



MPATAMANGA HYDRO POWER PROJECT

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP)

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

Acronym	Term
ADC	Area Development Committees
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
BMEP	Biodiversity Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
CBO	Community-Based Organisations
CEP	Community Engagement Program
CIA	Cumulative Impact Assessment
CLO	Community Liaison Officer
CES	Community Engagement Strategy
CV	Curriculum Vitae
DC	District Council
DoL	Department of Lands
E&S	Environmental and Social
ECW	Early Civil Works
EDF	Electricité de France
EGENCO	Electricity Generation Company (Malawi) Limited
EMA	Environmental Management Act
EP4	Equator Principles
EPC	Engineering Procurement and Construction
EPRP	Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan
ESAP	Environmental and Social Action Plan
ESF	Environmental and Social Framework
ESGT	Environment and Social Government Team
ESH	Environmental, Safety, and Health
ESHS	Environmental, Social, Health and Safety
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
ESMS	Environmental and Social Management System
ESMU	Environmental and Social Management Unit
ESS	Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Acronym	Term
ESSP	Energy Sector Support Project
FBO	Faith-based Organisations
FC	Financial Close
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GIIP	Good International Industry Practice
GoM	Government of Malawi
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
GVH	Group Village Head
GVGRC	Group Village Grievance Redress Committee
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus / Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
HSSE	Health Safety Security and Environment
ICP	Informed Consultation and Participation
IESC	Independent Environmental and Social Consultant
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IFI	International Financing Institution
ILO	International Labor Organisation
IHA	International Hydropower Association
ILO	International Labor Organisation
ISO	International Standard Organisation
JDA	Joint Development Agreement
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LTA	Lenders Technical Advisor
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MHPP	Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project
MoE	Ministry of Energy
MP-GRM	Mpatamanga Project Grievance Redress Mechanism
MoC	Management of Change
MW	Mega Watt
NC	Nonconformity
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OHS	Occupational Health and Safety
PAOI	Project Area of Influence

Acronym	Term
PAPs	Project Affected Person/s
PDC	Project Development Committee
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
PoE-ESM	Panel of Experts for Environmental and Social Management
PPA	Project Preparatory Assistance
PS	Performance Standard
RA	Relationship Agreement
RLRAP	Resettlement and Livelihood Restoration Action Plan
RPF	Resettlement Policy Framework
RWG	Resettlement Working Group
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
SHEA	Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Abuse
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
SLO	Social License to Operate
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
TA	Traditional Authority
The Project	Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project
UN	United Nations
UNESCO	UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation
UNGP	UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
VDC	Village Development Committee
VH	Village Head
WB	World Bank
WBG	World Bank Group

1. Introduction

This Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) has been developed to provide the Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project (MHPP) with a framework for engaging in Informed Consultation and Participation (ICP) with local communities, Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and other stakeholders. This SEP is a living document that will be used throughout the duration of the Project and reviewed and updated on a regular basis (see section 10.3 Ongoing Review and Continuous Improvement) and also prior to the transition to a new major Project phase, e.g. from Development Phase to Construction Phase and then from Construction Phase to Operations Phase.

1.1. About the Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project (MHPP)

The proposed Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project (the Project) is being developed by Mpatamanga Hydropower Project Limited (MHPL) and the Government of Malawi in a Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement. The Project is in the Southern Region of Malawi, within the Blantyre, Neno and Balaka Districts, on the Shire River, the largest river in Malawi, between the existing Tedzani and Kapichira hydropower schemes (see Figure 1 below). The proposed Main Dam (55 m high) will create a 20 km² reservoir at full supply level, with a total storage volume of 272 million m³. Water from the Main Reservoir will drop by approximately 66 m to a 301 MW powerhouse located 1 km downstream of the Main Dam. The water discharged from the main powerhouse into the Shire River (installed capacity of 550 m³/s) will then flow into a 1.4 km² regulating reservoir (at full supply level) created by a 45 m high regulating dam located 6 km downstream on the Shire River. Water from the Regulating Reservoir will be discharged into the Shire River through a 57.5 MW powerhouse located at the foot of the dam (installed capacity of 388 m³/s). From the upper part of the main reservoir to the Regulating Dam, the Project footprint will extend over 29 km of river length.

