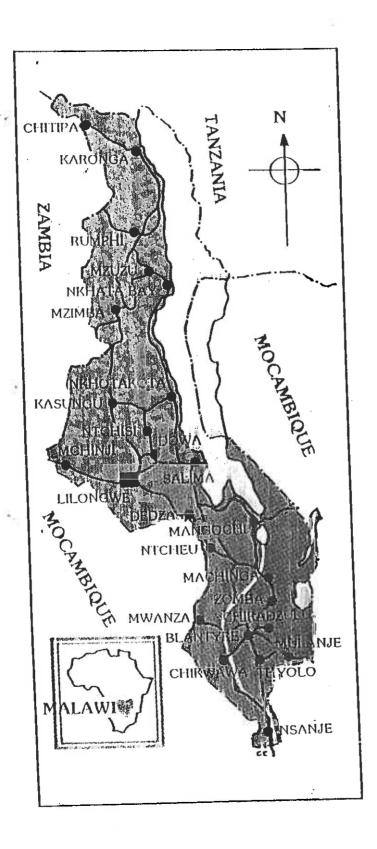
## REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

MINISTRY OF HOUSING

NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION 1996 TO 2000



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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

# 1.0 THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMETS - HABITAT II

1.1 Habitat II is a World Conference called called by the United Nations General Assembly to discuss human settlent issues and come up with solutions on managing urbanisation and improving the living environment. Each participating country is to produce a National Plan of Action which would be included in the Global Plan of Action.

## 2.0 OBJECTIVE OF THE NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION

2.1 The Global Plan of Action will address key issues facing the World towns and cities during the next two decades. The National Plan of Action gives a special focus on strategies and implementation of programmes to create an enabling environment for housing delivery systems and other related human settlement issues.

#### 3.0 SHELTER SITUATION

3.1 At present about 80 percent of Malawian urban population lives in Traditional Housing Areas (THA), i.e planned and unplanned villages, and squatter settlements. In these areas the existing housing stock is characterised by overcrowding, poor maintenance and sanitary conditions. Lack of adequate housing has led to growth of previleged class of plot holders especially in the THAs who have overdeveloped plots to provide for rented accommodation at exorbitant rents.

#### 4.0 GOVERNANCE

4.1 There has been a notable lack of commitment by the government with regard to housing delivery services. This has been manifested in delay by the government to formulate a National Housing Policy and minimal budget allocation to housing related activities among other things.

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#### CHAPTER 1

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1 v 0 BACKGROUND

#### 1.1 Geography

Malawi is a landlocked country occupying the southern part of the Great East African Rift Valley. It is bordered to the north and Northeast by Tanzania, to the east, South and Southeast by Mozambique and to the west by Zambia. The country has a total area of 118,484 square Km, of which 94,276 square Km is land area.

The country is divided into three administrative regions, namely Northern, Central and Southern. The Northern Region is mountainous, infertile and sparsely populated. The Central Region is a fertile, well populated plain. The southern Region is hilly and densely populated and contains a high proportion of modern sector commercial and industrial activity with its supporting infrastructure.

## Population Growth, Distribution and Urbanization

According to 1987 census, the total population was estimated at 7.9 million and is growing at 3.2% per annum up from 2.9% in 1977.

Table I: Population Density, 1977 and 1987

	1977	1987	1994	2000
Population (million)	5.54	7.98	10.0	12.5
Density (pop/Km)	59	85	106	133

Source: Malawi Demographic and Health Survey, 1992

With such growth rates, it is expected that the 1994 population will be approximately 10 million persons and will be 12.5 million by the year 2000.

Table 2: Estimated Population Distribution by region and residence

			residence
Region	<u>Urban</u>	Rural	<u>Total</u>
Northern	90,145	821,642	911,787
Central	300,624	2,810,362	3,110,986
Southern	462,621	3,503,113	3,965,734
Total	853,390	7,135,117	7,988,507

Source: National Statistical Office, 1987

By 1987, about 50 % of the total population lived in the Southern region with a population density of 125 persons per sq.km, 39 % in the Central Region with a population density of 87 persons per sq, km 5 and 11 % in the Northern Region with a population density of 34 persons per sq, km.

Due to rapid population growth, population density is expected to increase from 87/sq, km in 1992 to 126/sq. km by the turn of the century. Population pressure is much heavier on arable land which amounts to just half (52,000 sq. km) of the total land area of 94,267 sq. km. The national population density is currently at 171 persons per square kilometer of arable land.

Already by 1990, 56% of the country's smallholder households had access to less than one hectare of land, considered to be the absolute minimum necessary to self-sufficiency in maize, the staple food. This problem is worse for female headed households who constitute 33.5 percent of all households in Malawi. Evidently, continued rapid population growth will exert even greater pressure on Malawi's limited resources and prevent many households from gaining access to even their already meager pieces of land, especially in the most densely populated areas.

#### 1.2 URBANISATION

The level of urbanization is low, only 11 % of the population reside in urban areas. About 10 % of the population in the Northern Region lived in urban areas. Similarly, 10 % of the population in the Central region lived in urban areas. In the Southern Region, about 12 % of the population lived in the urban areas.

Over the years, the country 's urban population grew substantially, increasing from 4.7 % in 1966 to 8.4 % in 1977 11% in 1987.

During the period 1977-87 the total value and the period 1977-87 the total value.

During the period 1977-87 the total urban population grew at 6.7 % per annum. However, despite the low level of urbanization, the pressure associated with urbanization such as inadequate housing and unemployment are generally emerging. If the present rate and pattern of urban population growth continues unabated, the demand for housing and other urban based social services will proliferate and cause financial and environmental difficulties to both city councils and the economy as a whole.

Malawi's urban population has been growing fast. According to the 1966 national census, there were 203,303 persons living in urban areas of the country. This represented 5% of the total population of around 4 million persons in the year. The subsequent census of 1977 revealed that there were 470,659 persons residing in urban areas, more than twice that of 1966 and indeed representing 8.5 percent of the national population of 5,547,460. This is in effect meant an annual urban population growth rate of 8.0 between the two censuses (Malawi, Department of Town and Country Planning (DTCP), 1987). The most recent census results indicate that 11 percent of the total population lived in urban areas mainly in the four major urban centres, ie. cities of Blantyre, Lilongwe, Mzuzu and Municipality of Zomba.

Table 3: POPULATION GROWTH TRENDS IN SELECTED
- MAJOR URBAN CENTRES 1966-2000

MAJOR POPULATION URBAN CENTRES	POP	ULATION		ANNUAL ( RATES	GROWTH	PROJECTION
	1966	1977	1987	1966-1977	1977-	1987   2000
Blantyre	109,000	219,000	332,000	6.5	4.2	771,400
Lilongwe	19,000	98,700	234,000	15.8	9.0	543,700
Mzuzu	8,000	22,300	44,000	5.9	7.0	102,200
Zomba	20,000	24,200	45,000	1.9	5.9	104,600
Total	156,000	364,200	655,000			1,521,900
As percenta	ige of Mal	lawi's To	tal Urban	Population	1	
	76.7	77.3	75.3		~	60.9

Source: Malawi, NSO: 1984: Malawi, DTCP, 1987.

Table 3 shows population growth trends in the selected urban centres, 1966 - 2000.

- 1. Projections based on 6.7 percent urban growth rate from 1977-2000.
- 2. Figures based on 1987 Census Preliminary Estimates.

Table 3 indicates that by the year 2000 the city of Blantyre will have a population of around 0.75 million representing about 48 percent of the expected population of 1.5 million who will be resident in the four major urban centres of the country. The city of Lilongwe, on' the other hand will be slightly near a half a million representing 16 percent of the national urban population. The slight and fast decline in the annual growth rate of Blantyre and Lilongwe from 6.5 percent to 4.2 percent, and from 15.8 percent to 9.0 percent respectively could probably be offering a strong indication of the dwindling role of urban primacy in the country.

