GEF-7 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project two-steps
TYPE OF TRUST FUND:GEF Trust Fund

PART I: Project Information

Project Title:	Malawi Climate Transparency Framework		
Country(ies):	Malawi	GEF Project ID:	**10149**
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01690
Project Executing Entity(s):	Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) - Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining	Resubmission Date:	July 10th, 2019
GEF Focal Area(s):	Climate Change	Project Duration (Months)	36

A. INDICATIVE FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	(in $)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
CCM-3-8 Foster enabling conditions for mainstreaming mitigation concerns into sustainable development strategies through capacity building initiative for transparency	GEFTF	1,056,000	150,000
Total Project Cost		**1,056,000**	**1,206,000**

B. INDICATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: to strengthen the capacity of institutions in Malawi and set up an information system to fulfill the enhanced Transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement.

Project Components	Component Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in $)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
Component 1: Establishing the National Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system.	TA	Outcome 1.1. Malawi's institutions effectively collaborate to track and report Greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions, climate actions and support received.	Output 1.1.1 MRV stakeholders mapped and legal & regulatory framework on climate initiatives assessed to define roles and responsibilities. Output 1.1.2 Institutional arrangements formalized in EAD and relevant government structures established to assign a climate	GEFTF	520,000	100,000

			transparency unit in charge of the national MRV system operation. Output 1.1.3 Tools and protocols developed for use by EAD and other Ministry staff to track and report GHG emissions, climate actions implemented and support received Output 1.1.4 Collaborative data collection and processing centres established with formal agreement signed with EAD to enable and advance information exchange Output 1.1.5 Country-specific emission factors for energy, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU), transport, industry and waste sectors developed			
Component 2: Develop an integrated platform for data collection, sharing and decision making	TA	Outcome 2.1 A data collection, integration and sharing platform is regularly used by a broad set of stakeholders for climate transparency activities	Output 2.1.1 A data collection, integration and sharing platform established and operationalized Output 2.1.2 The climate transparency unit members and relevant stakeholders trained to effectively use the data platform and collaborate on planning and decision-making	GEFTF	300,000	0

			Output 2.1.3 Data of GHG inventory and MRV system aggregated, entered into and made publicly available through the integrated data platform			
Component 3: Targeted capacity building to strengthen institutional and individual capacities to meet the Paris agreement requirements on an enhanced transparency framework	TA	**Outcome 3.1:** The climate transparency unit, relevant sector institutions and stakeholders are able to perform their roles in the MRV system on a continuous basis.	Output 3.1.1 Field data teams from the key sectors (AFOLU, energy, transport, industry and waste sectors) assigned and trained in collection, processing and transmission of GHG data Output 3.1.2 The climate transparency unit, EAD staff and relevant agencies and/or departments trained on MRV systems, tracking NDC, GHG inventories and emissions projections Output 3.1.3 Best practices, including gender mainstreaming, shared and scaled up through peer exchange programs for stakeholders on transparency activities	GEFTF	140,000	0
			Subtotal	GEFTF	960,000	100,000
			Project Management Cost (PMC)	GEFTF	96,000	50,000
			Total Project Cost		1,056,000	150,000

For multi-trust fund projects, provide the total amount of PMC in Table B, and indicate the split of PMC among the different trust funds here: ( )

C. INDICATIVE SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE, IF AVAILABLE

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount ($)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	150,000
Total Co-financing				150,000

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified. During the consultation with the country, this co-financing amount was estimated, during the Preparation Phase this will be confirmed with an assessment of recurrent expenditures related to climate reporting and transparency.

D. INDICATIVE TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY (IES), COUNTRY (IES), FOCAL AREA AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=a+b
UNEP	GEFTF	Malawi	Climate Change	(select as applicable)	1,056,000	100,320	1,156,320
Total GEF Resources					1,056,000	100,320	1,156,320

E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested? Yes ☒ No ☐ If no, skip item E.

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
UNEP	GEF TF	Malawi	Climate Change	(select as applicable)	50,000	4,750	54,750
Total PPG Amount					50,000	4,750	54,750

F. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS

Provide the relevant sub-indicator values for this project using the methodologies indicated in the Core Indicator Worksheet provided in Annex B and aggregating them in the table below. Progress in programming against these targets is updated at the time of CEO endorsement, at midterm evaluation, and at terminal evaluation. Achieved targets will be aggregated and reported at anytime during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Project Core Indicators		Expected at PIF
1	**Terrestrial protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	
2	**Marine protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	
3	Area of **land restored (**Hectares)	

4	Area of **landscapes under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	
5	Area of **marine habitat under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	
	Total area under improved management (Hectares)	
6	**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated** (metric tons of CO2e)	
7	**Number of shared water ecosystems** (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management	
8	Globally over-exploited **marine fisheries** moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons)	
9	**Reduction**, disposal/destruction, phase out, **elimination** and avoidance of **chemicals of global concern** and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)	
10	Reduction, avoidance of emissions of **POPs to air** from point and non-point sources (grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)	
11	Number of **direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender** as co-benefit of GEF investment	80 persons to be trained, of which 40 women.

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicators targets are not provided.

G. PROJECT TAXONOMY

Please fill in the table below for the taxonomic information required of this project. Use the GEF Taxonomy Worksheet provided in Annex C to help you select the most relevant keywords/ topics/themes that best describe this project.

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Influencing Models	` Strengthen institutional capacity/decision-making Convene multi-stakeholder alliances	(multiple selection)	(multiple selection)
Stakeholders	Knowledge and learning Private Sector Civil Society Type of Engagement Communications	Non-Governmental Organization Academia Information Dissemination Partnership Participation Awareness Raising Education	(multiple selection)

Capacity, Knowledge and Research	Capacity Development Knowledge Generation and Exchange Knowledge and Learning Stakeholder Engagement Plan	Knowledge Management Capacity Development Learning	(multiple selection)
Gender Equality	Gender results areas	Participation and Leadership Access to benefits and services Capacity Development Awareness Raising	(multiple selection)
Focal Area/Theme	Climate Change	United Nations Framework on Climate Change	Capacity building Initiative for Transparency
Rio Marker	Climate Change Mitigation 1 Climate Change Adaptation 1		

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

1a. *Project Description.* Briefly describe:

1) The global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed;

1. Malawi is a Least Developed Country (LDC) and was rated by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Report (HDR, 2007) as one of the most vulnerable countries to the deleterious impacts of climate change in sub-Saharan Africa. This is largely because it is highly dependent on rain-fed agriculture. Major climate related hazards that wreak havoc in the country are floods and droughts leading to seasonal shortages of food supply as a result of poor harvests and soil erosion. The overall total rainfall received over Malawi shows a high degree of inter- and intra-seasonal variability which has been increasing. The vulnerability of the agriculture sector to climate change means that the Malawian economy as a whole is vulnerable as well, given that 30-40% of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) comes from agriculture. In 2015, floods affected 15 out of 28 districts in Malawi. About 1.1 million people were affected, 230,000 displaced, 176 killed and 172 reported missing. The total cost of loss and damage that the Government of Malawi incurred during these severe floods was estimated to be US$335 million, and the recovery and reconstruction costs stood at US$494 million.

2. Climate change poses a threat to national development with regard to sustainable development and wealth creation goals. Even if there is still uncertainty about its magnitude, the impacts of climate change are likely to slow or even reverse the current pace of development. An increased global greenhouse gas (GHG) concentration in the atmosphere has led to an average increase in surface temperature of the earth by 0.85°C between 1880 and 2012. Worst case scenario projects that this increase could reach 4.8°C by 2100 relative to 1986-2005 according to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2014). IPCC also predicts a one-meter rise in seal levels. Extreme weather events resulting from a changing climate that could affect Malawi more frequently include heat waves, floods, cyclones, droughts and forest fires. Such extreme events disturb ecosystems, food production patterns and water availability, destroy houses and other infrastructure, increase mortality and morbidity while destroying habitats and introducing invasive alien species with possible adverse effects on human health and well-being. The whole country is expected to experience between 3-5 degrees C rise by the latter half of the century, but temperatures could rise even more if the world follows high emission trajectories. Southern Malawi will likely experience a higher temperature rise than the rest of the country.