No project facilities directly encroach into existing or planned internationally recognised biodiversity areas. A short distance downstream of the Regulating Dam, the Shire River will flow through the IUCN Category IV Majete Wildlife Reserve for 11 km before entering the existing Kapichira reservoir.

The Mpatamanga Project will have a generation capacity of 358.5 MW, composed of two plants – the 301 MW peaking plant at the Main Dam and the 57.5 MW baseload downstream plant at the Regulating Dam. The project is expected to contribute to reducing energy shortages and enhancing energy security in Malawi. The 301 MW plant, with its Main Reservoir storage, is designed to provide much-needed energy during peak demand hours of the day and overall grid stability with its ability to ramp up or down production to meet actual demand. The targeted average annual energy production is 1,544 GWh (Main Dam and Regulating Dam combined).

The electricity generated by the Project will be delivered to the grid through two transmission lines: a 63 km long 400 kV transmission line from the main powerhouse to the existing Phombeya sub-station; and a 10.5 km long 132 kV transmission line that will connect to the Regulation Dam powerhouse to the existing Tedzani-Kapichira Transmission Line.

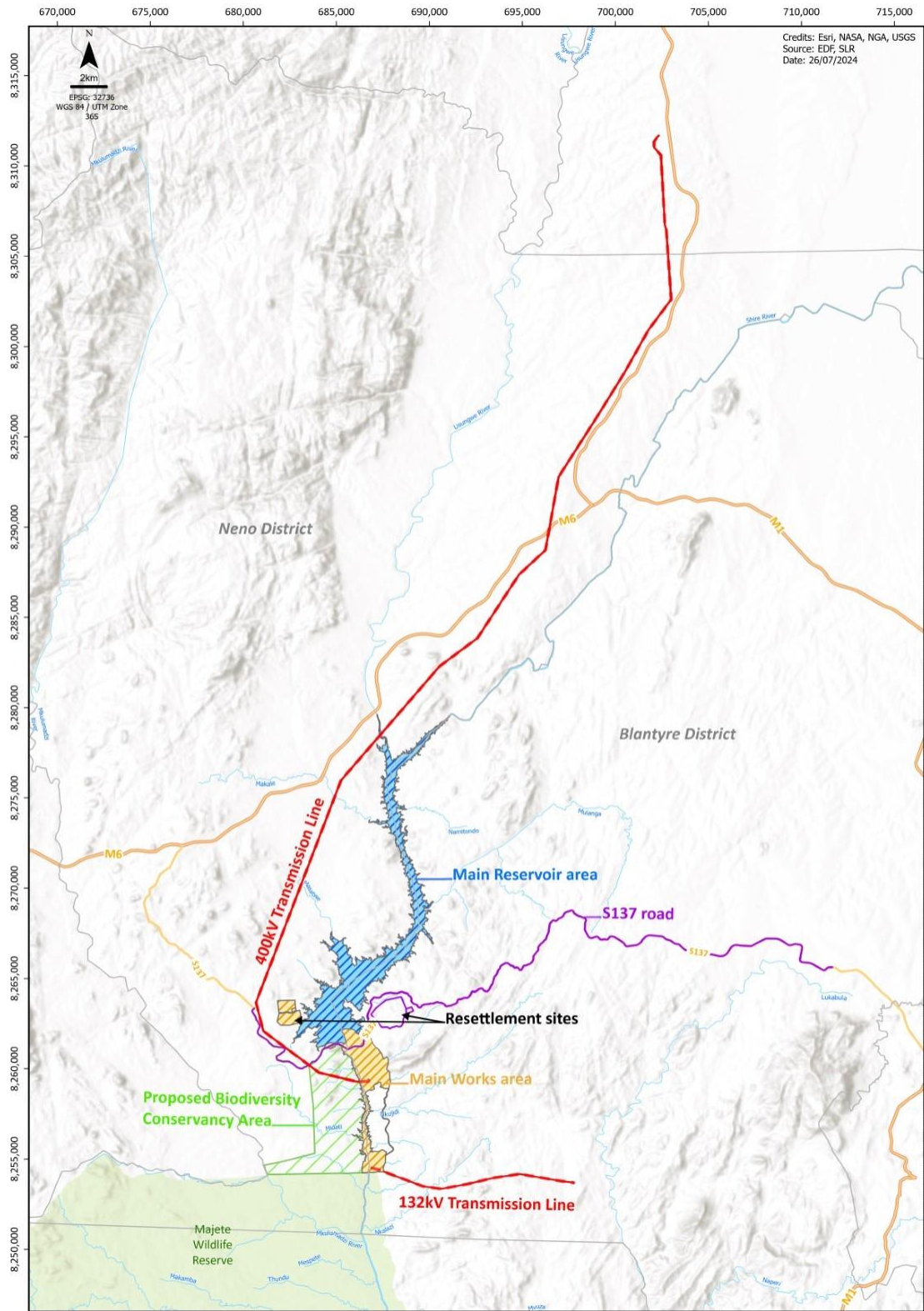


Figure 1: MHPP Location and Facilities

Part of the S137 road, which links Blantyre to Mwanza, will be flooded by the future Mpatamanga Main Reservoir. A new by-pass S137 road will be built by the Project, passing over the main dam. The future Chileka-Mwanza/M6 S137 road will be ~50 km long and out of these, 11.5 km will be newly constructed

by the Project to bypass the Main Dam and the reservoir, and 34.5 km will be upgraded on the Blantyre side.

For the operational phase, a permanent operators' village will be built close to the main powerhouse, to accommodate the operators of the two dams. A new 6 km long service road will be built by the Project from the main powerhouse to the regulating dam. The workforce will be accommodated in one construction camp during the construction period.