The city of Mzuzu and the Municipality of Zomba will accordingly be accommodating quite substantial numbers of people, particularly the former whose growth rate appears to be explosive. Indeed this could be a reflection of the city status function that it has assumed since 1985.

The very high rate of urban population growth is reflective of three basic reasons, namely rapid natural increase, massive ruralurban migration and expansion of urban boundaries. In the first case, Srivastave and Jarger (1989) observe that the tempo of urbanisation in Malawi during 1977-87 of around 2.5 percent was similar to the rate for Africa in general, slated at 2.3 percent, whereas the growth rate for urban population during the period, fulcrumed around 6.0 percent was slightly higher than that of Africa around 5.2 percent. It is argued that it is plausible enough to explain this in the context of high fertility in urban areas in Malawi than that in urban areas of other countries in Africa in general. However evidence for Malawi from the analysis of the 1977 population census suggests that there was not much difference between the rural and urban fertility levels. Thus the average number of children ever born to each female in rural and urban areas in 1977 stood at 6.62 and 7.21 respectively (Malawi, In view of slow change in social norms and practices NSO, 1984). that affect fertility, it becomes more real than apparent to think that even in 1987, the rural-urban differential in fertility was small.

Pressed against a background of a sustained natural increase over 3 percent population growth rates, internal migration patterns have an important role in promoting urban growth. In 1977, 17.2 percent of the total population born and living in Malawi were enumerated outside their district of birth, this being 5 percent points more than the corresponding rate for 1966 (Malawi, NSO, 1984). This tends to strongly suggest that rural to urban migration flows have had profound impact on urban growth. Indeed the 1977 national

population census indicates that 6.0 percent of the enumerated urban population were actually born in rural areas. Again about 52 percent of total turnover, participated in rural-urban migration at regional level. As is often the case with other developing countries these migration streams were dominated by youthful male groups primarily in search of improved employment opportunities.

Apart from the effect of natural increase and rural-urban migration, rapid urban growth in Malawi is directly affected by expansion of township boundaries. Indeed over years, changes have occurred based particularly upon the built-up environment. The City of Mzuzu is a classic case in the sense that the old township boundaries have been altered to the extent that now the city boundaries encompasses a large rural area. Mzuzu attained a township status in 1964. It rose to a Municipal position in 1989 and finally became a City in 1985. By the time Mzuzu was declared a Municipality, it constituted an areal extend of only 23 square kilometers, but by 1982, just three years before becoming a City, its areal size changed drastically to occupy 112 square kilometers, (Malawi, Department of Housing and Physical Planning (DHPP), 1990). This expansion of urban boundaries is more likely than not bound to increase the number in the low income bracket. In brief, all the three factors have a role to play in urban growth in Malawi, and which factor is most crucial merits detailed research study.

#### 1.3 Economy

The country's economy heavily depends on agriculture. In 1976, Agriculture accounted for 46 % of Gross Domestic Product, and it was 40 % by 1993. Though this shows an improvement in the manufacturing and service, the agriculture sector still dominates the Malawi economy, employing 85 % of the labour force and accounting about 92 % of the export earnings. The economy will continue to rely heavily on agriculture and the population pressures on land will continue to be felt, unless there is diversification.

#### 1.3.1 Future prospects

The economy experienced a relatively rapid growth between 1970-78 followed by a number of serious economic setbacks between 1979-81 as a result of world recession. A steady recovery followed as the restructuring of the economy was undertaken from 1982. However, the economy still remains fragile, and lacks strategic social services and infrastructure.

Recently, developments in the national economy show that while real output grew by 10.8% in 1993, it is expected to decline to negative 9.2% in 1994 as a result of poor perfomance in the agricultural sector due to severe drought.

The macro-economic policy framework for the country in the short and medium term is centred around the achievement of sustainable growth through poverty alleviation. Five main areas have been identified as the main causes of poverty i. e. limited employment opportunities; low physical productivity of both labour and land; low levels of health and education; limited access to land; and rapid population growth. A number of programmes will have to be implemented to establish and consolidate links between macro and micro sectoral programmes.

### 1.3.2 Employment and Labour Force

The Malawian labour force is estimated to grow from 3.46 million in 1987 to 5.63 million in 2000 at the rate of 3.3 per annum. This suggests that on average, 145 thousand newcomers would be seeking jobs each year.

In 1992, Malawi's labour force was estimated to be about 4.4 million. This represents about 77 percent of the total population over the age 10. The majority of this number were engaged in agriculture or fishing, 14.6 percent were engaged in manufacturing and 13.9 percent in the service sector. Only 35 percent of the labour force were formal wage earners while 59.6 percent were in informal sector, and 5.4 percent were unemployed. Roughly, 19.7 percent of the employees work in the public sector and the rest in the private sector. In addition, the labour force was generally unskilled with about 55 percent of the population over five years having no formal education.

Out of the active labour force of 4.4 million people, women account for 1.9 million. Female participation in formal wage employment is low and around 15 percent. Most women are employed at a rather low skill level and work as nurses, secretaries and typists or sales people. They make up nearly 20 percent of clerical workers, 27 percent of sales workers, 23 percent of service workers, and less than 5 percent of administrative and managerial workers.

The key to poverty alleviation in the country lies in the realization of a rapid increase in income and employment opportunities. Indeed, for a number of years the creation of jobs will need to exceed the rate of growth of the labour force to make good the backlog and to absorb many from the agricultural sector.

The data on unemployment is unsatisfactory as it is incomplete. Such available data is able to achieve only the description of formal sector employment. For example, it is noted that formal sector wage employment in Malawi grew at rapid rate of 8.3 percent

per annum between 1968 and 1977 as a result of a high expansion of output (World Bank, 1981). At this rate of growth, formal sector employment provided some 16,100 new jobs per year. Since the labour force grew by 66,400 workers per year, 50,300 workers per year had to be absorbed into other enterprises including the estate/smallholder agricultural sectors, the informal sector, migration abroad or an unemployment. Reflecting the low and sluggish growth of output since 1989, formal sector employment has grown at a rate of about 3 percent per year. Consequently the number of new entrants to the labour force which the formal sector cannot absorb could be in excess of 60,000 per year (Chipeta, 1989).

Indeed though data on unemployment is available for the year 1977, it only describes open employment. Thus Malawi, NSO (1984) noted that, for the economy as a whole, open unemployment problem for the year was estimated at 2 percent. Unfortunately these rates of open employment indicate the visible aspects of the unemployment in the country, at the expenses of knowing the actual under-utilization of labour which may take a number of forms. These may include several forms of underemployment and hidden unemployment. There occurs a dearth of data on the various forms of underemployment in the country. Indeed the 2 percent record of unemployment in the country could be a gross underestimate even for that year. 1983, unemployment was estimated at 5 percent (Mbale, 1989). picture for the 1990s and the year 2000 appears more gloomy especially for urban areas.

While there is concern about unemployment, there is correspondingly increasing recognition that the urban surplus labour is effectively being absorbed in the informal sector. For long, the informal sector has received many praises from perceptive people. These praises come probably because the sector has emerged as a new zone of hope as regards to employment after the formal sector has been seen unable to produce adequate job opportunities. Jolly (1973: 66), for example humorously called the sector "the reserve army of

the unemployed and the underemployed". Lassort and Clavier (1977: 77) similarly remarked that the informal sector is a "major engine in industrial and commercial development".

