

A. GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION	
Country	Malawi
Region	East and Southern Africa
Grant Title	Enhancing the Resilience of Agro-ecological Systems Project
Associated GEF Programme or Framework (FSP/MSP/IP/EA)	Food Security IAP, GEF 6
Grant Type (select one from GEF Trust Fund, LDCF, SCCF)	FSP – GEF TF
<b>Reference numbers</b>	
PIR Implementation Status (1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , Final)	5th
GEF ID Number	9138
IFAD Grant Agreement	2000001346
<b>GEF Focal Area and Programme</b>	
GEF Focal Area <sup>1</sup>	Multi Focal Area
<b>Critical milestones</b>	
GEF CEO endorsement of FSP and approval of MSP	3 April 2017
IFAD approval date	7 <sup>th</sup> April, 2017
Actual implementation start date	22 November 2017
Last supervision mission date	26 June – 10 July 2023
Actual Mid-Term Evaluation date	19th April – 6th May, 2021
Expected project completion date	31 December 2023 ( internal no-cost extension granted on 7 October 2021)
Expected financial closure date (6 months after effective completion)	30 June, 2024 ( internal no-cost extension granted on 7 October 2021)
<b>Grant Financing (USD)</b>	
GEF Project Preparation Grant (PPG) amount	USD 183,486
GEF grant amount	USD 7,155,963
Total GEF financing (PPG + Grant amount)	USD 7,339,449
First disbursement date	27/03/2018
GEF grant disbursed (as at 30 June of FY)	USD 7.155.096
GEF grant spent (as at 30 June of FY)	USD 6.833m
Proposed co-financing (as at CEO Endorsement)	USD 53,000,000 (IFAD Loan and Grant), USD 7,000,000 (ASAP Trust Grant), USD 13,200,000 (GoM), USD 3,500,000 (DFID & Private Sector), USD 7,200,000 (Beneficiaries)
Actual co-financing secured (may be different from co-financing proposed at CEO endorsement)	USD 53,000,000 (IFAD Loan and Grant), USD 7,000,000 (ASAP Trust Grant), USD 13,200,000 (GoM), USD 3,500,000 (DFID & Private Sector), USD 7,200,000 (Beneficiaries)
Actual co-financing disbursed (as at 30 June of FY)	USD 57.94m
Actual co-financing spent (as at 30 June of FY)	<b>USD53.6m</b>
GEF Project Preparation Grant (PPG) amount	
<b>Project contact</b>	
Name	Munday Makoko
Email	aisinternational@gmail.com

<sup>1</sup> Select one among the following: Biodiversity; Climate Change; Land Degradation; International Waters; Chemicals and Waste; Multifocal area; Impact Programs.

B. CONTRIBUTIONS TO INNOVATION and LESSONS LEARNED	
<p>1. Information on progress, challenge and outcomes regarding engagement of stakeholders in the projects/program based on the description included in the Stakeholders Engagement Plan or equivalent documentation submitted at CEO Endorsement/Approval</p>	<p>The Ministry of Natural Resources and Climate Change, through the Environmental Affairs Department (EAD), continued to provide management oversight of the project and is the focal point of the ERASP project. At district level, EAD has Environmental District Officers (EDOs) who implement activities in collaboration with the Land Resources Conservation Department (LRCD), Department of Irrigation (DoI) and Department of Forestry (DoF) and the Department of Agriculture Extension Services (DAES). The project continued to utilize frontline staff from DAES (Agricultural Extension and Development Officers (AEDOs) and Forestry Assistants (FAs)) from the catchments where ERASP is working. The Department of Agriculture Research Services (DARS) is another important stakeholder. At community level, the project was working through five Catchment Area Management Committees (CAMCs), Village Natural Resources Management Committees (VNRMCs) and Interim Waters Users Associations (WUAs).</p> <p>National Water Resources Authority (NWRA) continued to lead the establishment, training and conducting periodic monitoring of CAMCs and VNRMCs progress. These committees were able to support implementation of project activities effectively during the reporting period. It is expected that NWRA will facilitate recognition of the catchments by the Government.</p> <p>DARS continued to carry out activities related to agro-biodiversity good livestock husbandry trainings to farmers in the catchments. Similarly, the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services conducted trainings on Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA) to help farmers make informed decisions about their agricultural practices.</p> <p>DLRC and DoF have been involved in implementing various catchment management activities including in the expansion of ERASP to catchments that were only supported by PRIDE.</p> <p>In collaboration with DAES and Ministry of Trade, ERASP facilitated value-chain related activities to promote marketing of agriculture produce.</p>
<p>2. Information on progress on gender-responsive measures and intermediate gender result areas as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval including gender-sensitive indicators contained in the project results framework or gender action plan or equivalent.</p>	<p>ERASP developed the Gender and Targeting Strategy. The strategy reinforces the participation of women, men, youth and people with disabilities at all levels of the project cycle, which is significant in ensuring that their voices are heard and their needs, constraints and priorities are understood and form the basis for the program interventions.</p> <p>A total of 10781 households were reached by ERASP by end of the reporting period. Of these, 3499 were female-headed households while 7283 were non-female headed households. Of these 455 females and 272 males participated in biodiversity related activities; 6491 females and 5239 males participated in catchment management activities; and 1670 females and 906 males participated in Farmer Field Schools (FFS). In addition, 4817 males and 5365 females have been trained on PICSA. In general, there has been increased participation of beneficiaries in project activities. This could be explained by increased enthusiasm due to the benefits communities are getting from the project.</p>
<p>3. Progress on the implementation of the project's KM approach approved at CEO Endorsement/Approval</p>	<p>Under Knowledge Management and Communications, the following activities were carried out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Production of a number of video documentaries showcasing the success stories recorded under the interventions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Video documentary on nutrition interventions which were produced in collaboration with IFAD</li> <li>b) Video documentary on interventions under Gender and Social Inclusion in readiness for the Gender Learning Route (bringing together different IFAD funded projects), which Malawi hosted.</li> <li>c) Video documentary that provided an update on the progress of construction</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