A 54-month construction schedule has been estimated for the Project, starting in early 2026. The commissioning of the powerhouses is scheduled for mid-2030. Early works (resettlement sites) are planned to be executed from 2025.

1.2. Project Developer and Lenders

The Project is to be developed on a build-own-operate-transfer (BOOT) basis by MHPL and the Government of Malawi (GoM). MHPL is the Project Company. MHPL will be responsible for constructing and operating the Project for a period of 30 years, after which time it will be transferred to GoM for continued operation and maintenance. An Implementation Agreement, which stipulates the responsibilities of MHPL and GoM, will support the BOOT agreement.

The BOOT approach allows GoM to be protected from operating risk, while at the same time allowing it to benefit significantly from a 30% share in the Project through EGENCO. The remaining 70% of MHPL will be owned by EDF (27.5%), SCATEC (14%) and its joint venture partners British International Investment (6.75%) and Norfund (6.75%), as well as the IFC (15%).

Finance will be provided by EDF, Scatec, the IFC, and the Government of Malawi, using funds from the World Bank, as well as debt from development finance institutions, to be co-ordinated by the IFC (the Lenders).

1.3. Development Status and Key Dates

In 2024, when the present ESIA was issued, the Project construction had not started yet. The EPC Contractors were yet to be selected, and the detailed design was yet to be undertaken.

At the time of writing (November 2024), key project development dates were as follows:

- 2024-2025, Preparation:
 - Detailed technical, environmental and social studies;
 - Selection of construction companies.
- 2025 to 2030, Construction:
 - S137 road upgrade in 2025;
 - Main construction works from 2026 to 2030.
- 2030 onwards, Operation:
 - Start of power generation;
 - Operated by MHPL for 30 years, then transferred to the Government.

1.4. Stage of Project Preparation

The MHPP is in the Development Phase, which commenced in late August 2022 (after a pre-development phase that commenced in 2015). During these phases, several technical, environmental & social (E&S) studies are being carried out to validate the Project's viability.

Key milestones of the Project's development to date are as follows:

- During 2015-2018: Technical investigations into project feasibility were undertaken.
- During 2018-2019: Initial environmental and social (E&S) studies were undertaken.
- In April 2019: The Ministry of Energy (MoE) signed a Joint Development Agreement (JDA) with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to co-develop the Project. Further E&S and technical studies were then undertaken during 2019 - 2022. This included initiating studies related to development of a regulating dam; which plays a key role in mitigating Project environmental & social (E&S) impacts.
- In February 2020: The MoE launched a Strategic Sponsor tender process; seeking a private sector partner (a 'Strategic Sponsor') to enable the MHPP to be further developed through a Public Private Partnership (PPP).
- In July 2022, EDF and SCATEC established a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) known as Mpatamanga Hydro Power Limited (MHPL), a company incorporated under Malawi law.
- In August 2022: The MoE signed an agreement with the IFC and international hydropower developers¹ Electricité de France S.A. (EDF) and SCATEC to further develop the Project as a PPP.
- Between October and December 2022: New environmental and social studies were commissioned by both GoM and MHPL. These included: Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (by GoM) and ESIA, BAP, RLRAP (by MHPL).
- In June 2024: Basic Design of the Project finalised
- In August 2024: Pelosi Disclosure process started with Draft ESIA and ESMMP disclosed on MHPL, World Bank and MoE websites.
- In August 2024: Completion of initial selection process/shortlisting of EPC contractors for EPC 1, 2 and 3.
- In September 2024: Results of the environmental and social studies were disclosed to stakeholders through various channels: MHPL and MoE websites, quarterly stakeholder and monthly community meetings.
- In October 2024: EIA Permitting Process started with the submission of the EIA to MEPA.

1.5. MHPP Governance

Since late August 2022, the MHPP has been developed by four co-developers – the GoM, IFC, EDF, and SCATEC - through a PPP. Mpatamanga Hydro Power Limited (MHPL) now leads the Project's development, working in close coordination with the GoM. MHPL is a Blantyre-based Malawian company that was jointly formed by EDF and SCATEC in July 2022. In the future it is planned that both the GoM and the IFC will also become MHPL shareholders.

¹ EDF is a French multinational electric utility company. SCATEC is a Norwegian leading renewable power producer.

The World Bank is involved in the MHPP through its provision of a project preparatory assistance (PPA) grant to the GoM to support its involvement in the Project development, along with IDA funding and project guarantees. The GoM has established a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) based in Lilongwe that coordinates GoM Project involvement.

The MHPP is being developed in compliance with national legislation, World Bank Group (WBG) environmental, social, labour, security, and occupational health and safety (ESHS) requirements including IFC Performance Standards (2012), World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (2017), and good international industry practice (GIIP).

Potential negative social and environmental impacts of the Project have been identified and studied, and environmental and social management plans (ESMPs) have been developed to prevent and/ or mitigate these. There is a focus on ensuring that potential benefits of the Project are realised.

The MHPP will provide some local employment and procurement opportunities during the development, construction, and operational phases. It is also planned to include some initiatives and programs to benefit affected communities.

The four Project Partners have established a Project Development Committee (PDC) that meets monthly to discuss and monitor Project progress.

As Lead Developer, MHPL reports on the Project's progress to the PDC. MHPL's governance includes a Steering Committee comprised of EDF and SCATEC executive representatives and also a Board that operates in accordance with Malawian regulatory requirements.

GoM MHPP involvement is coordinated through its PIU, which is housed within the MoE. The PIU coordinates MHPP's interface with GoM Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and includes representatives from key MDAs including Ministry of Lands (MoL) and Malawi Environment Protection Authority (MEPA). As needed, the PIU seeks technical guidance from the GoM MHPP Project Taskforce and policy guidance from the GoM MHPP Steering Committee. The two committees have been established by the MoE and operate under MoE management.

1.6. Potential Project Impacts (Positive and Negative)

The MHPP has identified and assessed the following as potential impacts. Further, prevention, management and mitigation measures have been identified and compiled in the Environmental and Social Management and Monitoring Plan (ESMMP) to prevent, reduce and/or compensate for any Project-related impacts.

1.6.1. Potential Environmental Impacts

- Disturbances to terrestrial biodiversity.
- Disturbances to aquatic biodiversity.
- Soil disturbances, pollution, and erosion.
- Environmental pollution: water; air; dust; noise and/or light pollution.

1.6.2. Potential Social Impacts

- Community safety risk due to flooding or accidental drowning.
- Increase in vector-borne diseases, especially malaria.