While the importance of informal sector in the development of countries is being duly accepted, there is very little knowledge in Malawi about the sector. Minis (1989:7) acknowledge this and remarks "The importance of informal sector in Malawi remains something of mystery although most would agree that it Research conducted by Roe and Chilowa (1990) in significant". Traditional Housing Areas of Blantyre and Lilongwe, constitute 70 percent of the urban population, indicate that 22 percent and 30 percent of the interviewed household heads were actually engaged in the informal sector. As regards the City of Mzuzu, it is interesting to note that in 1989, "about 43% of the estimated population of working age were in formal employment", while "a large proportional of the balance of 53% were either in full time education or involved in the informal sector" (Malawi, DHPP: 1990:42). The informal sector is regarded as a major source of employment. Ιt is estimated in 1989, that uneconomically active population of 28,466, 10% were engaged in the informal sector" (Kawonga:43, 1994).

Any person above the age of 10 years is considered economically active and thus are either employed, self employed or unemployed. In 1987 about 46 percent of the urban population was economically active and of these 63 percent were paid employees, 13 percent self employed and family workers, 19 percent were farmers and less than 5 percent were unemployed. The distribution of the urban forces by industry group showed that 25 percent were engaged in agro-based industries, 11 percent in manufacturing, 13 percent in trade and 51 percent in other services.

The report on the Labour Market and Wages Policy in Malawi (prepared by Malawi Government - October, 1993) estimated that 26

percent of the urban labour force was engaged in the non-formal sector. The greater proportion of these people are accommodated in the site and service areas and unplanned squatter settlements. These areas are also main areas for the informal activities. The importance of the informal sector as a source of employment in the urban economy should be viewed positively.

#### 1.3.3 Earnings

More important to consider is the purchasing power population in these major centres, affected by income levels. Indeed in a situation where free market forces operate the levels of earning can either boost or reduce effective demand for basic services. is generally believed, probably due Ιt productivity in informal sector, income too tends to be low. instance, Ettema's study (1985) on, among other things, earnings of participants in the small scale industry in such districts as Mchinji, Mzuzu, Blantyre, Chitipa and Salima enabled grouping of activities in informal sector into categories, one with the turnover of normally less than MK20 per month, the other whose gross monthly earnings ranging from MK21.00 to MK47.00 and finally the third with monthly earning exceeding On average it was found that 75 percent of the whole sample was earning at least MK15.00 a month. Even the most recent study by Roe and Chilowa (1990) depicts an appalling picture of the standard of living and living conditions. Thus the average monthly total incomes in Lilongwe and Blantyre was around MK110.00, while total average expenditure was MK130.00 and MK123.00 When these figures are related to retail price respectively. indices for these two cities, the situation in which the low income groups are, is one of leading a precarious life. retail indices for Blantyre and Lilongwe for all items stood in August 1990 at MK451.10 and MK441.70 respectively (Malawi, NSO, 1990). It is lamentably made worse than ever when "decades of policy investments towards agriculture as the mainstay of the

forest resources causing soil erosion, declining soil fertility and deforestation. Consequently, the priority of the government will have to be given to afforestation programmes, controlling soil degradation and population growth, and other environmental concerns.

#### CHAPTER 2

#### 2:0 SHELTER SITUATION

Despite the fact that government emphasized on the need for adequate shelter for Malawians, not much was achieved in reality. The Malawi Housing Corporation (MHC) was established in 1964 as a Government agency for the provision of shelter in urban and district centres. As at December, 1994 the Corporation had built 9,983 houses and developed 27,062 serviced plots for rental.

While Malawi Housing Corporation has done some commendable work in the provision of low cost housing and site and service plots, it has never been facilitated with adequate resources to play an effective role. It has largely monopolised the housing delivery programmes since the private sector was not actively encouraged and induced to take part.

Based on the monthly statistical bulletin (Nov.93) published by the National Statistical Office (NSO) the total population in 1994 in the major urban centres was approximately 1.23 million. On the assumption that there are five members in each family the total number of housing units needed is 250,000. For detailed analysisi of housing needs for the various cities see appendix 1-4.

The estimated increase in population between 1994 and 1998 from the same statistical bulletin is approximately 314,000 and the number of units needed to house this increase is approximately 63,000. The total number of units that need to be built in the next five years is approximately 253,000 units, of which Malawi Housing Corporation would only take 20%. The rest can be taken up by other players.

For the demand for houses shown above to be met, the Government would have to give sufficient incentives to the private sector and individuals to encourage them to enter the construction industry. There is need to set up one or more financial institutions to provide low interest long term loans for housing development.

At present about 80 percent of Malawian urban population lives in the Traditional Housing Areas (THAs), i.e. planned, unplanned villages, and squatter settlements. In these areas the existing housing stock is characterized by overcrowding, poor maintenance and sanitary conditions.

The study conducted by the Centre for Social Research revealed that poverty situation is acute in Malawi coupled with the effects of Structure Adjustments Programme on the urban poor. Some of the salient features are that most of the low income groups (76%) had to share a pit latrine with one other households. In the squatter settlements there is rarely potable water and a majority of squatters rely on unprotected wells and rivers making the populants prone to water borne diseases. A large proportion of houses were poorly maintained with leaking roofs and insufficient covering on windows. 93% of households have access to a pit latrine with 76% share in a pit latrine.

The appalling situation extends to poor social-economic services such as shopping, health and education. This scarcity leads to high cost for households in terms of transport and energy. The Traditional Housing Areas (THAs) have become the main areas of rental accommodation in Malawi cities and as a result plot densities are high. Many one-roomed dwellings have been constructed for rent by plot owners, these dwellings are poorly built. This has also encouraged proliferation of squatter settlement. For example see table 5. This trend is reflected in all the major cities.

Table 5: <u>Population Distribution by House Types: City of</u>
Blantyre

Year	1	1977	ŀ		1980		1982	1	1	991
Source	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Blantyre Planning Team		MH( Rej	C port		University of Malawi Centre For Social Research	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	MHC Est	C :imates
	-	%   popn	1	%	popn	1	%   popn		%	popn
Permanent Planned	;	39   58100	1	22	50600	0	21   65000	;	18	70000
Traditional Housing Areas	;	17  25300	1 1 1	35	80500	)	24 72000	!	25	101000
Unplanned Squatter	<u> </u>	   44   65660	!	43	   98900	    -	55   163000	1	57	229000
	;	169000	1		230000	) ¦	300000			400000

The high ratios of THA population in all the major urban areas of Malawi shows the heavy dependance on THA for low income housing and the scarcity of formal housing. The fundamental purpose of housing need not be over emphasised.

In defining housing all the infrastructure related to housing is considered i.e. roads, drains, sanitation and social services. Employment generated from housing construction or infrastructural development is hence an integral aspect of housing development vis a vis economic growth. One of the major effects of SAP (Structural Adjustment Programme) is the increase in the prices of basic commodities eg. food and the decreasing government expenditure on basic services (health, education, housing). Real wage and employment have been reduced especially for low income household

(urban poor).

This state of affairs in the housing sector has to be redressed in order to improve the situation. The dimension of housing requirements and the corresponding housing finances has to be appreciated by all key players in the housing delivery system.