3. Malawi's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) notes that the overall goal of the National climate change management policy is *to promote climate change adaptation and mitigation for sustainable livelihoods*

through measures that increase levels of knowledge and understanding and improve human well-being and social equity, while pursuing economic development that significantly reduces environmental risks and ecological scarcities.

4. Between 2015 and 2040, total annual GHG emissions in Malawi are expected to increase from the current level of approximately 29,000 $MtCO_2$-equivalent ($MtCO_2e$) to the range of 42,000 $MtCO_2e$, a rise in the order of 38%. Estimates suggest that between 14,000 and 16,000 Gg of CO_2e will be cut per year by 2030 if a robust low emission development path is adopted. However, there is at present significant uncertainty about future emissions, particularly beyond the year 2020. The Government of Malawi is currently working with development partners to improve climate change related data management systems.

5. Levels of GHG emissions in Malawi are very low, amounting to 0.04% of the total global emissions in 2015. Despite this observation, the Government of Malawi, through the INDC, has expressed its intention to contribute towards global efforts to reduce GHG emissions. Emission reduction efforts will concentrate in key sectors of forestry, agriculture and energy. Implementing all unconditional and conditional mitigation activities is expected to reduce the emissions of Malawi from 1.4 tCO_2e per capita in 2010 to around 0.7 to 0.8 tCO_2e per capita in 2030 compared to expected business as usual emissions of around 1.5 tCO_2e per capita in 2030. Potential reductions from the energy sector will be additional to the expected overall per capita GHG emissions reduction.

2) The baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects,

6. Malawi is a landlocked LDC in which poverty and inequality remain persistently high. One in two people in rural areas are poor (the official poverty estimation for 2016/17 released as the Fourth Integrated Household Survey [IHS4][1] in November 2017). Poverty is driven by poor performance of the agriculture sector, volatile economic growth, population growth, and limited opportunities in non-farm activities.

7. The challenges associated with current risk reduction strategies include: political and institutional challenges in translating early warning into early action; communication challenges related to Early Warning Systems (EWS); conveying useful information in local languages and communicating EWS in remote areas; national-level mistrust of locally collected data, which are perceived to be inflated to leverage more relief resources; the call for improved user-friendliness of early warning information, including at smaller spatial scales; the need for increased capacity in national meteorological centers; and the need for better linkages between early warning, response, and prevention.

8. Malawi signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 10 June 1992 and ratified it on 21st April 1994. Malawi also signed and ratified the Kyoto Protocol on 26th October 2001. Moreover, Malawi has produced its National Communications (NC), GHG inventories, a National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA), a Technology Needs Assessment (TNA), an Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) and its first Biennial Update Report (BUR), prepared in 2017 and awaiting national validation for official submission to UNFCCC.

9. **Malawi climate related policy framework**

Since the late 1990s, development in Malawi has been guided by the following national and sectoral policy and strategy documents: (I) Vision 2020 of 2000, (ii) Malawi Poverty Reduction Strategy (MPRSP) of 2002, (iii) Malawi Economic Growth Strategy (MEGS) of 2004, (iv) Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) of 2006, (v) National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) of 1994 and revised in 2002, and (vi) National Environmental Policy of 1996, (vii) National Climate Change Management Policy, (viii) and related policies including the National Transport Policy, National Climate Change Investment Policy, Mines and Minerals Policy,

[1] IHS4 on poverty: in 2017, 74 percent of the households in Malawi were poor using subjective self- assessment. Further, 36 percent of the households in Malawi were extremely poor by self-assessment with 7 percent of the households being perceived rich. The proportions were higher in rural areas with 41 percent of them being perceived very poor by self as compared to 15 percent for their urban counterparts

National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan II, National Disaster Risk Management Policy and National Agriculture Policy.

10. In accordance with the provisions of Articles 4 and 12 of the Convention (UNFCCC) and the guidelines of decision 17/CP.8, Malawi has completed three National Communications (NCs). Malawi has constituted a National Climate Change Technical Committee (NCCTC) to oversee implementation of the various climate change project activities. It comprises high level experts drawn from key ministries, research institutions, the University of Malawi and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

National Environmental Action Plan
The Government of Malawi participated in the 1992 Rio Earth Summit in Brazil. One of its outcomes was the development and publication of the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP). The NEAP was developed through an extensive consultative process involving a wide range of stakeholders, and became the operational tool for the implementation of Agenda 21. Nine key environmental concerns were identified as risks to development: soil erosion, deforestation, water resources degradation and depletion, threats to fish resources, threats to biodiversity, human habitat degradation, high population growth, air pollution and climate change. Although the NEAP did not directly address adaptation issues, the key factors identified could closely align with the identified NAPA sectoral studies.

National Environmental Policy (NEP)
First published in 1996 and reviewed in 2004, the National Environmental Policy provides an overall framework for sectoral policies to be reviewed for consistency with the principles of sound environmental management and sustainable development. It recognizes climate change, and places local communities in a position to manage natural resources sustainably to promote social equity. The NEP is supported by the Environment Management Act (1996).

National Climate Change Management Policy
The 2016 National Climate Change Management Policy plays the role of integrating climate change into development planning and implementation by all stakeholders – local, district and national – to foster the country's socio-economic growth and subsequently, sustainable development.

Draft National Meteorological Policy
The Government of Malawi, through the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services, has published a draft National Meteorological Policy aimed at enabling the monitoring and understanding of Malawi's weather and climate by all users and stakeholders. It will serve for the growth and development of weather and climate services in the country. The policy will contribute to monitoring and observation of weather and climate systems; analysis and prediction of weather and climate systems; climate and weather services and public participation; climate change and research services and management of meteorological data, amongst others.

The Third National Communication (NC)
Malawi has elaborated three National Communications to the UNFCCC under its commitments to the Convention (Articles 4 and 12). The Initial National Communication (INC, 2002), Second National Communication (SNC, 2011), both implemented by UNDP, and Third National Communication (TNC, ongoing and implemented by UN Environment) encompass GHG inventories. The successful implementation of the Malawi Growth and Development Strategies is dependent upon sectors that are vulnerable to a changing climate. The TNC therefore singles out these priority sectors: agriculture and food security, irrigation and water development, transport infrastructure development, energy generation and supply, integrated rural development, and the prevention and management of communicable diseases.

TNA
In 2003, under an Enabling Activities Project - Expedited Phase II, a technology transfer and needs assessment component was implemented for the country. More recently, Malawi was included in a GEF Global Project on Technology Needs Assessments - Phase III (TNA Phase III), by UN Environment, that has been approved for

implementation in 14 March 2018; other executing partner(s) are the Technical University of Denmark – UDP (UNEP DTU Partnership) and national agencies.

Other climate change reporting processes and documents include:

- The Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) – 2015
- The National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) – 2016

11. **Climate Information and Data Currently Available**

Malawi's climate change science and data resources provide an adequate information basis upon which to improve climate transparency by means of this CBIT project. It is possible to identify gaps and needs in order to promote the implementation of the Transparency Framework in the country. The climate information currently available is approximately one decade old – it dates back to 2005-2006. More recent data may exist, but it is not captured in the national systems; rather, it still lies in external sources which are not required to share such crucial information with the Government of Malawi. Thus, this CBIT Project will seek to integrate existing and future information in the national information systems.

Data available in Malawi includes:

- Informational data from scientific studies and environmental conservation entities. This is mostly limited in scope and scattered. It can be integrated;
- GHG Inventories in Initial National Communication (INC, reported in 2002), Second National Communication (SNC, reported in October 2011) and ongoing TNC to the UNFCCC.

There are still large sets of data needed in order to achieve a comprehensive monitoring, reporting and verification of GHG emissions in the country.

12. **Climate Change Capacity Building**: To ensure the continuity of national communications in Malawi, the Environmental Affairs Department coordinates a team of experts that includes focal points from Government departments/agencies, Universities, development agencies and Research Institutions working together towards that end. These experts are involved in the preparation of National Communications, BURs, GHG inventories and NAPA. There are insufficient capacities in the relevant ministries, which are the Ministries of: Natural Resources, Energy and Mining, Department of Disaster Management Affairs; Lands, Housing and Urban Development; Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development; Finance, Economic Planning and Development; Transport and Public Works; Industry, Trade and Tourism; and Health and Population. The same applies to agencies such as the Malawi National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) as well as Higher Education and research institutions, private sector actors and international development organizations present in Malawi. Such capacities need to be integrated to ensure that MRV activities are undertaken in a coordinated and transparent manner. Further capacity enhancement is needed for these institutions and other stakeholders involved in activity data monitoring and carbon stocktaking.