- Increase in road safety risks.
- Physical and/or economic displacement.
- Loss of access to natural resources and/or ecosystem services.
- Loss or disruption of livelihoods.
- Land use changes and land shortages.
- Human rights breaches which can be labour, economic, social and cultural in nature, covering issues such as: health, education, child labour, wages, and working conditions.
- Population influx and associated impacts:
 - Changes in social and cultural practices, values, and social identity.
 - Increases in “social ills”, including, excessive consumption of alcohol and illegal substances and increase in sexual transactions.
 - Conflict between local communities and labour migrants and jobseekers.
 - Increases in Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Abuse (SHEA).
 - Increased pressure on social services and infrastructure, including potable water, medical facilities, education facilities, police services, and administrative services.
 - Increased incidence of communicable diseases, including HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), malaria, tuberculosis, Coronaviruses, Mpox and cholera.
- Damage, destruction, and/or desecration of graves, cemeteries, and/or sacred sites.
- Employment opportunities.
- Economic opportunities for local entrepreneurs and contractors.

2. The MHPP Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)

2.1. Structure and Content

The MHPP SEP is structured as follows:

- **Section 2** outlines the purpose, principles and objectives, scope of the SEP.
- **Section 3** provides an overview of national legislation and international best practice standards that inform stakeholder engagement.
- **Section 4** summarises the mapping and analysis of the Project’s key stakeholders.
- **Section 5** summarises the previous and ongoing engagement activities undertaken by the Project.
- **Section 6** summarises the Project’s stakeholder engagement strategies including engagement methods, schedule, purpose and key messages. These include measures to ensure social inclusion.
- **Section 7** summarises the Project’s approach to grievance management including a summary of the Project’s Pilot Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) Procedure.
- **Section 8** summarises the MHPP’s Environmental & Social (E&S) Organisation and the intended capacity building and training to support Project SEP implementation.

- **Section 9** describes the Project’s stakeholder engagement management system.
- **Section 10** describes the process of monitoring and evaluating the performance of the Project SEP and summarises the monthly, quarterly, and annual reporting.

2.2. Purpose and Scope

The SEP will provide a mechanism for continuous engagement and dialogue with Project stakeholders. It will also allow for stakeholders’ perspectives and concerns to be known and to regularly feed into the Project’s phased development in an appropriate manner.

The engagement approach set out in the SEP takes into consideration cultural norms and values, the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, and strives to be gender-sensitive and inclusive.

The SEP focuses on engagement with stakeholders affected by Project activities and those with interest in and influence on the project, including impacted communities, customary authorities responsible for these communities, regional and national government authorities and departments, large landowners (commercial farmers and tourism lodges), Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), including African Parks, civil society organisations, environmental and economic projects operating within the Shire River basin, local businesses and suppliers, and other hydropower dams in the area.

This SEP defines a process for addressing how MHPP will conduct regular consultations and interact with identified external stakeholders and any new stakeholders as they may arise. This SEP is part of MHPP’s Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) and aligned with the Environmental and Social policies that serve as the basis of the ESMS.

2.3. Principles and Objectives

This SEP is underpinned by internationally recognised stakeholder engagement principles², as follows:

- Stakeholder engagement is an integral part of all Project phases, including development, construction, and operation phases, and is ongoing and iterative. Stakeholder engagement should thus be initiated early to inform and receive input on studies and processes.
- It should be based on the prior disclosure and dissemination of relevant, transparent, objective, meaningful and easily accessible information which is in a culturally appropriate local language(s) and format and is understandable to affected communities.
- Engagement should be inclusive and focused on those directly affected.
- It should be equitable and non-discriminatory and ensure that vulnerable individuals or groups amongst the affected stakeholders are given opportunities to voice their opinions and concerns.
- Engagement should be free of external manipulation, interference, coercion, or intimidation.
- Engagement should ensure the confidentiality of information and stakeholders, where appropriate, and should protect stakeholders from any retaliation for opinions expressed.
- It should enable meaningful participation, where applicable, but also avoid unnecessary and excessive consultations that may lead to stakeholder fatigue and/or unrealistic expectations.

² International Finance Corporation (2012). Performance Standard 1.

- Engagement activities and their outcomes should be documented.