## HOUSING INDICATORS SUMMARY TABLES

## A - CITY OF BLANTYRE

,		7
PRICE INDICATORS	Indicator 1: House Price to Income ratio of the median fee market price of a dwelling unit and the median annual household income	8.3
QUANTITY INDICATORS	Indicator 2:Rent-to-income ratio. Ratio of the median annual rent of a dwelling unit and the median annual household income of renters	1.9
QUANTITY INDICATORS	Indicator 3:Housing Production. Total number of housing units(in both formal and informal sectors) produced in the previous year per 1000 population.	3.04
	Indicator 4:Housing Investment. Total investment in housing (in both formal and informal sector) produced in tyhe previous year per 1000 population.	0.02
QUALITY INDICATORS	Indicator 5:Floor area per person. Median usable living space per person(in square metres)	8.3
	Indicator 6:Permanent Structures. Percentage of housing units located in structures expected to maintain their stability for 20 years or longer under local conditions with normal maintenance.	65
	Indicator 7:Unauthorised housing. Percentage of the total housing stock not in compliance with current regulations	57
DEMAND SIDE INDICATORS	Indicator 8:Housing credit portfolio. Ratio of total mortgage loans to all outstanding loans in both commercial and government financial institutions	0.26

SUPPLY-SIDE INDICATORS	Indicator 9: The Land Development Multiplier. Average ration between the median land price of a developed plot at the urban fringe in a typical subdivision and the median price of raw undeveloped land in an area currently being developed	3
* =	Indicator 10:Infrastructure expenditure per capita. Ratio of the total expenditures(operations maintenance, and capital) by all levels of government on infrastructure services(road, sewerage, drainange, water supply, electricity and garbage collection) during the current year and the urban population	2.06

## B - CITY OF LILONGWE

PRICE INDICATORS	Indicator 1:Price to income ratio. Ratio of the median free-market price of a dwelling unit and median household income	4.2
QUANTITY 'INDICATORS	Indicator 2:Rent-to-income ratio. Ratio of the median annual rent of a dwelling unit and the median annual household income of renters	1.5
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	Indicator 4:Housing investment. Total investment in housing(in both formal and informal sectors) as a percentage of gross domestic product	0.6
QUALITY INDICATORS	Indicator 5:Floor area per person. Median usable living space per person in square metres	6.64
	Indicator 6:Permanent structures. Percentage of housing units in structures expected to maintain their stability for 20 years or longer under local conditions with normal maintenance	67
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DEMAND-SIDE INDICATORS	Indicator 8:Housing credit portfolio. Ratio of total mortgage loans to all outstanding loans in both commercial and government financial institutions	0.01

SUPPLY-SIDE INDICATORS	Indicator 9:The land development multiplier. Average ratio between the median land price of a developed plot at the urban fringe in a typical subdivision and the median price of raw, undeveloped land in an area currently being developed	6
	Indicator 10:Infrastructure expenditure per capita ratio of total expenditures (operations, maintenance and capital) by all levels or government on infrastructure services(road, sewerage, drainage, water supply, electricity and garbage collection) during the current year	5.4

## C - CITY OF MZUZU

PRICE INDICATORS	Indicator 1:House-price-to-income ratio. Ratio of median free-market price of a dwelling unit and the medium annual household income	5.2
**	Indicator 2:Rent-to-income ratio. Ratio of the median annual rent of a dwelling unit and the median annual household income of renters	2
QUANTITY INDICATORS	Indicator 3:Housing Production. Total number of housing units (in both the formal and informal sector). Produced in the previous year per 1000 population	11.3
<b>L</b>	Indicator 4:Housing investment. Total investment in housing (in both formal and informal sectors) as a percentage of gross domestic product	0.02
QUALITY INDICATORS	Indicator 5:Floor-Area per person. Median usable space per person(in square metres)	6.53
QUALITY INDICATORS	Indicator 6:Permanent Structures. Percentage of housing units located in structures expected to maintain their stability for 20 years or longer under local conditions with normal maintenance.	49.3
	Indicator 7:Unauthorised housing. Percentage of the total housing stock not in compliance with current regulations	54
DEMAND-SIDE INDICATORS	Indicator 8: The housing credit portfolio. Ratio of total mortgage loan to all outstanding in both commercial government financial institutions	1.05

SUPPLY-SIDE INDICATORS	Indicator 9: The Land Development Multiplier. Average ratio between the median price of a developed plot at the urban fringe in a typical subdivision and the median price of raw, undeveloped land in an area currently being developed	5.6
	Indicator 10:Infrastructure Expenditure per capita. Ratio of the total expenditure (operation, maintenance, capital) by all levels of government on infrastructure services: roads, sewerage, drainage, water supply, electricity, garbage collection) during the current year, and the urban population	8.21

## D - MUNICIPALITY OF ZOMBA

PRICE INDICATORS	Indicator 1:House-price-to-income ratio. Ratio of median free-market price of a dwelling unit and the medium annual household income	2.98
	Indicator 2:Rent-to-income ratio Ratio of the median annual rentof a dwelling unit and the median annual household income of renters	0.79
QUANTITY INDICATORS	Indicator 3:Housing Production. Total number of housing units(in both the formal and informal sector). Produced in the previous year per 1000 population	3.3
	Indicator 4:Housing investment. Total investment in housing(in both formal and informal sectors) as a percentage of gross domestic product. Median usable space per person(in square metres)	0.02
QUALITY INDICATORS	Indicator 5:Floor area per person Median usable space per person (in square metres)	5.3
QUALITY INDICATORS	Indicator 6:Permanent structures. Percentage of housing units located in structures expected to maintain their stability for 20 years or longer under local conditions with normal maintenance	45
	Indicator 7:Unauthorised housing. Percentage of the total housing stock not in compliance with current regulations	40.6
DEMAND-SIDE INDICATORS	Indicator 8: The housing credit portfolio. Ratio of total mortgage loan to all outstanding in both commercial government financial institutions	1.36

SUPPLY-SIDE INDICATORS	Indicator 9: The Land Development Multiplier. Average ratio between the median price of a developed plot at the urban fringe in a typical subdivision and the median price of raw, undeveloped land in an area currently being developed	1.84
	Indicator 10:Infrastructure Expenditure per capita. Ratio of the total expenditure (operation, maintenance, capital) by all levels of government on infrastructure services: roads, sewerage, drainage, water supply, electricity, garbage collection) during the current year, and the urban population	78.6

#### 2.2 EXISTING POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

Since independence there has been no comprehensive Government policy on housing, Except for statements, as portrayed in the Statement of Development Policy. For example in DEVPOL II (1987 - 96) it stated that the "policy will be to stimulate the finance, Construction, and maintenance of an appropriate stock of urban housing by the Malawi Housing Corporation, local authorities and the private sector". DEVPOL p120.

In DEVPOL the policy statements were highlighted as:

- (a) undertaken a steady controlled move towards economic rental charges for all Malawi Housing Corporation, Government and parastatal;
- (b) dispose all Malawi Housing Corporation owned district housing to Government, hand over some Traditional Housing Area to those local authorities capable of operating them, and sell a proportion of Malawi Housing Corporation urban housing stock at market prices;
- (c) radically restructure Malawi Housing Corporation so that it can efficiently execute its new role as an estate development agency;
- (d) introduce new mortgage financing arrangements to stimulate house purchase by middle income groups, in particular public servants;
- (e) ensure the early introduction of housing allowances for senior public servants, both to offer them some compensation for the increase in house rental and to give them effective freedom to choose between rental and ownership;
- (f) commence the sale by Government, where possible to sitting tenants, of the bulk of its non-institutional housing stock;
- (g) increase the volume of public capital resources available to the various executing agencies in the sector through a special fund, supported by limited recurrent subsidies where this is merited;
- (h) introduce a new programme of urban middle and low-income housing schemes involving core unit, site and service, and settlement upgrading schemes;
- (i) undertake a review of present planning and building standards, a relaxation of the legal controls on subletting, and a programme of research into low-cost house

design and low-cost building materials;

- (j) continue a programme to improve the quality of rural housing and where possible, use and disseminated lessons learnt in the urban as well as rural environment;
- (k) centralize all Government housing functions in one Ministry which will be expanded and restructured to give it the required capability; and
- (1) undertake decentralisation of local authorities.

DEVPOL p120

Not much has been achieved in the implementation of these strategies due to delayed commencement. This has been so, because of lack of commitment by the government towards translating the policy statement into reality. Ιn short. independence, the housing sector has had inadequate human and financial resource allocation. There also has been the adoption of ad-hoc housing programmes and non-involvement of private sectors and community participation. These have resulted from lack of coordination in the activities of the key players in housing which has resulted in deviation from stated strategies as well as less achievements in housing delivery

Currently, the Ministry of Housing has been created. This Ministry must define its roles and responsibilities which should include formulation of a comprehensive housing policy, as well as coordinate the activities of other key players.