As per the Second National Communication of Malawi, matters relating to climate change are funded by bi-lateral and multi- lateral donor agencies, especially the GEF. There is no direct funding for climate change research issues by Government, except for that fact that some Government Departments are provided with financial resources for environmental management, some of which are used on public awareness campaigns. Moreover, it states that capacity-building is needed for the preparation of national communications, especially training at individual and institutional levels. Training would also be required for higher degrees (M.Sc. and Ph.D.) across all the sectors, and so the purchase of equipment, especially personal computers and accessories. In addition, training would be required for frontline extension and research staff, especially those involved in data collection from field experiments. The SNC also points out an urgent need to train Malawian scientists in conducting research, systems analysis, and computer simulation modeling as well as the need for higher degree training in the fields of Agriculture, Engineering, Environment, Wildlife, Meteorology, Climatology, Modeling, Statistics, Mathematical Sciences,

Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Geography and Earth Sciences, Sociology and Psychology.

In 2012 and subsequently, the World Bank commissioned technical assistance on the identification of potential opportunities for Malawi's engagement in carbon markets, as well as an institutional assessment of the country's capacity to effectively secure those opportunities. This included mapping of the stakeholders and their comprehension of the subject. This has helped identify sector capacity gaps that have been partly addressed, some of which this CBIT project will seek to bridge. This CBIT Project will assess what previous work regarding GHG capacity-building initiatives with the World Bank and other partners the could be leveraged. For instance, in 2013, UNDP in collaboration with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation developed the Malawi's Strategy for Climate Change learning. The Strategy notes that issues of GHG inventory, climate change science and climate change vulnerability assessments of the various sectors of the economy were not adequately covered. This inadequacy was partially addressed by the National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) Report and Action Plan, which highlighted three main areas of concern: systemic level synergistic issues, institutional level synergistic issues, and individual (human) synergistic level.

On March 25, 2013, the Government of Malawi signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Enhancing Capacity for Low Emission Development Strategies (EC-LEDS) Program, by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), outlining the collaboration to address the primary drivers of deforestation at both national and local scales, improve planning and analysis for low emission development, and secure new sources of climate financing for Malawi. The MOU focuses on the following areas: enhanced coordination and capacity; development of GHG inventories; analytical decision making, and particularly for bottom-up approaches to climate adaptation (BUA) and emission mitigation strategy; increase capacity for cross-sector and integrated planning, particularly concerning agriculture, forestry and charcoal production.

Protecting Ecosystems and Restoring Forests in Malawi (PERFORM), 2014-2019, is one of USAID/Malawi's primary activities under the Presidential Global Climate Change Initiative, working with the Government of Malawi and a wide range of Malawian organizations to mitigate the country's vulnerability to climate change. The program provides support in implementing the national REDD+ strategy/action plan; establishing GHG inventory capacity priorities; providing technical assistance for Malawi's intended nationally determined contribution (INDC). Thus, among the activities in cooperation with USAID, stands the development of a National GHG Inventory System: Malawi has established a cross-ministerial network to compile a GHG inventory, led by the environmental affairs Department with MOU's between the different government departments. U.S. climate change experts are working with Malawi's Environmental Affairs Department to improve the quality of GHG inventory data and reporting. Under PERFORM, data collection protocols and a computerized National GHG management systems were developed, and Ministries, Departments and key sectors have designated their focal points. The National GHG Management System has been finalized under such cooperation, and results were officially launched on 4th April 2019. It, therefore, sets a basis for inventory management upon which this CBIT project will build. All work resulting from this cooperation with the US will be leveraged for this CBIT Project, providing the basis for future work on GHG inventories.

Finally, the CBIT project will build upon previous and concurrent participation in activities and especially African Regional Workshops organized by the former International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV, renamed "Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement" (PATPA). Representatives from Malawi have attended workshops on GHG inventories, BURs, INDCs and other themes related to climate transparency.

Barriers that need to be addressed

13. Despite the above substantial baseline, there are still several barriers, as consistently identified and listed in the national communications and BUR, that need to be addressed:

Insufficient Data	The statistical data that exists is grossly insufficient and cannot be used to effectively give a status of the current situation let alone to plan based on projected

	trends. This lack of complete and sufficient statistical data results in failure of some activities that are crucial for monitoring climate sensitive data. It can therefore lead to oversights and inadequate planning, and misrepresent the country's efforts. Civil Society and NGOs are estimated to have more climate-related data on Malawi's than the Government itself; the UN system holds a lot more. Data on Agriculture and Soils: although 30-40% of GDP comes from agriculture, the information on climate change impacts on soil carbon, water resources, land use and other factors is grossly insufficient. For the 5,790k ha of agricultural land, the data on its segmentation, soil carbon trends and possible impacts to agricultural production, both for local consumption, and export is missing. The transparency of what Malawi reports under the UNFCCC requirements will therefore not be comprehensive enough unless sufficient segmentation and integration is achieved. The Agriculture Sector Wide Approach (ASWAp) of 2011-2015, which mirrored the priorities of the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy II and the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) of the African Union, largely considered climate change but did not mainstream it. For instance, climate change has been treated as a risk to mitigate and manage, but climate information and climate sensitivities have not been quantified. That means unforeseen changes in this crucial sector are likely to have unprecedented adverse effects on the country. This CBIT project needs to mainstream sector-specific linkages to climate reporting and modelling into the overall national planning. Data on forest management and vulnerabilities is scarce despite the fact that forests cover 33.6% of the territory, according to a 2014 estimate by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). While, in principle, Malawi should have an inventory of national forests, data on forests is held by various agencies and climate information on forests is minimal, which is reflected in Malawi's INDC. Threats are mentioned but not quantified in the policy and legal frameworks. Meanwhile, the opportunities are not explored, so although awareness may increase with time, it may not correspond simultaneously to an improved preparedness, unless this lack of integrated information is overcome. Spatial Data Inadequacies: The government is aware of the importance of spatial data in implementing development strategies. The use of a Geographic Information System (GIS) in day-to-day activities would add much value to the work of government and other institutions involved in Malawi's development. Currently, there is no National Spatial Data Infrastructure and no spatial data policy. Related initiatives would be highly effective if they developed a mechanism to promote spatial data access and sharing. Land data and land administration application data are either grossly underdeveloped or non-existent with the main providers being national. Additional barriers exist in terms of rampant duplication of data in collection and maintenance, inconsistent data sharing, a shortage of human resources in Geo-information, absence of policies and regulations. Furthermore, the lack of an institutionalized management of relevant climate data and the absence of centralized data archiving should be highlighted. For the moment, there are no formal agreements with institutions generating data, partly because proprietary data security is not guaranteed and partly because data is absent or incomplete in the first place.

	Finally, the inconsistency or absence of country-specific emission factors should be noted, as well as the lack of chemical and/or physical characterization of sources (e.g. wastes, solid fossil fuels, limestone), which further hinder data quality, accuracy and reliability.
Inadequate methodologies	According to the Third National Communication (TNC), uncertainties in estimating GHG emissions are mainly due to: (i) lack and inadequacy of data both in quality and quantity; and (ii) insufficient involvement of partners and practitioners in the implementation of GHG mitigation actions through participatory approaches under the current decentralization policy. With the aim of enhancing future GHG emissions inventories and national communications, the SNC put forward several recommendations, such as: to improve data collection by concerned services in charge of energy, agriculture, land use and forestry, industrial processes and waste management; to enhance capacity building and training programmes for communities and professionals on systems analysis and computer simulation modelling, including training on climatology, meteorology, and atmospheric sciences in local universities and other institutions.
Inadequate Capacity	Due to the limited human capital (both in numbers and skills), the country is not able to have full sector-specific thematic teams. Partly, it stems from low involvement and participation of stakeholders, as well as the need for a network of climate change experts. This points to the need for training and capacity development of researchers and educators. Moreover, mainstreaming climate change in the country's education system (certificates, diplomas, masters, and doctorates) is necessary. Therefore, the NCCTC should run a robust and up-to-date specialized website and establish a network of climate change researchers; and establish a databank of diversified data and research materials on different aspects of climate change, besides a national, district level and inter-institutional coordination network.