Considering these principles and the Project's overall engagement objectives, the specific objectives of this SEP are to:

- To ensure a process for clear, timely and transparent communications with PAPs and other stakeholders.
- Ensure compliance with national regulatory and Good International Industry Practice in support of Social License to Operate (SLO) and maintain formal stakeholder engagement compliance throughout the Project cycle.
- Ensure the identification of all stakeholders who are (or will be) directly and indirectly impacted by Project activities and/or are other interested and influential stakeholders.
- Ensure a process that respects basic Human Rights as established in national laws, World Bank Group standards, and the UNGP.
- Provide the framework for targeted stakeholder consultation and engagement, awareness-raising and other mechanisms for the inclusion and participation of stakeholders impacted by and / or interested in the Project.
- Reference the interface with the separate Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) Procedure that has been established to effectively manage stakeholder grievances through a fair and transparent process with a view to seeking resolution in a timely manner.
- Outline the reporting and monitoring activities that will be undertaken in relation to stakeholder engagement with various stakeholder groups and grievance management.

3. Policy and Regulatory Framework

3.1. Policies and Regulatory Framework

The Project will be developed in compliance with all applicable national regulatory and lender requirements such as,

- Applicable national social and environmental laws, regulations and policies of Malawi relating to concessions, land acquisition and resettlement, labour and working conditions, Gender Equality Act, Malawi Vision 2063, pollution prevention and control, public health and safety, biodiversity protection and conservation, ethnic groups and environmental protection.
- Relevant international treaties and conventions that Malawi is a signatory to, such as (but not limited to) the United Nation (UN) Declarations, United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) conventions, International Labor Organisation (ILO) Core Conventions and all other ILO Conventions ratified by Malawi.
- International Financing Institution (IFI) standards including:
 - The IFC Performance Standards (2012);
 - World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) (2017);
 - Equator Principles 4 (EP4) (July 2020); and
 - Relevant World Bank Group (WBG) Environmental, Safety, and Health (ESH) Guidelines.

- The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) (2011).

3.2. National Legislation

There are several national legal frameworks which govern public consultation in the implementation of development projects in Malawi. These legal frameworks include, but are not limited to, The Constitution of Malawi, Malawi Vision 2063, Gender Equality Act (2013) and the Environmental Management Act (EMA), 2017.

The Constitution of Malawi provides for right to access to information. Under the constitution every person has the right of access to all information held by the State or any of its organs at any level of Government in so far as such information is required for the exercise of his or her rights.

Malawi Vision 2063 Enabler 5: Human Capital Development promotes inclusiveness in human capital development by promoting gender transformative approaches that aim to reduce gender power imbalances which hinder the economic empowerment of women. It shall expand the provision of necessary social services and opportunities for minority and marginalized groups, including persons with disabilities, to participate in wealth creation activities.

The Gender Equality Act promotes gender equality, equal integration, influence, empowerment, dignity and opportunities, for men and women in all functions of society, to prohibit and provide redress for sex discrimination, harmful practices and sexual harassment, to provide for public awareness on promotion of gender equality, and to provide for connected matters.

The Environmental Management Act (2017) provides for public participation in Environment Management. Section 5(1) stipulates that for purposes of ensuring effective public participation and enforcement of rights and duties created under this Act, the Authority shall promote the right of every person to:

- Access environmental information - lead agencies, private sector and NGOs shall have a duty to provide such information in a timely manner.
- Participate in environmental decision-making processes directly or through representative bodies and mechanisms, for effective, direct, and indirect public participation.

The Malawi Guidelines for ESIA require public consultation during the project lifecycle. The guidelines provide guidance on the methods of public consultation, communication, and information disclosure.

The consultation with the public should:

- Be started as early as possible in the project cycle and be continued at some level throughout the project cycle.
- Time major elements of public consultation to coincide with direct planning and decision-making activities in the project cycle.

The guidelines allow for relevant public consultation to be undertaken at different stages of the ESIA process including during:

- Preparation of an ESIA terms of reference.
- Conducting ESIA studies.
- Government review of an ESIA Report.

- Preparation of environmental terms and conditions for approval.

3.3. International Standards and Guidelines

This SEP has been developed in alignment with the relevant IFC Performance Standards (2012), the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (2017), and the UN Guiding Principles (2011).

3.3.1. IFC Performance Standards (2012)

The IFC views stakeholder engagement as the basis for building strong, constructive, and responsive relationships and an essential activity for the successful management of a project's E&S impacts. Engagement should be an ongoing process, tailored to be proportionate to the project's risks, adverse impacts and the project's phase of development. Performance Standard 1: Assessment and Management of E&S Risks and Impacts is relevant to the Project's approach to stakeholder engagement.