	<p>works on climate resilient infrastructure.</p> <p>d) Recorded television programs, which are now airing on Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC) and Zodiac Televisions focusing on environmental management interventions.</p> <p>2. Production of radio programs on ERASP Interventions, which are currently airing on MBC Radio Station.</p> <p>3. Production and sharing of Quarterly Newsletters with stakeholders and beneficiary farmers.</p> <p>4. Documentation of lessons learnt on ERASP interventions with stakeholders.</p>
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C. IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS	
<p><b>Implementation Progress Rating (IP)</b> Based on progress made for the given reporting period (HS/S/MS/MU/U or HU)</p>	<p>See Table below for rating criteria</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: yellow; background-color: black; padding: 5px;">S</p>
<p><b>Information on progress, challenges and outcomes on project implementation activities</b></p> <p><i>Achievements and impact to date – if applicable</i></p>	<p>NWRA led the establishment and training of Dowa-Dambo CAMC and continued to conduct periodic monitoring of CAMCs and VNRMCs progress. These committees were able to support the implementation of project activities effectively during the reporting period. Dowa-Dambo CAMC has been formed bringing the total number of CAMCs to five, the total target. All the five CAMCs and 66 VNRMCs are operational.</p> <p>DARS conducted crop diversity fairs in five Extension Planning Areas (EPAs) under which ERASP catchments fall as a way of enhancing biodiversity in the catchments. The department also conducted five trainings on good animal husbandry practices to beneficiaries of the livestock pass-on programme and conducted assessments on the impact of Cyclone Freddy on livestock in all the catchments.</p> <p>The Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services conducted trainings PICSA to help small-scale farmers make informed decisions about their agricultural practices. A total of 5,524 households were reached with PICSA information against the targeted 10,600. The process will continue in the coming financial year.</p> <p>One of the major highlights was the scaling-up of ERASP best practices to non-ERASP catchments (catchments that were exclusively supported by PRIDE) to support catchment management. The catchments covered under scaling-up of ERASP are Matoponi, Mlooka, Mzenga, Chipofya, Mafinga and Marko. Some of the catchment conservation works carried out include in-field works such as contour marker ridges, ridges aligned to the contour ridge and swales; forested area works such as stone bunds, infiltration pits and storm water drains. Gabion baskets and check dams were also constructed across gullies to reclaim them. This initiative was implemented in collaboration with district and frontline staff as well as CAMCs and VNRMCs. These efforts have added 62.4 ha to the area under climate resilient practices. Improved cookstoves have also been up scaled in all catchments.</p> <p>ERASP facilitated producer-buyer business match-making meetings to strengthen market linkages between farmers and buyers on value chains under the project with more emphasis on the honey value chain and other crop value chains e.g. groundnuts and sesame. Farmers in the target catchments were also trained in collective marketing and contract farming. This was aimed at enabling farmers to benefit from economies of scale of production.</p> <p>Analysis of Ex-Act data shows that the five catchments combined have a mitigation potential of -410 000 tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq over 20 years corresponding to -1.1 tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq per ha and per year.</p> <p><b><u>Challenges:</u></b></p> <p>One major challenge encountered in the reporting period is the limited resources to upscale some key initiatives such as livestock pass-on and implement physical catchment conservation measures to a wider scale.</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes on project implementation activities:</u></b></p> <p>The outcomes of project implementation activities include increased yields, decreased flooding and general increase in river flows in all catchments. The number of smallholder households reporting decreased incidence of hunger (&lt;3.3 months) has decreased from 17,787 from the baseline to 14,413. However, this result is lesser than the target of 32,100.</p>