3) The proposed alternative scenario with the proposed project, with a brief description of the expected outcomes and components of the project:

14. The ***objective*** of this project is to strengthen the capacity of institutions in Malawi and set up an information system, to fulfill the enhanced Transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement.

15. The Government of Malawi is keen to improve the access and use of data for decision making support and sustainable development. The proposed National Meteorological Policy is part of the effort to ensure local data is available for planning in climate-sensitive sectors. This will contribute to reducing climatic uncertainty which is forcing farmers (80% of the Malawian population depends on agriculture) to stick to conservative farming strategies which sacrifice productivity, resilience and sustainability so as to minimize the risk of loss on their part. The Malawi Government has given EAD the mandate to safeguard the economy from economic shocks due to climate events. This will be achieved through the development of platforms for weather and climate information services, like Participatory Scenario Planning (PSP), scenario-based planning that blends 'indigenous' and scientific climate information, and monitoring while communicating the situation on the ground. These databanks will inform community actions, local development plans as well as external responses to support interventions. This CBIT action will support PSP as a climate service linked to other climate services. It will promote risk-awareness and enable scenario-based planning, which will play an integral role in supporting the climate-resilient green economy strategy.

16. For greater transparency in meeting the Paris Agreement, the Second National Communication has proposed: 1) Creating or updating a databank for the inventory of GHG emissions. 2) Involving all partners and practitioners, using participatory approaches under the current decentralization policy, in the use and implementation of GHG mitigations options, 3) Enhancing capacity-building and training programmes for communities and professionals,

especially in systems analysis and computer simulation modelling, including the training in climatology, meteorology and atmospheric sciences within local universities and other institutions.

The capacity development would broadly be targeted at the following sources of data:

17. *Government of Malawi: as a way* to mainstream climate information in official reports, studies, inventories, and communications produced by the Government of Malawi (such as by the EAD, under the Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining). The bulk of information and data is so far produced by consultants. In terms of meteorological and weather data sets, Malawi's Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS) has an extensive, high quality time series of weather data collected from a network of stations across the country.

United Nations Organization: The UN has a significant share of quality resources that exist on climate change in Malawi. The Africa Adaptation Programme (AAP), for instance, produced a wealth of data and information that has contributed a lot to the solid foundation of current information. UN Environment, UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and other UN agencies have also commissioned or funded reports.

Scientific Institutions in and outside Malawi: Research Institutions like the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), the Climate Systems Analysis Group (CSAG), and others who remain a credible source of climate change science and information related to Malawi and the broader region. Services provided by these institutions include modelling, mapping, and raw data.

Climate Research Departments at Universities: Several foreign universities have research departments that have generated peer-reviewed climate change research published in academic and scientific journals. While some of these studies may have been conducted in partnership with Malawian universities, there remains a significant gap in local capacity development. There are often gaps and blind spots in the data. Universities in Malawi can contribute a great deal to more locally relevant research, with added capacity.

Civil Society and Non-Governmental Organizations: International NGOs such as Oxfam, ActionAid, Care International, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and local NGOs such as Civil Society Network on Climate Change (CISONECC), Centre for Environmental Policy and Advocacy (CEPA) and others who continue to produce several useful reports on climate change in Malawi, including sector-specific materials that speak to specialized areas such as food security, public health, children, gender etc. Mainstreaming climate change reporting into this crucial work would go a long way in enabling Malawi's aspirations on transparency under the UNFCCC.

18. **Current and potential sources of funding for climate information:** Malawi main climate finance sources have been geared towards or are planned to bring capacity-building assistance and funds from international partners and organizations. The Green Climate Finance (GCF) approved the Scaling Up of the Use of Modernized Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Malawi. The $16.3M project is supporting the Government of Malawi (GoM) to take steps to save lives and enhance livelihoods at risk from climate-related disasters. It addresses technical, financial, capacity, and access barriers related to weather and climate information (CI) by investing in enhanced hydro-meteorological capacity for early warnings (EWs) and forecasting, development and dissemination of tailored products including for smallholder farmers and fishers, and strengthening capacities of communities to respond to climate-related disasters. The Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) developed a policy brief for the Future Climate for Africa (FCFA) programme exploring how making better use of medium- to long-term climate information could help the country meet these goals. Jointly funded by the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), it highlights key findings from a pilot case study in Malawi on how climate information can be used to improve humanitarian and development policy. It identifies the current barriers that prevent use of weather and climate information in planning, which are: the scale, accessibility and timing of information, as well as the nature of policy-planning cycles and lack of linkages with indigenous knowledge. As such, DFID remains one of the possible sources of funding resources for climate information, research and reporting for Malawi. There is potential to link with the Global

Framework for Climate Services, a global partnership of governments and organisations that produce and use climate information and services.

19. **Component 1: Establishing the National Monitoring, Reporting and Verification system.**

Outcome 1.1. Malawi's institutions effectively collaborate to track and report GHG emissions, climate actions and support received.

Component 1 aims to set up the institutional and technical basis for improved, evidence-based decision-making within the Government of Malawi and improved reporting to the UNFCCC.

As previously mentioned under baseline scenario, the country lacks: (i) an institutionalized management of relevant climate data; (ii) formal agreements with institutions that generate data; (iii) centralized data storage; (iv) integrated information (recent data being mostly stored in external sources); and (v) accurate, reliable and complete quality data.

Thus, through this CBIT Project, the following change of behavior is expected from Malawi's institutions: (i) a climate transparency unit will be assigned and thereby coordinate the national MRV system operation; (ii) partner data collection and processing centres to be established will collect more qualified information at the national level and further information exchange by means of a formal agreement with EAD; (iii) the climate transparency unit will centralize climate information storage and (iv) incorporate existing and future information into the national MRV system by means of a new integrated platform; (v) country-specific emission factors as well as appropriate tools and protocols will be developed and used by EAD and other Ministry staff to track and report GHG emissions, actions implemented and support received.

Therefore, on the side of the main beneficiaries, government ministries, agencies and stakeholders (such as national economic and development planners, Research Institutions, Universities, Civil Society and Non-Governmental Organizations) are expected to seek guidance and coordination from the climate transparency unit regarding climate change issues and GHG inventories. They're also expected to have an increased participation in decision making processes and monitoring as well as accountability on this subject. The decision-making processes concerned would involve review and update of national legal & regulatory framework, including the alignment of overall national planning processes and sustainable development policies with updated climate change policies and commitments, as well review of the NDC and selection of priority interventions of climate change projects and programmes.

At an intermediate state, national institutions for transparency-related activities will be stronger, and there will be increased integration with national priorities.

Change shall be measured by means of providing evidence of increased collaboration and joint work. Potential indicators, to be further assessed and confirmed at PPG stage, include:

- climate considerations contained in new legal & regulatory framework documented;
- signed agreements of cooperation/collaboration;
- climate transparency unit operation regularly documented;
- climate information exchange documented;
- new tools and protocols applied in reports to the UNFCCC;
- country-specific emission factors applied in reports to the UNFCCC.

Without prejudice to the list of potential indicators above, another way of measuring change would be verifying compliance with UNFCCC reporting timeframes. Non-Annex I Parties are required to submit their National Communications every four years, according to decision 2/CP17. Therefore, the government of Malawi is

expected to adjust to the four-year timeframe in delivering its national communications, as well as to the two-year timeframe for Biennial Update Reports.

Concerning activities to be developed, the following are envisaged: assigning a national climate transparency unit mandated to plan, implement and report on the activities of monitoring, collection, evaluation, documentation, storage/archiving, and reporting on climate change initiatives in Malawi; establishing collaboration agreements between relevant institutions and enhancing inter-ministerial coordination; developing tools and protocols for monitoring, collecting, storing, evaluating, reporting and disseminating climate data; and developing country-specific emission factors for an enhanced GHG inventory.