#### 2.3 LEARNING FROM BEST PRACTICES

2.3.1 Rural Housing Project
Malawi's Rural Housing Project was launched in 1981 with the main objective of motivating, encouraging and assisting rural families to improve their housing conditions (using improved indigenous materials) and quality of life in line with the overall national development objectives. In the period it has been in operation the following useful lessons have been learnt;

- (a) the developed low-cost technology have been accepted by people and the demand is increasing;
- (b) the concept on self-help as well as community involvement in housing can work;
- (c) rural housing generates business and employment opportunities;
- (d) women can participate in housing schemes in their own right. They tend to be easier to work with than men;

- (e) to attain efficiency in housing delivery system there is need to separate the functions of Technical Services from Financial Services. That is one institution need not combine the two;
- (f) Among poor people, housing is not their first priority. There is need, therefore, to help them improve their incomes, so that they can meet their other needs;
- (g) lack of sustainability as a result of lack of government commitment.

The Building Materials Loan Project

The Building Materials Loan Programme is one of the project component of the World Bank First Urban Housing Project. The principle objective of the project is aimed at promoting a practical and effective housing delivery system that meets the needs of the target group through participation by project beneficiaries in the actual house construction and management.

The project introduced a new standard of housing development in Malawi which is "Intermediate" between the existing high standard permanent housing and the low standard Traditional Housing Areas (THA) development. The project was launched in 1987 and to date the Malawi Housing Corporation has developed 2,896 serviced plots in the major urban centres i.e. Blantyre (1080 plots), Lilongwe (1100 plots), Zomba (583 plots), and Mzuzu (133 plots), out of which 2,348 were for building materials loans and the balance of 548 were built upon with core/shell houses.

In addition the project provided building materials loans to 281 plot beneficiaries that were developed under the British Overseas Development Aid i.e. Blantyre (191 plots), Lilongwe (36 plots), and Mzuzu (54 plots).

To ensure sustainable development, the project was designed based on full cost recovery pricing which is the basis for continuing mobilization of funds to ensure project replicability.

Its impact on the community has been considerable to the effect that over 2,800 people benefitted from the programme. In addition, the project generated jobs to men and women within and outside the project areas.

#### CHAPTER 3

#### **GOVERNANCE**

#### 3.0 PREAMBLE

The administrative system consists of Central and Local Government, and Traditional Authorities. Though the administrative system is well structured, its effective performance has been hindered by lack of decentralisation and devolution in terms of decision making and financial logistic problems and limited interaction with villagers to promote their participation.

Since independence, the Malawi Government has only managed to produce a statement, as portrayed in the Statement of Development Policy. The statement indicated that the "policy will be to stimulate the finance, construction, and maintenance of appropriate stock of urban housing by the Malawi Housing Corporation, local authorities and the private sector." DEVPOL P120.

A quick assessment shows that there has been lack of commitment by the government towards the policy stated above. This is manifested in the allocation of inadequate human and financial resources, lack of support, adoption of ad hoc housing programmes and non-involvement of other private sectors. Key players in housing included Ministry of Housing, Ministry of Physical Planning and Surveys, Ministry of Lands and Valuation, Ministry of Statutory Bodies/Parastatals, Non-governmental organisations and individuals. The roles of these key players include policy formulation, financing, technical support and implementation.

On community participation, for the past thirty years emphasis was on a top - down approach in the housing delivery system. democratic changes in the country the emphasis is now on community development participation through decentralization and community participation and bringing decision making closer To achieve this "the Government intends to enhance communities. local authorities in the country performance of strengthening their technical, manpower and financial capabilities. will pursue policy of Local Government a decentralisation in order to equip local communities with effective skills for planning and implementing there own programme. This would include the delivery of basic infrastructure, the provision of basic social services, land use management and consideration of the environment; including the development of a responsible and responsive regulatory framework, with the public interest taken into account.

The government should work towards decentralisation, accountability, openness, capacity building, and incorporating

gender issues in housing delivery systems.

#### 3.1 CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

#### 3.1.1 OPPORTUNITIES

- (a) The creation of a Ministry of Housing will be of great use.
- (b) The drawing up of a National Housing Plan of Action.
- (c) The delivery of housing services has been enhanced by the increase in the number of organisations involved in house delivery.
- (d) The number of individuals aiming at house ownership has recently been on the rise.

#### 3.1.2 CONSTRAINTS

- (a) The main constraint has been lack of a comprehensive housing policy by central government, which has consequently led to loose relationship between or amongst the various key players involved in human settlement management. There has been lack of coordination between or amongst key players involved in shelter provision leading to duplication of efforts and conflicting approaches.
- (b) Lack of or inadequate human and financial resources has been a stumbling block to the fulfillment of efficient human settlement management.
- (c) While there has existed statements and ad hoc policies on housing, commitment to these by politicians and government officials has been minimal:
- (d) Accessibility to developable land has also been a major constraint. While there could be land available in urban areas, most of it is not serviced. In addition, various organisations and individuals hold land for speculative reasons.

#### 3.2 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

#### 3.2.1 <u>GOALS</u>

To institutionalise efficient, responsive, open and accountable systems for human settlement management.

	1	T	
2.Improve	- Coordination	-Ministry of	-continuous
housing	of housing	Housing	Continuous
delivery	Programmes	nousing	
system	between/		
ay a com	amongst all		
	agencies		
<u>ي</u>	involved in		
<del>-</del>			
×	shelter	į į	
5+	provision		
8880	- Involvement	-Ministry of	-continuous
	of the	Housing	Concinuous
	target group	nousing	
	and extension	-Local	l i
	services in the	Authorities	
	planning and		
	implementation	-NGOs	
	of housing		
	programme	-Private	1
		Sector	
'		*	
		-Individuals	:
	}		
		- Other Key	
		Players	7097
	Dan Lavet		
	- Reviewing,	-Ministry of	-continuous
	streamlining	Housing	
	and strengthe-		
	ning building	-Local	i
*	standards	Authorities	
	procedures and		
	housing	-NGOs	
	delivery system		
	<u> </u>	-Ministry of	}
	1	Lands and	
		Valuation	
Í		-Ministry of	i
		Local Govt;	
l	[	and Rural	
		Development	
			]
	- Introduction of	-Ministry of	-continuous
	civic education	Housing	1
1.	on human		
	settlement	-Local	
A	issues	Authoriti	]
i i		-Ministry of	
1		Broadcasting	
L	<u> </u>		L

		-Non- Governmental Organisation	
3. Introduce Community Initiative to ensure sustainable development	-review regislation to incorporate Community Based Programmes	-Ministry of Justice	– one year
• @	-Activate Local participatory Approaches	-Ministry of Local Govt;  -Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Community Services and Social Welfare  -NGOs	-continuous
L		-Pressure Groups	

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		·	<b>T.</b>
4. Increase Budgetary Allocation	- Housing and services need higher public sector commitment as productive investment - 2% of G.D.P. to be for housing  (1) All housing implementing agencies	-Ministry of Justice  -Ministry of Local Govt;  -Ministry of Finance  -Ministry of Economic Planning and Development	-April 1996
<u>.</u>			1
-	investment		
•	200 of a D D +=	Finance	
		Winiata- of	ļ
₩ ×	_	Economic	
	implementing	_	
.77.	(2) Emphasis to be on low income programmes		*
	(3) Remove tax burden on agencies on low income housing projects on related components to ensure affordability		
<u> </u>	L	<u> </u>	