Apart from guiding the overall assessment and management of E&S risks, PS1 prescribes how grievances from affected communities and other stakeholders should be managed. It promotes ways in which affected communities should be engaged throughout the project lifecycle to ensure that relevant information is disclosed and that affected communities/persons are heard and understood, and that their views are taken into account in project decisions through a process of Informed Consultation and Participation (ICP).

PS1 also provides guidance in dealing with vulnerable or disadvantaged groups in the Project's area of influence. Such vulnerability may stem from disadvantaged or vulnerable status that may stem from an individual's or group's age, gender, ethnicity, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, literacy, sickness, physical or mental disability, poverty, or economic disadvantage. If such groups are identified, it is necessary to determine if they are (or will be) disproportionately affected by the project. The consultation process must then be tailored to the needs of individuals or groups identified as disadvantaged or vulnerable.

3.3.2. World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (2017)

The World Bank Environmental and Social Standard 10 (ESS 10): Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure notes that effective stakeholder engagement allows for the development of strong, responsive, and constructive relationships that can improve the environmental and social sustainability of projects, enhance project acceptance, and make a direct contribution to successful project design and implementation.

ESS 10 stipulates that open, transparent, and inclusive engagement between a project and its stakeholders is an essential element of good international practice. The engagement process must be conducted throughout the project life cycle and is most effective when started at an early stage of project development. Engaging stakeholders at an early stage helps to ensure that stakeholders are an integral part of early project decisions and identifying, managing, and monitoring a project's social and environmental impacts.

ESS 10 recommends a systematic stakeholder engagement approach whereby stakeholders are identified and categorized according to how they are affected by the project as well as their level of interest in and support for the project. This will inform the project's specific engagement strategies and

information disclosure needs to different categories of stakeholders and enable stakeholders' views to be considered with regards to project management and social and environmental performance.

The ESS 10 also advises on information disclosure and meaningful consultation. In terms of appropriate project information on E&S risks and impacts, these must be disclosed in a timely, understandable, accessible, and appropriate manner and format. Consultation is meaningful when it is culturally appropriate, and free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination, and intimidation.

Stakeholder engagement must be adapted to the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.

A key element of effective stakeholder engagement is the development and implementation of an accessible and inclusive grievance management procedure that allows stakeholders to raise Project-related issues and grievances and the project to respond to and manage such grievances.

3.3.3. UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (2011)

The UN Guiding Principles (UNGPs) provide further international guidance to the Project's stakeholder engagement effort, specifically the SEP's approach to grievance resolution through the following non-state-based grievance mechanism principles:

- **Principle 28:** States should consider ways to facilitate access to non-state-based grievance mechanisms dealing with business-related human rights harms. This refers to grievance mechanisms that are administered by a business enterprise and that are non-judicial to ensure speedy remediation.
- **Principle 29:** To make it possible for grievances to be addressed early and remediated directly, business enterprises should establish or participate in effective operational-level grievance mechanisms for individuals and communities who may be adversely impacted. This implies that operational-level grievance mechanisms should be directly accessible by affected communities / stakeholders, i.e., stakeholders should be able to engage directly with the Company in dealing with issues and settling on remediation, whether such a complaint is related to an alleged human rights abuse or not; and
- **Principles 30 and 31:** Deal with grievance mechanisms and as such have been discussed in more detail in Section 7.

The General Principles of the UNGPs stipulate special attention must be paid to rights, needs and challenges of individuals from groups that may be become more vulnerable or marginalised due to Project activities

4. Stakeholder Mapping and Analysis

To align with both the IFC Performance Standards (2012) and World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (2017), stakeholders have been defined as:

- Individuals or groups that are likely to be affected directly or indirectly by the Project i.e. 'Project Affected Peoples' (PAPs)
- Other Interested or Influential Stakeholders i.e. 'Other Interested Parties'.

The term "stakeholder" may refer to an individual, group or organisation.

Stakeholder mapping and analysis is the process used to categorise stakeholders and determine the engagement requirements for each stakeholder group. In general, those stakeholders requiring the greatest engagement effort are those who are most affected by and/or have the highest level of influence and/or have interest over a project.