Mapping of stakeholders (Output 1.1.1) will be aimed at identifying with whom to partner and set up the data collection and processing centres (Output 1.1.4.) as part of the formalization of the institutional arrangements. While EAD is the custodian of the MRV process in Malawi, and 7 climate information centres already established by a prior initiative exist, the players in the process remain largely uncoordinated. The choice of these and any additional centres will be based on the current contribution of each institution/agency/department to the country's MRV activities. The stakeholders (other than EAD) as of today include:

- From the Government: DCCMS, Department of Energy, Department of Forestry and Forestry Research Institute of Malawi (FRIM), Fisheries Department, Land Resources Conservation Department, Water Resources Department, and Academic institutions such as universities.
- From international agencies (which may not need establishment of new data collection and processing capacity but are crucial to the MRV process so far): FAO, World Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and UNDP.

Data collection and processing centres are to be set up or enhanced based on discussions with relevant organisations and stakeholders. For example, climate information centres have already been established in seven pilot districts under the African Adaptation programme which are envisaged to be integrated into the MRV system through this CBIT Project activities. Part of these arrangements would involve cross-pollination between these stakeholder group sets. The stakeholders will be brought together to understand the purpose of the CBIT process and identify complementarities of their work with the country's MRV processes. Based on the appreciation of the possible synergies and collaboration, each stakeholder volunteers possible contributions to the national MRV process; which would give way to formal collaboration with relevant ministry/sector. This will enhance the inter-ministerial coordination while enhancing stakeholder participation/contribution.

Under Output 1.1.3, GHG inventory and projections tools, templates and guidelines will be adapted to the national context, including, *inter alia*, Excel-based tools for data collection, calculation, tracking and quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) of GHG emissions, projections and climate actions. Tools developed under the scope of other CBIT project(s) will then be customized, as appropriate – the identification of such tools will be facilitated by the CBIT Global coordination platform. The most recent IPCC guidelines available will inform all activities on GHG inventories.

In order to achieve this Outcome, the project will deliver the following Outputs:

Output 1.1.1 MRV stakeholders mapped and legal & regulatory framework on climate initiatives assessed to define roles and responsibilities

Output 1.1.2 Institutional arrangements formalized in EAD and relevant government structures to assign a climate transparency unit in charge of the national MRV system operation

Output 1.1.3 Tools and protocols developed for use by EAD and other Ministry staff to track and report GHG emissions, climate actions implemented and support received

Output 1.1.4 Collaborative data collection and processing centres established with formal agreement signed with EAD to enable and advance information exchange.

Output 1.1.5 Country-specific emission factors for energy, AFOLU, transport, industry and waste sectors developed

Outcome 1 is directly related to the Proposed Programming Priorities for the National Level (GEF/C50/06), especially with activities to strengthen national institutions, such as (a) support to national institutions and (c) assistance with deployment and enhancement of information and knowledge management structure to meet Article 13 needs, as well as with activities to provide relevant tools, such as (d) Access to tools and templates, (f) Development of country-specific emissions factors.

20. **Component 2: Develop an integrated platform for data collection, sharing and decision making**

Outcome 2.1 A data collection, integration and sharing platform is regularly used by a broad set of stakeholders for climate transparency activities.

The platform to be established will collect, integrate and centralize data from the various ministries in a way that it can better inform national planning and decision making. It will highlight gaps in data collection, management, accuracy and transparency, and then make efforts to fill them through training programs. The platform will host data in the form of standard information as well as maps, charts and figures with a customizable user dashboard, thus improving MRV activities and strategic partnerships.

As previously mentioned, the country lacks centralized data storage, integrated information (recent data being mostly stored in external sources), and accurate, reliable and complete quality data. Moreover, there are insufficient capacities in relevant ministries and government agencies, Higher Education and research institutions and private sector.

Thus, through this CBIT Project, the following change of behavior is expected from Malawi's institutions: the climate transparency unit will centralize climate information storage and incorporate existing and future information into the national MRV system by means of a new integrated platform.

On the side of the main beneficiaries, ministries, government agencies and stakeholders are expected to use the integrated platform in order to provide input to and search for any information related to climate change and GHG inventories. Besides increased participation and accountability of stakeholders, an increased transparency of data sources, methodologies and assumptions is expected, once there will be open methods, data, and tools free and accessible to stakeholders. Capacities of main actors and MRV stakeholders will be structured to use the data platform and collaborate on planning and decision-making, as they are expected to improve data collection in the different sectors.

Change shall be measured by means of providing evidence that the data collection, integration and sharing platform will be regularly used by a broad set of stakeholders for climate transparency activities. Potential indicators, to be further assessed and confirmed at PPG stage, include:

- data platform establishment and operation documented;
- data of GHG inventory and MRV system publicly available through the data platform (reports);
- number and frequency of access to the data platform documented;
- data from the platform mirrored in reports to the UNFCCC.

In order to achieve this Outcome, the project will deliver the following Outputs:

Output 2.1.1 A data collection, integration and sharing platform established and operationalised

Output 2.1.2 The climate transparency unit members and relevant stakeholders trained to effectively use the data platform and collaborate on planning and decision-making

Output 2.1.3 Data of GHG inventory and MRV system aggregated, entered into and made publicly available through the integrated data platform

Outcome 2 is directly related to the Proposed Programming Priorities for the National Level (GEF/C50/06), especially with activities to provide relevant tools, such as (d) Access to tools, database systems for implementation of enhanced transparency-related activities, and (e) Country-specific training on transparency activities.

21. **Component 3: Targeted capacity building to strengthen the institutional and individual capacities to meet the Paris agreement requirements on an enhanced transparency framework.**

Outcome 3.1: The climate transparency unit, relevant sector institutions and stakeholders are able to perform their roles in the MRV system on a continuous basis.

It is envisaged that main focal points from key emission sectors (AFOLU, energy, transport, industry and waste sectors) and relevant stakeholders will be trained to collect, process and transmit data. Best practices will be shared and scaled up mainly through linkages with the CBIT Global Coordination Platform.

At baseline, capacities of institutions and stakeholders involved in activity data monitoring and carbon stocktaking are lacking, there is limited human capital (both in numbers and skills), involvement and participation of stakeholders is low, and there's need for a network of climate change experts.

Hence, after project implementation, the following change of behavior is expected: main focal points from key emission sectors (AFOLU, energy, transport, industry and waste sectors) and relevant stakeholders will efficiently collect, process and transmit data to feed the MRV system and platform in a sustainable manner; as well as make use of information contained therein in order to guide policy and decision-making. As such, it is expected that climate considerations will be mainstreamed in funding, planning and budgeting processes, thus ensuring sustainability to the system beyond the project lifespan. Moreover, networks of climate change experts are to be established. Consequently, the quantity and quality of information reported to the UNFCCC shall be improved, and climate actions effectively implemented.

At an intermediate state, this means that the transparency system will be improving over time and that Malawi will comply with the Paris Agreement (PA) transparency requirements.
Ultimately, the long-term and global impact pursued is: climate actions and NDCs will be properly tracked, decision making integrates climate considerations; support is adequately allocated and global community actions achieve the goal fixed by the Paris Agreement.

Change shall be measured by means of providing evidence that the climate transparency unit, relevant sector institutions and stakeholders are able to perform their roles in the MRV system by making use of the new knowledge, attitudes and skills acquired, which will lead to an improved quality of reports to the UNFCCC. Potential indicators, to be further assessed and confirmed at PPG stage, include:

- Increased quantity of information made available through the MRV data platform;
- Increased deployment of updated data quality assurance and verification methods and procedures;
- Improvement in quality of national reports submitted to the UNFCCC as per international assessments, for example: technical analysis of BURs under International Consultation and

Analysis (ICA) processes and other available forms of assessment and verification, as appropriate for non-Annex I countries under the Convention and Paris Agreement;
- Increased share of funding to the MRV system both from internal and external sources;
- Increased mentioning and relevance of climate considerations in legal & regulatory framework review and update, including in overall national planning processes;

In order to achieve this Outcome, the project will deliver the following Outputs:

Output 3.1.1 Field data teams from the key sectors (AFOLU, energy, transport, industry and waste sectors) assigned and trained on collection, processing and transmission of GHG data

Output 3.1.2 The climate transparency unit, EAD staff and relevant agencies and/or departments trained on MRV systems, tracking NDC, GHG inventories and emissions projections

Output 3.1.3 Best practices, including gender mainstreaming, shared and scaled up through peer exchange programs for stakeholders on transparency activities.

