact	Moderate	Low
<i>Biodiversity Conservation</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Cultural Heritage</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
<i>Indigenous People</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Labour and Working Conditions</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Community Health and Safety</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Physical and Economic Resettlement</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Low</i>
<i>Vulnerability of target populations and ecosystems to climate variability and hazards</i>	<i>Substantial</i>	<i>Moderate</i>

Risk Category / Subcategory	Inherent risk	Residual risk
Stakeholders	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Stakeholder Engagement/Coordination</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
<i>Stakeholder Grievances</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Moderate</i>
Overall	Moderate	Moderate

Country Context	Substantial	Substantial
Political Commitment	Substantial	Substantial
Risk: Limited implementation capacity in relevant institutions.	Substantial	Substantial
Mitigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for Technical Advisors to support implementation. • Invest in capacity building. • Make maximum use of private service providers and NGOs. • Provide financial management training to improve accounting, reporting and consequently the accountability. • Enhance capacity of the national audit office by the use of private sector audit firms. 		
Governance	Substantial	Substantial
Risk: Weak and/or unstable coalition governments.	Substantial	Substantial
Mitigations: Align Programme design and implementation with the electoral cycle.		
Macroeconomic	Substantial	Substantial
Risk: Deterioration in Government of Malawi's fiscal position and/or loss donor support.	Substantial	Substantial
Mitigations: Maximise opportunities for private sector engagement which do not rely on government resources.		
Fragility and Security	Substantial	Substantial
Risk: Social and cultural conflicts and limited involvement of local leaders. Theft of Programme resources in implementing areas.	Substantial	Substantial
Mitigations: Strengthen capacity building of local ownership and involvement of local leaders and the Malawi Police.		
Sector Strategies and Policies	Moderate	Moderate
Policy alignment	Moderate	Moderate
Risk: Inconsistent agricultural and rural policy framework.	Moderate	Moderate

<p>Mitigations:</p> <p>Encourage Government to allocate budgetary resources to the National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP) accordingly.</p>		
<p>Policy Development and Implementation</p>	Moderate	Moderate
<p>Risk:</p> <p>Limited involvement and engagement of relevant stakeholders. National Agriculture Policy (NAP) is not in place.</p>	Moderate	Moderate
<p>Mitigations:</p> <p>Ensure all relevant stakeholders including the private sector are involved in policy development and implementation.</p>		
<p>Environment and Climate Context</p>	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Project vulnerability to environmental conditions</p>	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Risk:</p> <p>The negative environmental risks that are foreseen to affect the project includes: deforestation, land degradation, soil erosion, and loss of biodiversity as a result of clearing land for agriculture. Poor use of laid down environmental guidelines.</p>	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Mitigations:</p> <p>Strengthen use of National Conservation Agriculture Guidelines. The Programme has SECAP and also implements ESMP with mitigation measures for negative environment impacts. Capacity building on sustainable land use. Reforestation.</p>		
<p>Project vulnerability to climate change impacts</p>	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Risk:</p> <p>Project vulnerability to increased frequency of extreme weather events (floods, drought, cyclones) which also can impact negatively on the environment resulting in land degradation. Limited climate resilient Good Agricultural Practices or technologies.</p>	Substantial	Substantial
<p>Mitigations:</p> <p>Ensure climate resilient Good Agricultural Practices or technologies are developed, refined and adopted. Strengthen improved agricultural extension delivery. Strengthen adaptive research and use of drought tolerant varieties. Enhance capacity building and awareness of climate change. Access to climate information to enable effective use of favourable weather conditions.</p>		
<p>Project Scope</p>	Substantial	Moderate
<p>Project Relevance</p>	Substantial	Moderate
<p>Risk:</p> <p>Poor alignment of Programme objectives to national development agenda or IFAD Priorities.</p>	Substantial	Moderate