	<del> </del>		
5. Promotion	-Draft National	-Ministry of	-Document
of low-cost	Minimum Building	Housing	should be
construct-	Standards	nousing	passed by
ion techno-	Regulations	-Ministry of	Parliament
logies and		Justice	by October,
building	-Programme	1	1995
materials	between/amongst		1993
targeted to	all agencies	ł	
the poor	involved in		
The Page	shelter		
<i>a</i> -	provision	)	
	Providion		
	-involvement of	-Ministry of	
***	the target group	Housing	
259	and extension	nousing	}
	services in the	-Local	
	planning and	Authorities	
	implementation		
	of housing	-NGOs	
	programme	Noos	
	1	-Private	
Ì		sector	
		-Individuals	
		Other Ver	
	_	-Other Key   Players	1
20		Flayels	
			2. "
<b>X</b>	-reviewing,	-Local	
	streamlining and	Authorities	
	strengthening	indendi i e i e i	
	building	-NGOs	
	standards,	11000	
	procedures and	-Private	
<b>3</b> 33	housing delivery	sector	
	system	300101	
	3,555	-Ministry of	
		Lands and	
		Valuation	
		101 mat 1011	
		-Ministry of	
		Local Govt;	
			1
	-Education on	-Local	
	human settlement	Authoriries	
	issues		
		-Ministry of	
		Information	
		and Broadca-	
		casting	
	ļ		

		-NGOs	
	-Identification and establishm- ment of a semi-	-Ministry of Housing	
A	autonomous	-Ministry of	
-	financial	Finance	
	institution to	(Treasury)	
* S2	manage housing	, ,	
	finances	-Ministry of	
605		Economic	
		Planning &	1
		Development	
)			
Ī		-Local	
		Authorities	
		-Ministry of	1
		Local Govt;	
ļ.		-Department	
		of Income	
( m		Tax	
<b>!</b>		-Ministry of	<u>.</u>
1		Economic	6*
		Planning and	
		Development	
1			
6. Increase	-Development of	-Housing	-1995 - 2000
Housing	Rental Housing,	Institution	
supply '	squatter	MHC, Local	
through	upgrading THA	Authorities	
development	and development	Private	}
various	of owner	Sector	İ
housing	occupation		
option	l		
	<u> </u>		
7. Provide	-Government	-Ministry of	-1995 - 2000
Employment	should give	Labour	
and remov	incentives to		
barriers to	informal sector	-Ministry of	
low-income		Commerce and	}
employment	-Encourage labour	Industry	
opportuni-	intensive		
ties both	shelter and	-NGOs, Local	
at National	services	Authorities	
and Local	provision	Labour Union	
Government		and Private	
levels	<u> </u>	sector	L

	<del></del>		
8. Introduct- ion of lending instituti- ons to provide credit facilities to low- income people	-Encourage community based credit systems and should be linked to the formal financial sector  -Creation of a National Housing Financial Institution for Low-income Housing	-Ministry of Finance  -Ministry of Housing  -Ministry of Economic Planning and Development  -National Association of Business Womem	-1995 - 2000
9. Promote Entrepre- neurship and diver- sification	-Create conducive environment so that people can open business activities -Provide tax incentives	-Ministry of Commerce and Industry  -Ministry of Women, Children and Community Services -NGOs	-By the year 2000
10.Formation of Task Force	-To draft summary of strategies for discussion and submission to the Ministries	-Line Ministries and NGOs	-July 1994 to Dec,1995
11.Adoption of Social Fund	-Access Funds to Urban people	-Ministry of Economic Planning and Development	-February, 1995 to the year 2000

#### ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT

#### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

The National Environment Action Plan report has identified nine environmental issues. These issues have affected some settlement development in both rural and urban centres. The key environmental issues are:

- (a) soil erosion
- (b) deforestation
- (c) water resources degradation and depletion
- (d) threat to fish resources
- (d) threat to bio-diversity
- (e) human habitat degradation
- (g) high population growth
- (h) air pollution
- (i) climatic change

Other factors common to all environmental issues constitute the nexus of population growth, poverty, illiteracy and lack of environmental information and awareness.

Malawi is among the poorest countries in the world whose per capita GDP was MK 991 ( US \$ 225 ) in 1993 and about 60% of its population was below the poverty line of US \$40 per capita per year. Its population growth of 3.2% is high and so is the the illiteracy rate of 50%, the latter contributes to the lack of environmental awareness. The land resource is threatened by the demand placed on it by the very poor who, because of low literacy, have little access to informantion on sustainable agricultural practices. This nexus of population growth, poverty and illiteracy has led to a sub-optional and sustainable resource utilisation. The poor, being the most affected, have heavily discounted future income and pursue sub-optional social consumption decisions, leadin to environmental degradation.

The essential environmental components of human habitat are

shelter, safe drinking water, and appropriate management of domestic and industrial wastes and effluent.

Housing conditions in Malawi are generally poor. According to the 1987 Census about 84% of all houses were grass thatched, 53% had mud or wattle walls and 89% had mud floors. It is estimated that 50% of existing housing structures in rural areas are in unhabitable state, calling for an urgent attention. An important reason for this is the temporary nature of the building materials used.

The demand for shelter and housing in urban areas are even more acute than in rural areas as a consequence of a high rate of rural-urban migration. this is further exacerbated by the low income for the majority of urban dwellers, which is too low for the to afford renting, building or buyin adequate housing. As a result there is considerable overcrowding in existing traditional housing areas. Secondly, there is also an increasing number of unauthorised construction of dwelling structures using unsuitable materials, such dwelling units lack basic infrastructures and services such as roads, water supply and sewerage disposal. The great housing shortage has resulted in the growth of unplanned squatter settlements, especially in the four major urban areas, where it is estimated that 60 to 70 % of the total population live in traditional housing areas and in unplanned squatter settlements.

Source: NEAP pp. 35-36

# 5.1 CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

## 5.1.1 <u>OPPORTUNITIES</u>

- (a) free education
- (b) review of school curriculum on environmental matters;
- (c) diversification of economy;
- (d) tree planting exercises;
- (e) practice of good farming methods by using sustainable agriculture policies;
- (f) public participation in decision making and implementation.

## 5.1.2 CONSTRAINTS

- (a) poverty
- (b) ignorance
- (c) inadequate alternative to fuel energy;
- (d) high population growth;
- (e) lack of institutional mechanism to enforce regulations;
- (f) natural disaster.

## 5.2 <u>GOAL AND OBJECTIVE</u>

5.2.1 <u>Goal</u>: to achieve sustainable environmental management system and to improve the living condition of the poor.

## 5.2.2 Objectives

- (a) to document and analyse all major environmental issues and measures to alleviate them
- (b) to promote sustainable use of natural resources in Malawi
- (c) to develop an environmental protection and management plan.

STRATEGIES -	4.00		<u> </u>
OTRAILGIES	ACTION REQUIRED	IMPLEMENTING	TIME
	KEQUIKED	AGENCY	FRAME

1. To reduce human habitat degradation	(a) Expand the low cost housing schemes and Traditional Housing Areas in Urban Areas	Ministry of Housing Ministry of Local Govt. Local Authorities NGOs	1994-2000
fair to NC ex	(b) Strengthen the planning capacity of Local Authorities by training more planners	- Ministry of Housing - Ministry of Physical Planning - Dept of Human Resource Management	1994-2000
*	(c) Review the development charges to create incentives for plot development and provide basic services to facilitate speedy development to minimise squatting	- Local Authorities - Ministry of Lands and Valuation	On-going
	(d) Review ground and property rates to make housing affordable to different plot seekers	- Ministry of Lands and Valuation and Local Authorities	1994-2000
	(e) Identify potential water	- Ministry of Irrigation	On-going

		<u> </u>	
-	(f) To train local communities on proper maintenance of water kiosks	- Local Authorities	On-going
3 10 2 (20)	(g) Involve and train local communities in refuse disposal	- Ministry of Local Govt - Local Authoriti- es - NGOs	1994-200
	(h) Introduce refuse collection and disposal systems in Urban areas	- Local Authorities - Non-govern- mental organisati- ons	1994-2000
	(i) Improve Sanitation by expanding the use of VIP latrines to all Traditional Housing Areas and squatter areas		S:

2. Reduce Population growth	Introduce population and family life education	- Ministry of Women, Children, Community Services and Social Welfare	
	Raise public awareness of women's rights in decisions affecting the size of the family	- Ministry of Education  - Ministry of Health and Population Services - NGOs	
3. Research in Building materials			1995 -2000
	<b>%•</b> %		0.635

### 6.0 SHELTER

#### 6.1 <u>BACKGROUND</u>

Minimal success has been achieved in the shelter provision area since independence. The state owned Malawi Housing Corporation (MHC) has managed to build 9,690 houses and 25,636 serviced plots by 1987 for sale and rental purposes.