Outcome 3 is directly related to the Proposed Programming Priorities for the National Level (GEF/C50/06), especially with activities to provide relevant trainings, such as (e) Country-specific training and peer exchange programs on transparency activities.

4) alignment with GEF focal area and/or Impact Program strategies;

This CBIT project is addressing GEF Focal Area Climate Mitigation 3-8 "Foster enabling conditions for mainstreaming mitigation concerns into sustainable development strategies through capacity building initiative for transparency".

The GEF-7 Climate Change Focal Area Strategy aims to support developing countries to make transformational shifts towards low emission and climate-resilient development pathways. The CBIT, as per paragraph 85 of the COP decision adopting the Paris Agreement, complies with this Focal Area Strategy by:

- Strengthening national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities;
- Providing relevant tools, training and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Agreement; and
- Assisting in the improvement of transparency over time.

5) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions to the baseline from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing;

The CBIT programme is designed to improve mandatory reporting of signatories of the UNFCCC. As such, this project is financed on full agreed cost basis. In the case of this programme, eligible activities have been described in the GEF document Programming directions for the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (GEF/C.50/06). The activities of this project are consistent with the scope of the programming directions. Cofinancing is not a necessary requirement for this project, however USD150,000 there is a foundation of activities that are considered cofinancing.

Business as Usual (without project)	**Incremental Benefits (with project –contributions to the baseline)**
Insufficient Capacity (Institutional and individual),	This project will strengthen the capacity of Institutions in Malawi (particularly the EAD) and set up an information system to fulfill the Transparency requirements of the

Methodologies and Data for MRV	Paris Agreement. It seeks to increase transparency and widen stakeholder participation while providing open data access and tools. The resulting monitoring and reporting system will lead to: • Increased participation and accountability of stakeholders; • Increased transparency of data sources, methodologies and assumptions with open methods, data, and tools – all free and accessible to all stakeholders; • Increased attention to accuracy, completeness and consistency of GHG emission estimates. • All data and information services will be kept compatible with IPCC definitions and standards ensuring GHG accounting, and resulting uncertainties will be quantified and reduced. • Multiple partner centres for sourcing, monitoring and reporting data with a formal arrangement with EAD integrated into a multi-stakeholder, flexible, open and diverse system. • Knowledge exchange and sharing forums to be established that will lead to an expert community, thus increasing opportunities for participation and enhanced transparency.

6) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF);

22. Malawi's sustainable development is sensitive to emissions in the sense that emission-intensive options are the current norm. A transition to low-carbon development pathways is a paramount ambition of the Government. Estimates suggest that between 14,000 and 16,000 $MtCO_2e$ will be saved per year by 2030 if a robust low emission development path is adopted. This project will support Malawi to track its agenda towards that path for the various national and international frameworks geared towards reduction of emissions and transparency.

23. Malawi's INDC aims to promote sector-specific policies which mainstream adaptation and mitigation activities, as well as implementation frameworks that foster technology transfer and development as well as capacity-building. Hence, climate change mitigation activities contribute to international efforts, while adaptation interventions ensure sustainable development with an increased resilience for the national economy. As previously mentioned, there is still significant uncertainty about future emissions, particularly beyond the year 2020. This project will reduce those uncertainties and ensure that Malawi's contribution to global emissions reduction are more accurately measured and monitored.

24. This project is linked to the GEF-7 climate change mitigation focal area, Indicator 3 on MRV systems for emissions reductions in place and reporting verified data. The indicator has 10 levels and the baseline and target will be set during project development.

25. The project will monitor an additional indicator for qualitative assessment of institutional capacity built for transparency-related activities under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. The baseline and target will be set during the project development phase, following the scale of 1-4 as per the guidance on Annex IV: Indicator for qualitative assessment of institutional capacity for transparency-related activities of the CBIT programming direction.

7) Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up:

Innovation:

26. This CBIT will establish one central platform instead of reporting on each sector separately. Thus, Malawi will have an integrated monitoring and reporting system. This platform will have the ability to integrate data

sets from various sources. Data sources, definitions, methodologies and assumptions will be clearly documented to increase transparency and facilitate replication and assessment. Open access to methods, data and tools with detailed documentation on data processing and creation will provide better data (more extensive and detailed). State of the art equipment and science on MRV will be introduced so as to achieve greater efficiency. Moreover, this project will strive to mainstream Participatory Scenario Planning in the priority sectors, supporting the inclusion of stakeholder-focused climate information services in agricultural and other development planning. This innovative approach aims to avoid that climate information be supply-driven – driven by those who produce it, not by those who use it –; the intention is thus to produce and manage climate information that meets the needs of stakeholders for decision-making and planning purposes. Such strategy is expected to encourage and engage the partner data collection centres in the collection and sharing of data to the government and other stakeholders. The PSP approach will ensure a collaborative design and delivery of user-focused MRV services.

Sustainability:

27. The CBIT project adopts a multi-stakeholder approach with increased participation in decision-making and monitoring, which ensures sustainability. The institutionalization of the MRV system and data collection is another means of increasing sustainability, since it raises the interest in transparency. The envisaged MRV system and the integrated platform will be hosted within existing government structures so that, beyond CBIT project implementation, planning and budgeting processes will continue to invest in the system.

28. Training materials under the capacity development activities will be available through government websites. Regarding sustainability for the equipment to be acquired under this CBIT project, maintenance will be undertaken by EAD, which makes up the core executing team. As such, the knowledge and proficiency will be internalized and also, the costs of running the system will be mainstreamed in public finance.

Potential for scaling up:

29. An increased capacity in Malawi due to the implementation of this CBIT project will provide important information to future projects. This project will improve MRV approaches, tools and capacity, thus supporting the adoption of green economy interventions for Malawi's sustainable development. Moreover, working with UN Environment always brings experience from elsewhere in the world and also helps to share the lessons and experiences learned from Malawi. The partnership with UN Environment, as well as the active participation in the CBIT Global Coordination Platform, will therefore be instrumental in scaling up climate action elsewhere, especially in Africa.

1b. *Project Map and Coordinates.* Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.

FIGURE 1: MAP OF MALAWI

2. *Stakeholders.* Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

☐ Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities;

☒ Civil Society Organizations;

☒ Private Sector Entities;

☐ If None of the above, please explain why.

In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.

Stakeholder	Expertise and Responsibility/ Role in the CBIT project
Environmental Affairs Department (EAD)	Overall hosting/coordination and management of project activities as follows: - data collection, reporting, capacity building and Institutional arrangements; - managing National GHG Emissions Inventory and MRV system development; - strengthening the capacity of stakeholders; and - managing and monitoring data collection and reporting as well as timely submitting national communications.
National Technical Committee on Climate Change	This will serve as the National Steering Committee with the role of Project Steering Committee for the CBIT project, thus participating in the strategic decision-making and providing overall guidance and supervision.
Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining	Sectoral focal point. This institution will promote the establishment of institutional arrangements and support EAD.
Africa Sustainability Center (ASCENT)	ASCENT is responsible for the full project document development (PPG). ASCENT will support EAD in project execution, if needed.
Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development	Collecting and attributing crop production data collection, water resources availability and projections as well as water-crop production nexus data.
Ministries of Trade and Tourism; Transport and Public Works; Lands, Housing and Urban Development; Health and Population; Departments of: Energy Affairs; Climate Change and Meteorological Services,	Sectoral focal points: collection and aggregation of trade, infrastructure and energy-related data. Also, data on water and sanitation versus health. They contribute to the robustness of GHG inventories and MRV systems.
National Statistical Office of Malawi and Research Institutions and Universities/Colleges	Collection and integration of national level statistics, and research and geo-spatial data collection and mapping, crops data collection, research and crop growth modeling, soil carbon data collection. Assessment of training needs and coordination (plus support) of training programmes for identified needs/stakeholders.
CSOs • National Technical Committee on Climate Change • Climate Action Network (CAN); • Civil Society Network on Climate Change (CISONECC) Malawi • PACENET (Pan African Civic Educators Network)	Technical partners: usually supporting governmental action in building resilience, they will technically contribute to this project and provide validation.

30. Additional stakeholders may be identified during project preparation, especially those UN agencies and civil society organizations holding climate data on Malawi that could potentially collaborate with data collection

and integration into the data platform established by the project, thus allowing for broader access to up-to-date climate data from external sources.