<p>Mitigations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project scope and activities were closely identified in discussion with beneficiaries and County Governments policies and aligned with COSOP Strategic objectives. • Introduction of some intervention at Mid Term Review (MTR) such as Village Challenge Fund are very relevant for rural financing. 		
Technical Soundness	Substantial	Moderate
<p>Risk:</p> <p>Technical innovations of the Programme not adequately adopted by the beneficiaries and other implementers in the way envisaged by designers.</p>	Substantial	Moderate
<p>Mitigations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Programme works with technical specialists from Government agencies and private sector and activities are embedded within the decentralized public extension system to ensure close monitoring and backstopping. • Ensure adequate sensitizations on the implementation modalities. • Develop Programme Implementation Manual (PIM) and ensure that all stakeholder use it as a guide. 		
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	Substantial	Moderate
Implementation Arrangements	Substantial	Moderate
<p>Risk:</p> <p>Difficulty in establishing an effective CPMT.</p>	Substantial	Moderate
<p>Mitigations:</p> <p>Provide incentives to attract well qualified CPMT members.</p>		
Monitoring and Evaluation Arrangements	Substantial	Moderate
<p>Risk:</p> <p>Inadequate capacity in M&E.</p>	Substantial	Moderate
<p>Mitigations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building in M&E to all staff. • Technical assistance in M&E. • Evolve Community Based M&E. • Established and ensuring adherence to M&E System tools. 		
Project Financial Management	Moderate	Low
Project Organization and Staffing	Low	Low
<p>Risk:</p> <p>At the HQ the staff is adequate. In the implementing districts, regular transfers creating skills gap. Within implementing district agricultural development divisions (ADD), SAPP accounting work is done by accounting officer at Chief Accountant level. The Programme Accountant, Assistant Accountant, PMU accounting staff, District level accounting staff and Justification Officers have been trained on project accounting in line with IFAD procedures and guidelines, but frequent transfers of staff impact negatively capacity development efforts. No performance evaluation for secretariat staff who are seconded from GoM civil service.</p>	Low	Low
<p>Mitigations:</p> <p>Recruitment of suitably qualified justification assistants to competently handle all district-level bank reconciliations for additional financing if approved.</p>		

Project Budgeting	Low	Low
<p>Risk:</p> <p>The budget for the FY 2019/20 starting in on 1 July 2019 was approved in July 2019. Budget for FY2020/21 has been prepared and is planned for submission by end May 2020. The AWPB is in line with expenditure categories in Financing Agreement Schedule 2, financing sources and implementing agencies for each category in AWPB have been identified and a linkage between AWPB and Procurement plan have been identified.</p>	Low	Low
<p>Mitigations:</p> <p>no mitigating actions required</p>		
Project Funds Flow/Disbursement Arrangements	Low	Low
<p>Risk:</p> <p>Refunds of outstanding pre-financed VAT has improved and VAT and all accumulated amounts for the previous financial years have cleared. Following commencement of initial advance recovery, DA balance stands at US\$1.2 million but it currently deemed inadequate because the project continues to operate fully while awaiting IFAD's decision on Additional Finance application. The DA reconciliation as at 31 March had refundable VAT of \$40,862 relating to the current financial year. Bank reconciliations of the special accounts are done on monthly basis. The quality of SAs comprising of the Designated account at PMU and Holding Accounts at PMU and implementing districts was assessed to be inadequate for Chiradzulu, Blantyre ADD and RDP and Lilongwe RDP . Disbursement rate of the IFAD financing as at 4th May 2020 was at 95% and the budget execution rate for the current AWPB was 96% as at 31 March 2020 . It expects to reach 100% execution rate by end of the fiscal year in June 2020. The overall project financial execution rate from inception was at 86% and the programme has 12 months implementation period remaining. Out of the initial advance of US\$3.0 million, US\$1.83 million has been recovered as at 31 March 2020. The remaining un-disbursed amount of US\$1.3 million is adequate to ensure full recovery by loan closure.</p>	Low	Low
<p>Mitigations:</p> <p>The recovery ratio on the original financing to reduce from 30% to 15% subject to the provision of a detailed recovery plan covering the programme until the current closing date of 30th September 2021. Refunds from MRA for VAT to be current. US\$40,862 is owed as at March 2020.</p>		
Project Internal Controls	Substantial	Moderate
<p>Risk:</p> <p>Transactions for the project are pre-checked for compliance with the Ministry of Finance compliance's unit. The project began to use contracts register and monitoring form in 2018. Project does not maintain petty cash. Cash is withdrawn and disbursed by accounts clerks for allowances at workshops or trainings and is liquidated within 7 days. Cash for programme activities is in form of staff allowances and the cash liquidation reports are normally prepared within 7 days after the activity completion. Eligible with the exception of refundable VAT pre-financed from project funds. Timely justification has been enhanced by requirement for district officers to post their transactions in TOMpro at the secretariat with submission of supporting documents. Prior approval for travel including the DSA is required for all project staff and implementing partners. This is the basis of the advance payment to staff. 50% of the implementing districts (Balaka, Machinga, Salima, Nkhotakota and Chitipa) performed March 2020 reconciliations to satisfactory standards.</p> <p>Presence of internal audit arrangements: MoAIWD internal audit department is under the supervision of the Central Internal Audit Unit. The scope of work is covered in the financial manual and is adequate. Adequate control issues are raised – both on compliance and financial audits</p>	Substantial	Moderate