<b>Recommendations to improve progress</b>	1. Need for improved collaboration within the stakeholders to build synergies with existing programmes for wider catchment conservation.
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<b>IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS (IP)</b>	
<b>Highly Satisfactory (HS):</b>	Implementation of <b>all</b> components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be presented as “good practice”.
<b>Satisfactory (S):</b>	Implementation of <b>most</b> components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that is subject to remedial action.
<b>Marginally Satisfactory (MS):</b>	Implementation of <b>some</b> components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with <b>some</b> components requiring remedial action.
<b>Marginally Unsatisfactory (MU):</b>	Implementation of <b>some</b> components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with <b>most</b> components requiring remedial action.
<b>Unsatisfactory (U):</b>	Implementation of <b>most</b> components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.
<b>Highly Unsatisfactory (HU):</b>	Implementation of <b>none</b> of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

<b>D. DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE RATING</b>	
<b>Development objective Rating (DO)</b> Based on the likelihood that by the end of the project, implementation will achieve its stated objectives (HS/S/MS/MU/U or HU)	<b>S</b>
<b>Development Progress (DO)</b> <i>Achievements and impact to date – if applicable</i>	ERASP interventions have benefited 13,879 beneficiaries (88 percent) from a target of 15,600. The progress is notable in some of the identified sites - Lingoni - in Machinga District where the integrity of the watersheds is improving despite climate shocks. Communities are reporting reduced soil erosion rates and results of rivers sampled also show reduced sediment loads. Unfortunately, the progress made at Wowo/Nkhulambe in Phalombe has been reversed as a result of Cyclone Freddy. Catchment management activities have continued in Mwenilondo and Kasimba sites in Karonga District where the irrigation schemes will no longer be financed under PRIDE. Overall 62.4ha of new land has been brought under climate resilient practices in the reporting period, about 90% of the target. Above all, ERASP was upscaled to other PRIDE catchments, adding more achievements to the target.

<i>Recommendations to improve DO</i>	Intensify trainings on good agriculture practices (GAPs) with more emphasis on climate resilient practices to achieve even higher outputs. Include more strategic planning in the catchment management activities particularly to rehabilitate areas affected by cyclone damage.

	<b>DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE (DO)</b>
<b>Highly Satisfactory (HS):</b>	Project is expected to achieve or exceed <b>all</b> its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice
<b>Satisfactory (S):</b>	Project is expected to achieve <b>most</b> of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings.
<b>Marginally Satisfactory (MS):</b>	Project is expected to achieve <b>most</b> of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve <b>some</b> of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits.
<b>Marginally Unsatisfactory (MU):</b>	Project is expected to achieve of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only <b>some</b> of its major global environmental objectives.
<b>Unsatisfactory (U):</b>	Project is expected <b>not</b> to achieve <b>most</b> of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits.
<b>Highly Unsatisfactory (HU):</b>	The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, <b>any</b> of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.

<b>E. KEY RISKS</b>	
<b>Overall risk level</b>	L
<i>List key risks and measures implemented to resolve it</i>	<b>N/A</b>
<i>Recommendations to reduce risk level</i>	<b>None</b>

<b>High Risk (H)</b>	There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
<b>Substantial Risk (S)</b>	There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.
<b>Modest Risk (M)</b>	There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/ or the project may face only modest risks.
<b>Lowest Risk (L)</b>	There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/ or the project may face only modest risks.

<b>F. MEASURING FOR RESULTS</b> <i>As defined to the Annual Work Plan (AWP)</i>		
Main indicators	Target 2022-2023 AWP	Results in 2023
1.1 Conduct Training of Extension staff in Catchment area management, Land use planning and climate risk reduction - Dowa	5	4
1.1.2 Conduct Training of VNRMCs, WUA, & Sub CMCs in Catchment area management, Land use planning and climate risk reduction	5	4
1.2.5 Facilitate technical exchange visits for staff and VNRMCs on catchment management	5	2
1.2.9 Supervise Catchment Management Activities	5	5
Support to operationalization of Catchment Management Committees	5	6
2.1.2.1 Reforestation and Natural Regeneration of Vegetation Cover in woodlots and along river banks and in upper Catchment areas	5	5
2.1.3.1 Conduct tree survival rate assessment	5	5
2.2.1.2 Conduct demonstrations and train VNRMCs in building of cookstoves	10	9
2.3.1 Training of VNRMC, Producer groups and NTFP stakeholders in technical issues related to NTFP and greening value chains (honey, etc., business planning and linkages to market)	10	12
2.3.2. Training of youth in making inputs for NTFP production such as beehives	2	5
2.4.1 Training of frontline extension staff in all issues related to enhanced use of agrobiodiversity	1	2
2.4.2 Applying SLM practices in farmers' fields	2	5

