



ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

**A REPORT ON INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR  
PREPERATION OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT OUTLOOK REPORT  
HELD AT ANNIES LODGE, ZOMBA FROM 26 - 29TH APRIL, 2010**



April 2010

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

A four day training workshop on Integrated Environmental Assessment (IEA) for preparation of the Environment Outlook Report meeting was convened at Annies Lodge in Zomba, from 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> April 2010 to build capacity for authors that are preparing the 2009 National Environment Outlook Report.

Participants to this workshop comprised the Lead Author and Thematic Authors, officials from Environmental Affairs Department, Ministry of Development Planning and Cooperation, Concern Universal and selected case study districts of Nsanje, Lilongwe, Mulanje, Machinga, and Kasungu. The training was facilitated by Mr. Chris Ambala from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Kenya and Ms. Irene G. Lungu from the Environmental Council of Zambia. The training was conducted with support from the Ministry of Development Planning and Cooperation (MDPC) under the Malawi Poverty and Environment Initiative (MPEI) Project. Mr. Themba Kaluwa, PEI Focal Person for Malawi at UNEP, The Deputy Directors for EAD and MDPC, Dr. Kamperewera and Mr. Namaona also facilitated some aspects of the training. A list of participants is provided in Annex 1.

The training focused on the following topics: Introduction and background to Integrated Environmental Assessment in Africa; Questions policy makers in Malawi need answers for; Frameworks for IEA; Planning and involvement in and Managing the environmental assessment process; Identifications of the Themes and Issues; Assessing the state of the environment; Selection and development of environmental indicators; Institutional arrangements to support the Malawi Environment Outlook (MEO) process; and Outreach, Dissemination and follow-up. The training also included working groups to discuss and identify thematic areas, issues and indicators.

## **2. OBJECTIVE**

The main objective of the training workshop was to build capacity for the authors in preparation of the Environment Outlook Report (EOR) so that they have an understanding of the Integrated Environment Assessment (IEA) which they will use in compiling the EOR. Specifically, the training was aimed at developing authors' skills on integrated environmental assessment using Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) Framework, Opportunities Framework and Policy Analysis in understanding the cause-effect of environmental change and its associated impacts on human well-being, and necessary policy actions to address issues on environment and natural resources management.

## **3. KEY OUTCOMES**

### **3.1 Identification of Issues and Indicators**

Using the D-P-S-I-R framework, Opportunities framework, Exposure and Vulnerability the authors drew-up a list of core environmental (socio-economic and environment) indicators for key issues under the MGDS, Vision 2020, MDGs, and the planned medium term strategy (post MGDS-2011).

Some of the themes that were considered in the identification of issues and indicators were as follows:

- a) Land and Agriculture (mining, land use, land cover);
- b) Forests;
- c) Water (including energy);
- d) Biodiversity (fisheries, wildlife, agro-biodiversity);
- e) Human settlements (including sanitation, waste management, health and environment); and;
- f) Atmosphere and Climate Change.

A summary of the issues and indicators is provided in Annex 2.

### **3.2 Identification of Peer Reviewers**

During the training, the participants noted of the need to involve peer reviewers in the Outlook Report process to ensure scientific credibility of the Report. The participants requested Environmental Affairs (EAD) and the Ministry of Development Planning and Cooperation (MDPC) to identify peer reviewers as soon as possible.

### **3.3 Expert Review of Thematic Reports**

The participants also noted of the need for the draft thematic reports to undergo reviews by experts from relevant sectors to ensure that the issues are correctly presented. This would also promote ownership of the reports.

### **3.4 Establishment of Core Task Team for Review of the Consolidated Report.**

When EAD, MDPC and UNEP were mapping out a way forward for the process, it was noted of the need to form a core task team that would review the draft consolidated report before its presentation to the national consultative workshop. It was agreed that the task team should comprise the key sectors in the process including Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of Lands and Housing, MDPC, EAD, Department of Forestry, Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Health, National Statistic Office, Ministry of Finance and the Office of the President and Cabinet.

## **4. WAY FORWARD FOR FINALISATION OF THE EOR**

### **4.1 Final Thematic Areas of the EOR**

The final thematic areas agreed by EAD, UNEP, MDPC and the Authors are as follows:

- Socio-economic (Background of the Report)
- Land and Agriculture
- Biodiversity (Fish, Wildlife and ecotourism)
- Forest and Woodlands
- Human Settlements
- Water
- Atmosphere and Climate Change
- Industry, Mining and Energy
- Health (Link to environment)
- Outlook (Scenarios)

### **4.2 Identification of Peer Reviewers**

Environmental Affairs Department should seek a No-objection from the Office of the Director of Public Procurement (ODPP) for sole sourcing peer reviewers within the relevant institutions in the country such as the Universities, Government Departments and Ministries. This

is in view of the fact the Department failed to get peer reviewers following the adverts in the newspapers.

### **4.3 Training and Development of Scenarios**

The Department in collaboration with MDPC through the MPEI should start engaging the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for experts on the Training and development of Scenarios planned for July 2010.

### **4.4 Expert Review of Thematic Reports**

Environmental Affairs in collaboration with MDPC should facilitate expert review meetings upon receiving draft thematic reports. The meeting should be held as the reports come and should not wait for the last draft thematic report. The Consultants will be represented in the meetings to understand and defend the comments.

### **4.5 Establishment of Core Task Team for Review of the Consolidated Report.**

The Department should request Ministries and Departments for nomination of names of officials to be included in the Core Task Team as soon as possible to review the consolidated Environment Outlook Report expected towards end of July 2010.

### **4.6 Work Plan for the Outlook Report (April to November 2010)**

A revised work plan for the period covering April to November 2010 for the Outlook Report process is provided in Annex 3 and this should be circulated to the Lead Author for implementation and monitoring.