<p>Mitigations:</p> <p>Ensure accuracy of bank reconciliation statements across all implementing districts. Reconcile the posting of initial advance recoveries in Tompro. Reconcile the WAs records of SAPP.</p>		
<p>Project Accounting and Financial Reporting</p>	Substantial	Moderate
<p>Risk:</p> <p>IPSAS cash basis of accounting adopted. Financial transactions are posted in Tompro. Budget data is captured and tracked in Tompro therefore financial reports are captured on excel. The chart of accounts tracks transactions by GL account code, activity code, and component code and cost center code for IFAD financed expenditures only. It needs to be expanded to cover all financiers. Financial reports for March 2020 were presented at the time of the mission. Erroneous recording was noted for the recovery of initial advance transactions overstating the reported IFAD financing. Financial statements include beneficiary contributions and GoM contribution in form of office space and staff salaries. Tracking of government and beneficiaries is not dis-aggregated by component and by expenditure category in Tompro.</p> <p>Partial completeness, accuracy, usefulness and timeliness of financial reports. It is required an automated generation of Tompro reports showing expenditures by category, component for all funding sources. Comparison between investment and recurrent costs: recurrent costs of SAPP comprise of the salaries and allowances category and the incremental operating cost category. The ratio at MTR was 89:11; as at 4th May 2020 the ratio was as 88:12.</p>	Substantial	Moderate
<p>Mitigations:</p> <p>Chart of account to be expanded to capture transaction by financier, category, component, sub-component and activity for all financing sources including GoM if programme is extended.</p> <p>Upon approval of additional financing IFAD to provide technical assistance to fully automate SAPP accounting and financial reporting for the additional financing and original financing.</p>		
<p>Project External Audit</p>	Low	Low
<p>Risk:</p> <p>The Auditor expressed an unqualified opinion on the programme's financial statements and additional unqualified opinions were expressed on the correct utilization of SOE procedure and the DA. Report for FY2019/20 has been submitted to IFAD. The audit was performed by the National Audit Office of Malawi in accordance with International Standards for Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs).</p>	Low	Low
<p>Mitigations:</p> <p>No mitigating measures required</p>		
<p>Project Procurement</p>	Moderate	Moderate
<p>Legal and Regulatory Framework</p>	High	Substantial
<p>Risk:</p> <p>Regulations under the Public Procurement and Disposal of Asset (PPDA) of 2017 may contain some weaknesses in the area of transparency and accountability.</p>	High	Substantial
<p>Mitigations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local regulations on procurements are used alongside IFAD's procurement guidelines i.e. IFAD's Standard Bidding Documents. • PIM contained some closes on the procurement requirements. 		
<p>Accountability and Transparency</p>	Moderate	Moderate