2.7.1. Development of climate information and meteorological forecasts with farmers using participatory approach	2	5
Add more rows as necessary		

**G. For LDCF and SCCF projects only, please complete the following table**

Indicators <sup>2</sup>	Tick if applicable	Enter number
		Please provide cumulative total achieved from the inception
Total number of direct beneficiaries (enter a number)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ha of land better managed to withstand the effects of climate change (enter a number)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
No. of risk and vulnerability assessments, and other relevant scientific and technical assessments carried out and updated (enter a number)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
No. of people trained to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and/or evaluate adaptation strategies and measures (enter a number)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
No. of regional, national and sub-national institutions with strengthened capacities to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and/or evaluate adaptation strategies and measures (enter a number)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Contribute towards public awareness of climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaption (Tick if relevant)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Expand access to improved climate information services (Tick if relevant)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Expand access to improved climate related early-warning information (Tick if relevant)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
No. of regional, national and sector-wide policies, plans and processes developed or strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation strategies and measures (enter a number)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
No. of sub-national plans and processes developed or strengthened to identify, prioritize and integrate adaptation strategies and measures (enter a number)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**H. DOCUMENTS**

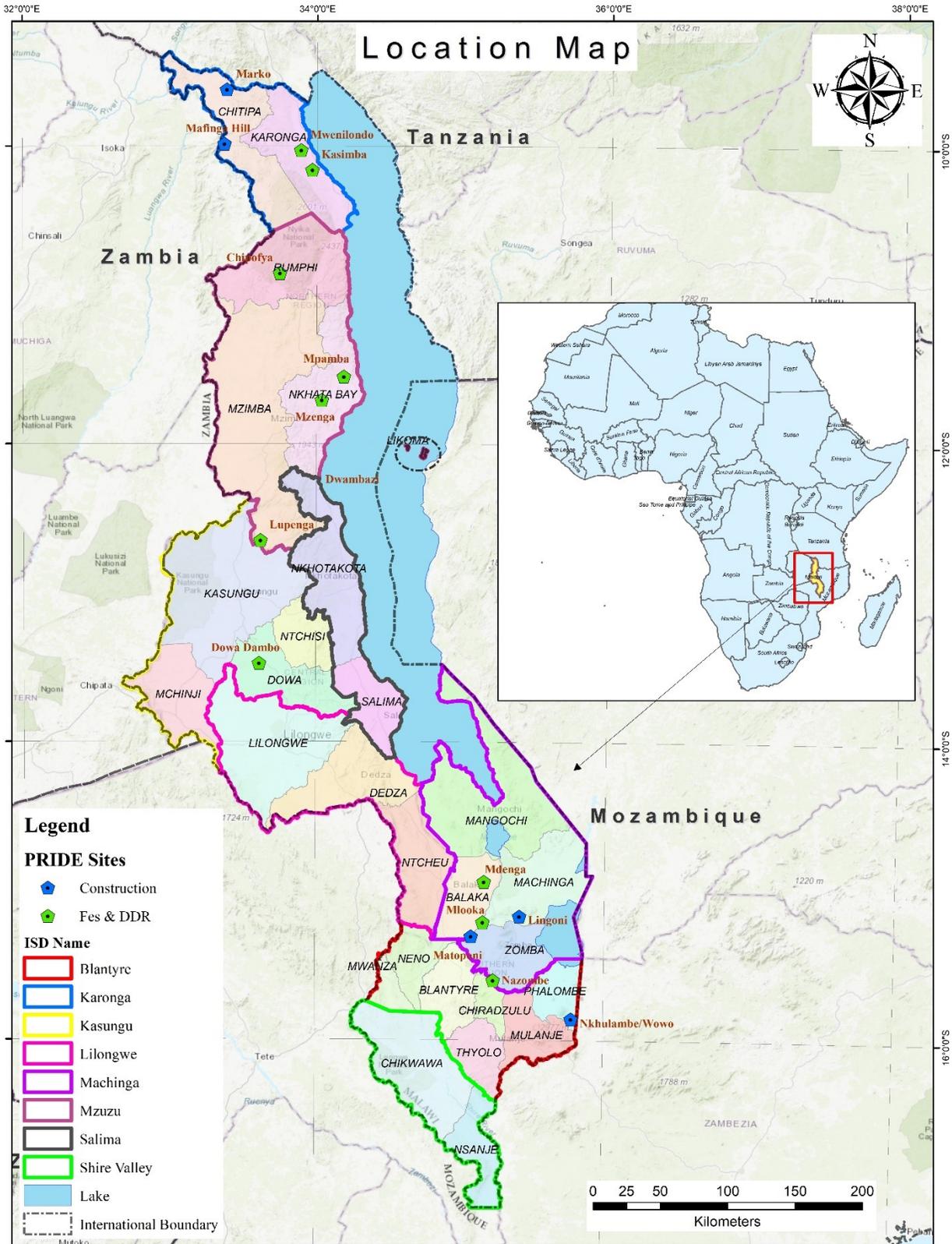
Please share any document pertaining to this PIR. Uploaded documents may also include any geospatial file or be linked to reported minor amendments, as appropriate.