In 1968, a special corporation, the Capital City Development Corporation (CCDC) was established to develop the New City of Lilongwe and by the time it was dissolved in 1983, it had built 870 houses and over 10,000 serviced plots. The government's own housing stock was 18,609 units belonging to a wide variety of departments and institutions.

Almost all this urban housing was constructed between 1964 and 1979. However, during this period, the supply failed to fully accommodate the demand which was estimated at above 8,000 in 1987. By 1980, squatter settlements had developed in all the four main urban centres, an estimated 30,685 in Zomba, 100,000 in Mzuzu. During this decade the situation has rapidly grown worse as not only had demand continued to rise while the rate of supply has fallen off very sharply. The main problems associated with this are discussed below:-

## 6.2 <u>CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES</u>

## 6.2.1 <u>OPPORTUNITIES</u>

- (a) these include all the key players involved in the provision of shelter;
- (b) the exisstence of donor agencies, local authorities, private sector, government and individual involvement;
- (c) the availability of land, existence of organisations to assist in servicing land for house development.

### 6.2.2 CONSTRAINTS

- (a) lack of access to land, security of tenure credit facilities;
- (b) limited financial institutions;
- (c) lack of complehensive policy on shelter which could properly provided a link between the policy making and operational levels;
- (d) lack of financial and human resources for research and development of cheaper and affordable building materials;
  - (e) lack of awareness of existing low-cost technologies;
  - (f) lack of community participation in the provision and maintenance of infrastructure, such as clinics, schools, ect.
  - (g) lack of public sector recognition of housing sector as a production investment.

#### 6.3 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- 6.3.1 To provide adequate shelter for all.
- 6.3.2 To increase the Housing Supply (and increase) options.

### 6.4 SOCIO-CULTURAL CONTEXT

#### 6.4.1 GENDER ISSUES

Malawi Government will strive to create an enabling environment for women to obtain affordable housing and access to land by, among other things, removing all obstacles to access, with special emphasis on meeting the needs of women, especially those living in poverty and female heads of households. This will be achieved by, inter alia, undertaking legislative and administrative

reforms to give women full and equal access to economic resources, including the right to inheritance and to ownership of land and other property, credit, natural resources and appropriate technology.

S	STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED ACTION	ORGANISATION	TIME FRAME
	Enhance Accessibility to land for Residential Development	Streamlining, reforming and strengthening procedures, regulations and systems e.g. holders of freehold land should be encouraged to provide infrastructure necessary to develop land. If they fail, government shopuld acquire such land under (Cap 58:04) of Land Act	- Ministry of Housing - Ministry of Local Govt - Ministry of Justice MHC - Local Authorities - NGOs	18 months
2	Enhance Accessibility to credit for Low Income Earners	- Establish of a Financial Institution Low Income Earners	As above plus:  Ministry of Finance  Ministry of Econ Plan. & Develop.	3 years

3. Development of Appropriate Technology	Research for cheaper building materials  Civic Education/Public awareness on new and appropriate building technologies	- Ministry of Housing - Local Authorities - University of Malawi (Polytechnic) - Centre for Social Research - NGOS - Ministry of Housing - Ministry of Information and Broadcast - Ministry of Works - Ministry of Physical Planning and Surveys - M. H. C NGOS	continous
Ţ.		Institutions e.g. Malawi Housing Cor- poration, Local Authorities, Private sector	

4. Empowerment of Local Authorities	Involve private sector, NGOs community based organisations in the formulation and implementation of Housing delivery service.	- Ministry of Housing  - Ministry of Physical Planning and Surveys - Ministry of Local Govt Ministry of Lands & Valuation - Malawi Bureau of Standards - Chamber of Commerce - Local Authorities - NGOS - Malawi Housing Corporation - Private Sector	conti- nuous
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5. Provision of Social Infrastructure	Encourage formation of building and other cooperatives to assist in financing and maintaining of basic services and infrastructure  Increase public awareness on the preservation of the environment  Encourage NGOs in provision of social services  Creation of Community Development Committees	As in 4 above	continous
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## POVERTY REDUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION

#### 6:0 POVERTY IN MALAWI

The condition of poverty in Malawi is characterised by lack of productive means to fulfil basic needs such as food, water, shelter, education and health. The poor tend to have limited access to productive resorces and basic servi es. More than half the population live below the poverty line.

Rural poverty is estimated at 60% while urban poverty is a growing phenomenon affecting about 65% of the city dwellers.

## 6.1 <u>CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES</u>

## 6.1.1 <u>OPPORTUNITIES</u>

- (a) Launching of Poverty Alleviation Programme
- (b) Introduction of family planning programmes
- (c) Creation of Social Action Fund and Malawi Rural Finance Company
- (d) Self-help programmes

#### 4.1.2 CONSTRAINTS

- (a) Lack of empoerment of the community in decission making.
- (b) The rapid increasing population is exerting pressure on land and natural resources, on the nation's Food self-sufficiency and food security, the labour markets, and the provision of essential social services.
- (c) Some traditional beliefs, customs, ceremonies and other social and cultural factors have a powerful negative influence on community life. e.g. the acceptability of new ideas and modern practicies in the areas of education, health, family planning, sanitation, agriculture, borrowing and debt

2.	Promotion of low-cost construction technologies and building materials targeted to the poor	- Amend building regulations to accommodate low-cost construction technologies.  - need to research  - need to set up standards and adapt them into the National building regulations  - Ministry of Housing and Line Ministries and NGOs. Housing Institutions		Minimum building standard should be appro- ved by October 1995
3.	Encourage development of rental sector to help housing the poor and shelter shortages e.g. Local Authorities could build houses for rent	- Housing institutions Private sector etc, should be encouraged to build more houses	- Housing Institutions e.g. Malawi Housing Corporation, - Local Authorities - Private sector	1995-2000

4. Provide Employment and remove regulatory barriers to low-income employment opportunities both at National and Local Government levels.	- Government should give incentives to informal sector  - Encourage labour intensive shelter and service provision	- Ministry of Labour  - Ministry of Commerce and Industry  - Ministry of Labour  - Line Ministries  - Private Sector	1995-2000
5. Introduction of lending instituions to provide credit facilities to low income people.	- Encourage community based credit system and should be linked to the formal financial sector	- Ministry of Finance  - Ministry of Economic Planning & Development  - Ministry of Housing  - National Association of Business Women	1995-2000
6. Promote ' entrepreneur- ship and diversifi- cation	- Create conducive environment so that people can open business activities and provide tax incentives	- Ministry of Commerce and Industry,  - Ministry of Women and Children and Community Services  - NGOs	By the year 2000

7. Formation of Task Force	- To draft summary of strategies for discus- sion and submission to the Ministries	- Line Ministries and NGOs	July 1994 to Dec.95
8. Adoption of social fund	- Access funds to the urban people	- Ministry of Economic Planning and Development	Feb 1995 to the year 2000

#### LOCAL HOUSING ACTION PLANS

#### 7.0 INTRODUCTION

Shelter is one of the most important componets of human settlements. Barriers to access to shelter imposed through existing legal and regulatory systems need to be assessed and modified. The most abiquitors barriers to the provision of adequate shelter are lack of access to land, lack of secure tenure and lack of access to credit.