Risk: Technical specifications used for one of sampled tenders do not give a range of sizes; they rather specify a size which can correspond to a certain brand.	Moderate	Moderate
Mitigations: Draft generic technical specifications to increase competition and value for money.		
Capability in Public Procurement	Low	Low
Risk: The Procurement staff is appropriately qualified with experience in project procurement of goods, works and services. Based on the review of procurement activities, the performance of the staff is satisfactory.	Low	Low
Mitigations: No mitigating measures required.		
Public Procurement Processes	Moderate	Moderate
Risk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay in initiating and completing the procurement activity • Non-updated procurement plan implementation 	Moderate	Moderate
Mitigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiate and expedite the procurement timely as planned • Update the procurement plan on a regular basis 		
Environment, Social and Climate Impact	Moderate	Low
Biodiversity Conservation	Low	Low
Risk: The investments made by the beneficiaries may cause threats to or the loss of biodiversity, availability of diversified nutritious food, ecosystems and ecosystem services, or the unsustainable use/production of natural resources.	Low	Low
Mitigations: Capacity building for communities on biodiversity conservation can be provided through the advisory services. Implementation of the ESMPs, which provides mitigation plan.		
Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention	Low	Low
Risk: Land and water resources may be polluted through increased use of agro-chemicals as farmers invest in improved agricultural productivity in different value chains.	Low	Low
Mitigations: Promotion of inorganic fertiliser, manure curing and Integrated Pest management.		
Cultural Heritage	Moderate	Moderate
Risk: Reluctance to change some norms by community members implementing the Programme activities. Lack of involvement of local leaders in designing the programme to flag out cultural issues.	Moderate	Moderate

Mitigations: Sensitizations and follow by-laws set by the community leaders. Involve the locals in designing the Programme.		
Indigenous People	Low	Low
Risk: N/A	Low	Low
Mitigations: N/A		
Labour and Working Conditions	Moderate	Low
Risk: Lack of oversight on cross-cutting issues.	Moderate	Low
Mitigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Programme follows national policies which among other ensure mainstreaming of youth, gender, HIV and AIDS in working conditions. • The youth definition is also used properly in compliance with labour laws to avoid forced and child labour. 		
Community Health and Safety	Moderate	Low
Risk: Inadequate knowledge in health safeguards.	Moderate	Low
Mitigations: The programme implements Social and Environment management plans which among others includes safe handling of agricultural chemicals and implements.		
Physical and Economic Resettlement	Low	Low
Risk: N/A	Low	Low
Mitigations: N/A		
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Moderate	Low
Risk: Land use change may result in carbon sink due to land clearing.	Moderate	Low
Mitigations: Good agriculture practices being promoted and the soil fertility enhancement will also promote carbon sequestration in soil organic matter. In addition, the clean energy fuelwood stoves being promoted will help to reduce Green House Gas emissions.		
Vulnerability of target populations and ecosystems to climate variability and hazards	Substantial	Moderate

Risk: The dependence of rainfed agriculture increases vulnerability to climate variability. Poor adoption of climate resilient GAPs or technologies.	Substantial	Moderate
Mitigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure climate resilient Good Agricultural Practices or technologies are developed and refined to suit different farmer agro ecologies. • Strengthen improved agricultural extension delivery and adoption of GAPs. • Strengthen implementation of farmer developed research trials. • Enhance capacity building. will also increase the knowledge base of the smallholders to manage the climate change related risks. 		
Stakeholders	Moderate	Moderate
Stakeholder Engagement/Coordination	Moderate	Moderate
Risk: Lack of capacity among service providers. Financing constraints limit smallholder and SME participation.	Moderate	Moderate
Mitigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and capacity building for service providers in relevant fields. • Provide assistance in linking farmers and SME businesses to sources of finance. 		
Stakeholder Grievances	Moderate	Moderate
Risk: Reluctance of the private sector to fully engage in the Programme.	Moderate	Moderate
Mitigations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full private sector participation in Programme design. • Private sector representation on Steering Committees. 		