<sup>2</sup>Following the GEF guidance on results and indicators, please provide the whole results from the GEF project, which is made up of GEF financing as well as co-financing.

**I. GEO LOCATION INFORMATION**

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as [OpenStreetMap](https://openstreetmap.org) or [GeoNames](https://www.geonames.org) use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking [here](#)

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GEO Name ID	Location Description	Activity Description
Nazombe	-15.601608	35.23698	MYS458CZN1	Dam site in Chiradzulu	Fes & DDR
Dowa Dambo	-13.475051	33.6113	MYS458DD1	Cascade Dams in Dowa	Fes & DDR
Nkhulambe/Wowo	-15.857887	35.776744	MYS458PHW1	Weir intake in Phalombe	Construction
Mdenga	-14.937868	35.167434	MYS458BM1	Dam site in Balaka	Fes & DDR
Lingoni	-15.169223	35.41367	MYS458MCHL1	Weir Intake in Machinga	Construction
Matoponi	-15.326138	35.116009	MYS458ZM1	River intake in Zomba	Construction
Mlooka	-15.207448	35.161289	MYS458ZM2	River intake in Zomba	Fes & DDR
Marko	-9.621006	33.38721	MYS458CHM1	Weir intake in Chitipa	Construction
Kasimba	-10.160693	33.966771	MYS458KAK1	Dam site in Karonga	Fes & DDR
Lupenga	-12.651352	33.618633	MYS458MZL1	Dam site in Mzimba	Fes & DDR
Mwenilondo	-10.02861	33.891103	MYS458KAM2	Dam site in Karonga	Fes & DDR
Mafinga Hill	-9.977447	33.388974	MYS458CHM2	Weir intake in Chitipa	Construction
Mpamba	-11.550734	34.187162	MYS458NKHM1	Dam site in Nkhatabay	Fes & DDR
Mzenga	-11.706283	34.037291	MYS458NKHM2	Weir intake in Nkhatabay	Fes & DDR
Chipofya	-10.856487	33.749054	MYS458RUC1	Weir intake in Rumphi	Fes & DDR



**Coordinate System** UTM 36 South (WGS 1984)

**Source:** PRIDE, Dept of Surveys & Secondary Data Sources

**Project Name:** Programme for Rural Irrigation Development (PRIDE) & Enhancing the Resilience of Agro-Ecological Systems (ERASP) in Malawi



**IFAD**  
INTERNATIONAL  
FUND FOR  
AGRICULTURAL  
DEVELOPMENT



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Investing in rural people

## PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR) - GEF Project grants

GEF Fiscal Year 2023 (01 July 2022 - 30 Jun 2023)

<p><b>Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions is taking place as appropriate.</b></p>	
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**J. MINOR AMENDMENTS**

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope as described in Annex 9 of the Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines.

Each user selects any minor amendment that happened to a project during the latest fiscal year and provides a description of the minor amendment in a narrative format as appropriate in the related textbox. Users may also attach supporting documents as appropriate within the PIR module.

Select the boxes below and give some explanation to why you ticked it.

Minor Amendment	Explanation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Results Framework</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Components And Cost</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional And Implementation Arrangements</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Management</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Implementation Schedule</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Executing Entity</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Executing Entity Category</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Minor Project Objective Change</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguards</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Risk Analysis</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Of GEF Project Financing Up To 5%</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Co Financing</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Location Of Project Activity</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> Others</li> </ul>	