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. Briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis). Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? yes ☒ /no ☐ / tbd ☐ ; If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:

☐ closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;
☒ improving women's participation and decision-making; and/or
☐ generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.

Will the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators? yes☒ /no ☐ / tbd ☐

31. Sections 20 and 41 of the Constitution of Malawi prescribe equal rights for men and women and prohibit any discrimination based on gender or marital status. The Constitution of Malawi was adopted in 1994 and consists of 23 Chapters and 215 sections. It seeks to enshrine the principle of equality not only in general terms but it is also quite specific in mandating gender equality (section 13), promoting women's rights (section 24), and prohibiting any kind of discrimination based on gender (section 20), even though it does not legally define discrimination. The Republic of Malawi ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 1987. Malawi signed the Optional Protocol in 2000, but has yet to proceed with ratification. It ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa in 2005. Women in Malawi face unequal status shaped by cross-cutting factors such as general poverty, discriminatory treatment in family and public life as well as a higher vulnerability to climate change. At the family and community level, systemic perpetuation of discrimination against women happens with respect to control over resources. Women in Malawi are generally far worse than their male counter-parts on most social and economic indicators, including wage equality, political participation, secondary and tertiary education enrolment and literacy. Hence, the Government's efforts to increase equality will have to be supported by this project. The National Gender Policy will be followed in the process of establishing the institutional coordination mechanisms for this project so as to ensure gender responsiveness during implementation.

32. Despite all current efforts, there remains major challenges in Malawi, such as:
- Limited and often non-existent budgetary allocations for advancing Women and Gender Issues;
- Absence of reliable data and information on gender disparities and challenges, partly because of cultural blind spots;
- The fact that gender is a matter barely considered in the sectors and not anchored in a governmental structure, resulting in weak capacity in implementing gender approaches;
- Sociocultural hindrances that place women at a disadvantage from the onset;

33. The project will promote the inclusion of women in its implementation, from the Project Steering Committee board and project management team to consultants, and from training to active participation in consultation workshops. In this sense, project management and monitoring will be gender-sensitive, including gender-disaggregated indicators showing who is involved and whose views are represented.

In short, gender considerations will be cross-cutting in this project, both in terms of its products and its processes. Indeed, with its focus on transparency, shedding light on how women and men participate in climate change-related decision making, the project will contribute to women's equal engagement in and benefit from climate change action. Following CBIT Programming Directions and the GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming and its Gender Equality Action Plan, as well as UN Environment policy and strategy for gender equality and the

environment, based on this substantive initial mainstreaming effort, a gender responsive results- based framework will be developed during the PPG design phase.

In addition, this project will strengthen the capacity of focal points in collecting and disseminating gender disaggregated data. It will also ensure gender mainstreaming and gender equality based on the GEF Equality Action Plan by actively giving visibility and support to both women's and men's individual contributions as well as equal treatment of women and men in policies, and equal access to resources, right to be heard and services.

Finally, this project will organize a gender workshop on a topic that will be agreed upon during the PPG stage. The topic of the workshop could be training on how women and men have been engaged to adopt climate-smart agriculture practices, etc. Institutions to be consulted on gender engagement will include, but not be limited to: Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare, the gender focal point for the UN Framework convention on climate change, civil society organizations (such as Civil Society Network on Climate Change (CISONECC) and Malawi PACENET (Pan African Civic Educators Network)) as well as research institutions and development partners working in the fields of gender and climate change.

4. Private sector engagement. Will there be private sector engagement in the project? (yes ☒ /no ☐). Please briefly explain the rationale behind your answer.

34. Private sector will be consulted on means of catalysing innovation and investment: the private sector is expected to play a transformative role in promoting innovation and delivering climate resilient and low carbon growth. As such, Malawi's private sector is expected to stimulate enhanced climate change products and services.

5. Risks. Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved or may be resulting from project implementation, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design (table format acceptable).

Risk	**Risk Level**	**Mitigation**
Political risks: This risk is associated with changes in governance, key personnel within government agencies, security, and/or government decisions	Low	• It is a low risk because Malawi is a stable country since it has enjoyed relative stability for many years now, major political turmoil is unlikely. **Mitigation:** • Ongoing dialogue with stakeholders to ensure minimal impacts of any political changes on the project. • The active role of the National Technical Committee on Climate Change, which is an inter-ministerial coordinating committee, thus ensuring sustainability even if changes occur within the institutions.
Inadequate/incoherent participation among stakeholders and partners, or poor coordination among participating institutions	Moderate	• Design and implementation of an appropriate stakeholders mapping and engagement strategy from the onset. • Regular progress reports to stakeholders in the CBIT project as well as progress and monitoring meetings. • Continuous engagement of institutions, regular reporting, monitoring of progress, and acknowledgement of efforts and achievements by each institution.

		• Active involvement and inclusion from the early planning and design stages. • Roles and responsibilities well defined and updates on progress regularly shared. • A communication plan developed and agreed upon by all stakeholders.
Data availability and accessibility constraints and low domestic capacity for data management, and management of the GHG emissions inventory and the MRV system persists	Moderate	• Learning-by-doing for trainees from key institutions and the EAD to increase capacities and reduce the risk of limited access and knowledge.

6. Coordination. Outline the institutional structure of the project including monitoring and evaluation coordination at the project level. Describe possible coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

35. Malawi has appointed UN Environment as the GEF Implementing Agency for this CBIT project, alongside with Africa sustainability Centre (ASCENT) who are developing the Project and requesting the GEF PPG so as to develop the CEO Endorsement Request in close consultation with the country team. The execution will be done by EAD with support from ASCENT, if and where needed. During the project design stage (PPG), specific strategies for project management and stakeholders'engagement will be incorporated into existing institutional structures of GEF-financed projects in Malawi. This will ensure that CBIT will build upon other transparency initiatives as outlined in the baseline scenario. Some CBIT activities will support current climate change mitigation-related activities and MRV practices. These include the capacity building activities and establishment of the knowledge management platform.

    The CBIT project will ensure that no effort is duplicated with regard to related initiatives, particularly those projects that support national communications and BUR processes. Coordination will be facilitated by the fact that the Executing Agency (EAD) and Implementing Agency (UN Environment) are in charge of both projects. Institutional arrangements instituted under the BUR and TNC will be retained for this CBIT project.

    Special attention will be drawn to leverage results achieved by the ongoing TNC project concerning its expected "Output 3: GHG Methodologies and guidelines analyzes, validated and adapte for Malawi", under "4.2.2. Outcome 1: Completed National Greenhouse Gas Inventories for the Republic fo Malawi".

    The same applies to the BUR Project, where the CBIT Project will complement results obtained under "Output 2.2: GHG Methodologies and guidelines analyzed, validated and adapted for Malawi; Outcome 2: Completed National Greenhouse Gas Inventories for Malawi", and "Output 6.1: Information on Domestic Measurement, Reporting and Verification is provided; Outcome 6: Domestic MRV arrangements for mitigation actions and its effects defined and established; a description provided in the 1st BUR". Notably, the following activities under BUR shall provide valuable input to the development of this CBIT project document at PPG stage: "6.1.1. Strengthen technical capacities of national teams on identified needs and support received (…); 6.1.2. Assess and describe the national arrangements for MRV related to mitigation actions and their effects; 6.1.3. Design and set up a domestic MRV system to support the implementation of the Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions; and 6.1.4. Describe MRV arrangements related to the identified needs and support received".

The National Climate Change Committee will serve as the Project Steering Committee for this CBIT project, which will result in an efficiently incorporation of existing country resources into the overall structure of the proposed institutional arrangements. Such Committee is composed of: Ministries of Forestry, Wildlife, Agriculture and Food Security, Agricultural Research, Energy, Finance; Academia, including the University of Malawi (Chancellor, and Polytechnic), LUANAR and Mzuzu University, UNDP country experts, Civil society and NGOs, and Private Sector Organizations.

Moreover, this CBIT project implementation will ensure to leverage resources and capacities built under the PERFORM initiative in cooperation with USAID, which closes in September 2019. For example, guidance documents have already been developed, as well as customized excel calculators based on IPCC guidance.

The CBIT project will be shared on the GEF-CBIT Global Coordination Platform database and climate initiative, aiming to ensure easy tracking of implementation and joint reporting. The Global Coordination Platform project will provide Malawi additional guidance on the transparency requirements under Article 13 of the Convention.