Outlined below are Plans of Action of some Government Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations and Local Authorities in trying to redress the problem of shelter by providing housing units and serviced plots in urban centres of Malawi.

### 7.1 MALAWI HOUSING CORPORATION

Malawi Housing Corporation was established in 1964 as a government agency for the provision of shelter in district and urban centres. As at December 1994 the corporation had built 9,983 houses and developed 27,062 serviced plots. The last housing programme was carried out in 1978. Since the to date very little has been done in the provision of housing. Consequently, a backlog of housing has been created to the tune of 253,000 units. This backlog needs to be wiped out in the next five years. However, the Corporation can only manage to deal with only 20% of this backlog provided funding is made The rest of the backlog of 80% has to be available. taken care of by the local authorities, private sector and individuals. Below is a proposed Malawi Housing Corporation programme to provide 50,000 houses in the next five years that is to the year 2000.

NUM	BER	OF	UNI	TS

MOMBBIC OI	OIVIIO				
Type of Housing	1995/96	<u> 1996/97</u>	<u>1997/98</u>	1998/99	1999/2000
ITHA plot	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
THA plots	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
PHA plots & house	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300
PHA plots & flats	600	600	600	600	600
PHA plots only	600	600	600	600	600
	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
		<b>-</b>			

#### ESTIMATED COST

Type of Housing	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/200
*	K mil	<u>K mil</u>	<u>K mil</u>	<u>K mil</u>	<u>K mil</u>
ITHA plots	75	75	75	75	75
THA	10	10	10	10	10
PHA plots & house	176	176	176	176	176
PHA plots and flats	129	129	129	129	129
PHA plots only	15	15	15	15	15
	409	409	409	409	409

ITHA = Intermediate Traditional Housing Area

THA = Traditional Housing Area

PHA = Permanent Housing Area

## 7.2 HABITAT FOR HUMANITY (MALAWI)

Habitat for Humanity (Malawi), a non-governmental organoisation, building low-cost housing for low-income groups, commenced operations in malawi in 1986 and by the end of 1994 will have built about 1,700 houses.

Habitat for Humanity (M)'s programme for the next two year period is as follows:-

			<u>Projected Budget</u>
1995	-	1,500 houses	US \$1,250,000
1996	_	1,800 houses	US \$1,500,500

For the following four years, plans are to construct:

			Projected Budget
1997	=	2,000 houses	US \$1,700,000
1998		2,000 houses	US \$1,750,500
1999		2,300 houses	US \$1,900,000

2000

2,500 houses

US \$2,100,000

 $\mathrm{HFH}(M)$  is currently operating in twelve districts in all three regions of Malawi and plans to expand every district by the year 2000.

# 7.3 CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Christian Service Committee realises that the provision of better houses to the urban and rural poor is a big and challenging task but yet very important. Hence, the organisation continues to solivit funds from its partners for such projects. Presently, two new project sites for Rural Low-Cost Housing have been identified; namely Enukwenu in the Northern Region and Nambuma in the Central Region where about 50 to 75 houses will be financed under the building material loan revolving fund programme. In addition to the above, it is also planned that new 50 houses be financed in Chikwawa.

Besides the housing component, the project will also encourage the beneficiaries to construct pit latrines. This is the sanitation component of the project. Water glass plants will also be constructed at the new sites:

For the purpose of planning we estimated that over 4,155 houses will be provided to the rural poor by the year 2000, broken down as follows:-

Year <u>1995</u> No of	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	1998	<u>1999</u>	2000 Total
Houses: 200	300	450	675	1,012	1,518 4,155

As for the urban, we have not yet identified project sites. However, we envisage to be involved in urban areas because the housing situation in the urban areas is becoming worse every year.

Regarding the traditional projects in the rural areas such as teacher's houses, medical staff houses, school blocks, health centres and water supply, these will continue up to the year 2000 but we cannot quantify at the moment.

In conclusion, we would like to say that the Christian Service Committee would appreciate to work in close cooperation with the Government of Malawi and other organisations involved in providing housing to the rural poor.

Major constraints are financial resources, hence we are restricted to provide fewer houses at atime at each project site.

# 7.4 LOCAL AUTHORITIES

For Local Authorities, their Action Plans are outlined in the appendices 1 to 4.

HOUSING NEED AND SUPPLY - BLANTYRE 1987 - 2003 HOUSING NEED GENERATED BY ANNUAL PUPULATION GROWTH OF 6% AND PLOT REGUIRENENTS FOR UPDATED STRATEGY: BLANTYRE

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iear Projections	1987 Census 42,881	Assumed at 1991	1992-93 55.713	1993-94 59.062	1994-93 52,800	1995-96 66.363	1995-97 70,344	86-7991 686, AT	1998-99 79,039	1999-00 83,781	2000-01 88,808	2001-02 94,137	2002-03 99,785	
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HOUSING WEED AND SUPPLY - LILONGWE 1957 - ZOOS HOUSING WEED GEWERATED BY ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH OF 7% AND PLOT REBUIREMENTS FOR UPDATED STRATEBY: LILONGWE Appendix Z

rear Projections	1987 Census 245.756	รถระส	Assumed at 1991	1992-93 343,202	1993-94 307,226	1994-95 392,952	420,437	1776-77 449,868	1997-98 481,359	1998-99 515,654	1999-00	2000-01 589,685	2001-02	2002-03 675,130	
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ADDENDIN 4 HOUSING NEED AND SUPPLY - 1078A 1967 - 2003 HOUSING NEED GENERATED BY HANNAL FOPULATION GROWTH OF 07 HAD PLOT REGUIRENEATS FOR UPDATED STRAKEGY: 1048A

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### Appendix 5

# TRADITIONAL HOUSING AREA (THA) PROGRAMMES FOR MALAWI

Having taken over Traditional Housing Area (THA) (site and services) stock and property, City Councils embarked on proposals that would expand plot provision capacity for low-income housing. The potential plot development programmes that are being considered by Councils are:-

#### (i) THA NORMAL

Plots not exceeding 400 square metres in size, are fully serviced and include the existing planned THA plots which need to be upgraded. These plots are provided by making available following infrastructure:

- paved circular roads with line storm drains;
- gravel surface secondary roads;
- full water reticulation;
- full electrical service;
- infrastructure for water borne sanitation
- solid waste management:
- land tenure.

It is envisaged that the private sector will finance such projects including a profit mark-up to stimulate plot development in other programmes.

#### (ii) THA BASIC

These are slightly smaller plots (225  $\pm$  350 m2) provided on basis of site and service scheme.

The services that will be provided in this project will include:

- circular roads with storm drains;
- gravel surface secondary roads;

## (v) COST RECOVERY

The basic assumption of the proposed programmes is cost recovery. One of the reasons for failure to supply more plots was the lack of funds to develop new plots which MHC and CCDC developed with donor funds and provided to allotees free of charge subject to payment of nominal ground rent annually (K 5.00 and increased to K 20.00 over a period - 1966 - 86). With the changing economic conditions throughout the world, sources of grant money dried up and government stopped development of new plots.

The principle of cost recovery brings the concept of assesing demand for various plot programmes. The question of affordability determines the number of plots that can be supplied in each programme.

Source: Implementation Constraints of Low Income Housing Programmes in Malawi: 1995 - A.J.C. Kawonga

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