Meanwhile, the Government of Malawi will ensure coordination with another project proposed to the GEF, to be implemented by UNDP, aimed at building the capacity of Malawi's government to advance the National Adaptation Plan process, especially regarding integration between and no duplication of efforts on information management systems. Another related GEF project is "Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Malawi to Support Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change" (also with UNDP), a country project under implementation since 2013.

7. Consistency with National Priorities. Is the project consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions? (yes ☒ /no ☐). If yes, which ones and how:

National strategies plan or reports, assessments	Linkages & provision of baseline information to the CBIT project
National Environment and Climate Change Communication Strategy	It aims at facilitating information sharing and enhancing public awareness on environmental and climate change matters. The Government, through the African Adaptation programme, has established climate information centres in seven pilot districts where the programme is being implemented. Such information centres shall be integrated into the MRV system through this CBIT Project implementation.
Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) III	It emphasizes climate priorities, alongside agriculture and water resources, in a vision that runs through 2022 and builds on the previous version. It is designed to align with specific Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The MGDS III also is designed to dovetail with the African Union Agenda 2063 goals, as well as those of the regional Southern African Development Community (SADC).
NAPA	Malawi's NAPA singles out "improving existing early warning systems to enhance disaster preparedness and response" as a focal area; this CBIT project will support such data-based decision-making approach.
NC	The TNC comprises mitigation and adaptation actions and aims to: • Undertake national stocktaking and stakeholder consultations to review work carried out under previous climate change enabling activities;

National strategies plan or reports, assessments	Linkages & provision of baseline information to the CBIT project
	• Identify gaps and propose relevant activities to be undertaken in the relevant sectors: o Mitigation sectors: Energy, Agriculture, Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU), AFOLU and waste; o Adaptation sectors: AFOLU, human health, wildlife and water resources. The CBIT project is expected to significantly improve the quality and quantity of information contained in future National Communications, including the GHG inventories, by: developing country-specific emission factors as well as tools and protocols for MRV; institutionalizing an MRV system and an integrated data platform.
INDC	Malawi's INDC outlines mitigation and adaptation action plans that will lead Malawi into a low-carbon development path. The CBIT project will allow for enhanced and upscaled MRV activities regarding the implementation of such action plans.
TNA	Malawi implemented a United Nations Climate Change Enabling Activities Project - Expedited Phase II from March 2003 to June 2003. Important activities included a TNA component. A new assessment of Malawi's needs will be made under the GEF Global Project TNA Phase III, by UN Environment. This links to CBIT in the sense that information technogy and data management is part of the framework to be developed.
BUR	With support from the UN Environment, Malawi has produced its first BUR which awaits validation for submission. The CBIT Project will help fill in information gaps identified by the BUR, such as insufficient data, inadequate methodologies and inadequate capacity.

8. Knowledge Management. Outline the "Knowledge Management Approach" for the project and how it will contribute to the project's overall impact, including plans to learn from relevant projects, initiatives and evaluations.

36. The CBIT Project results will be disseminated at the national level through existing information sharing platforms, networks and forums. The project will identify and participate in scientific, policy-based and/or other networks, which may be complimentary to project implementation through lessons learned. In this framework, the project will identify, analyze, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects in Malawi or in other countries in the region. These results will be analysed, documented and disseminated within and beyond the project intervention through existing information sharing networks and fora.

37. The multi-stakeholder approach will justify the value added through enhanced institutional linkages – improved and consistent flow of high quality data as well as feedback, use and data reporting. Extensive engagement will be part of the process of development of the data platform, and training of focal points and key stakeholders.

38. Component 3 will be complemented with exchange trips and the participation of relevant government staff in international conferences, workshops and meetings to cement the knowledge acquired. Monitoroing and constant evaluation will ensure that lessons learned are continuously incorporated into planning.

39. Furthermore, as part of the international exchanges, the country will participate in the CBIT Global Coordination Platform and other relevant platforms and networks, providing and receiving inputs. The project proposal will therefore define how national CBIT information shall be shared and updated on the Global Coordination Platform. Sharing lessons learnt and experiences on the platform will ensure alignment of this proposed CBIT project with other national, regional and global transparency initiatives.

PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):
(Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) with this template. For SGP, use this SGP OFP endorsement letter).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE *(MM/dd/yyyy)*
Ms. Shamiso NAJIRA	GEF Operational Focal Point	**MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY AND MINING**	**11/12/2018**

Annex A

PROGRAM/PROJECT MAP AND GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES

Annex B

GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

Use this Worksheet to compute those indicator values as required in Part I, item F to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the project will be aggregated and reported at any time during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Core Indicator 11	**Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment**					***(Number)***
			Expected		Number Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Female	40			
		Male	40			
		Total	*80*			

GEF 7 TAXONOMY

Annex C

Please identify the taxonomic information required in Part I, Item G by ticking the most relevant keywords/ topics/themes that best describe the project.

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
☒ **Influencing models**			
	☐ **Transform policy and regulatory environments**		
	☒ **Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making**		
	☒ **Convene multi-stakeholder alliances**		
	☐ **Demonstrate innovative approaches**		
	☐ **Deploy innovative financial instruments**		
☒ **Stakeholders**			
	☐ **Indigenous Peoples**		
	☒ **Private Sector**		
		☐ Capital providers	
		☐ Financial intermediaries and market facilitators	
		☐ Large corporations	
		☐ SMEs	
		☐ Individuals/Entrepreneurs	
		☐ Non-Grant Pilot	
		☐ Project Reflow	
	☐ **Beneficiaries**		
	☐ **Local Communities**		
	☒ **Civil Society**		
		☐ Community Based Organization	
		☒ Non-Governmental Organization	
		☒ Academia	
		☐ Trade Unions and Workers Unions	
	☒ **Type of Engagement**		
		☒ Information Dissemination	
		☒ Partnership	
		☐ Consultation	
		☒ Participation	
	☒ **Communications**		
		☒ Awareness Raising	
		☒ Education	
		☐ Public Campaigns	
		☐ Behavior Change	
☒ **Capacity, Knowledge and Research**			
	☐ **Enabling Activities**		
	☒ **Capacity Development**		
	☒ **Knowledge Generation and Exchange**		
	☐ **Targeted Research**		
	☐ **Learning**		
		☐ Theory of Change	
		☐ Adaptive Management	
		☐ Indicators to Measure Change	
	☐ **Innovation**		
	☒ **Knowledge and Learning**		
		☒ Knowledge Management	

		☐Innovation	
		☒Capacity Development	
		☒Learning	
	☒**Stakeholder Engagement Plan**		
☐**Gender Equality**			
	☐**Gender Mainstreaming**		
		☐Beneficiaries	
		☐Women groups	
		☐Sex-disaggregated indicators	
		☐Gender-sensitive indicators	
	☒**Gender results areas**		
		☐Access and control over natural resources	
		☒Participation and leadership	
		☒Access to benefits and services	
		☒Capacity development	
		☐Awareness raising	
		☒Knowledge generation	
☒**Focal Areas/Theme**			
	☒**Climate Change**		
		☐**Climate Change Adaptation**	
			☐Climate Finance
			☐Least Developed Countries
			☐Small Island Developing States
			☐Disaster Risk Management
			☐Sea-level rise
			☐Climate Resilience
			☐Climate information
			☐Ecosystem-based Adaptation
			☐Adaptation Tech Transfer
			☐National Adaptation Programme of Action
			☐National Adaptation Plan
			☐Mainstreaming Adaptation
			☐Private Sector
			☐Innovation
			☐Complementarity
			☐Community-based Adaptation
			☐Livelihoods
		☐**Climate Change Mitigation**	
			☐Agriculture, Forestry, and other Land Use
			☐Energy Efficiency
			☐Sustainable Urban Systems and Transport
			☐Technology Transfer
			☐Renewable Energy
			☐Financing
			☐Enabling Activities
		☒**United Nations Framework on Climate Change**	
			☒Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency
		☒**Climate Finance (Rio Markers)**	☐Paris Agreement ☐Sustainable Development Goals ☒Climate Change Mitigation 1 ☐Climate Change Mitigation 2 ☒Climate Change Adaptation 1 ☐Climate Change Adaptation 2