As a first step in preparing this SEP, stakeholder mapping and analysis of Project stakeholders was undertaken in June 2023 by PIU and MHPL.

The objectives of the stakeholder mapping and analysis were, inter alia, to:

- Identify key stakeholders according to type and category.
- Assess stakeholders' level of interest in and/or impact by the Project as well as stakeholders' level of influence/power over the Project.
- Use the above assessment to prioritise stakeholders and engage with them accordingly.
- Assess opportunities for partnership and collaboration with stakeholders.
- Identify requirements for implementing the SEP, including staffing and capacity-building requirements.

The stakeholder identification and analysis in this current version of the SEP has been updated following the conclusion of the E & S studies.

4.1. The MHPP Context: Governance and Administrative System

Before delving into the identification analysis, this section gives the governance and administrative system in Malawi to provide context to the identification and analysis of the stakeholders.

Malawi adopted multi-party-political system in 1993 after a national referendum. This culminated into a change in the national constitution which had to be aligned to the new political order. In addition, the new constitution had to adopt global considerations for greater participation of citizens in socio-economic development, cognisant of the postulations that governments deliver development services better when citizens are actively involved in the decision-making processes regarding their development. To this end, Malawi adopted a decentralised system of governance, specifically, devolution of powers from the central government to the local government. This created a two-tiered governance system, comprising of the central and local (district) government administrative structures, replacing the old three-tiered governance system which had central, regional and district administrative structures, except for the Ministry of Lands which still has the three-tier system of having a regional office, currently also in the process of aligning with the other MDAs.

The public sector project stakeholders at national level comprise of the Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government. At the District level, the public sector project stakeholders comprise of the local government system which comprises of the District Councils, led by the District Commissioners, and comprising of various heads of departments in the Council, such as the Director of Planning and Development, the Director of Public Works, the Director of Health and Social Welfare Services, the Director of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Under these Directors are several departments, such as Forestry, Lands, Social Welfare and Community Development. These form the project stakeholders at district level. They are organised into Committees such as the District Executive Committee (DEC), which comprises of the senior/executive level officers. The DEC has sub-committees, such as the

District Environment Sub-Committee, among others, to which the lower-level senior officers are assigned.

The District Council is comprised of Ward Councillors who represent their constituents and wards respectively. In addition, the District Council also comprises of traditional leaders, specifically, the Traditional Authorities, who represent their subjects in the Council. Further, the politically elected Members of Parliament (MPs) currently form part of the District Council as well.

To allow for inclusion, Civil Society Organisations (CSO) and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) also have representatives in the Council and the various sub-committees. Similarly, various faith groups are also represented through the Pastors Fraternal representative.

Below the district project stakeholders are the Area level stakeholders. These are called the Area Executive Committee (AEC) and they are located at the Traditional Authority level. These comprise of Forestry Assistants, Health Surveillance Assistants, Agricultural Extension Development Officers and Coordinators (AEDC/O), Community Development Assistants, Social Welfare Assistants, Gender Assistants and Water Development Assistants.

To facilitate citizen participation in development, the decentralisation policy provided for the formation of Development Committees at the local level comprising of the citizens themselves and their village headmen. To this end, there are Area Development Committees (ADCs), which comprise of representatives from the Traditional Authority and the Group Village Headmen (GVH). The GVH is a tier lower than the Traditional Authority. At the GVH level, there are Village Development Committees (VDCs) which comprise of the representatives from Village Committees, such as Village Forestry Committee, Village Health Committee, Village Water Committee, Village Education Committee, among others. This cascading down of Development Committees up to the village level is meant to ensure that the citizens are closer to the decision-making processes of their socio-economic development.

At the local level, CSOs are mainly called Community Based Organisation (CBOs). These are located at the Area or Village level and may or may not have linkages to national level or international level NGOs/CSOs. They can be issue-specific or general sector specific.

The linkages among the various project stakeholders as described above is represented by the Figure 2 below which illustrates the district development planning process. It is therefore important that these stakeholders are identified and consulted during the stakeholder engagement processes for the MHPP.

An Illustration of the District Development Planning Process

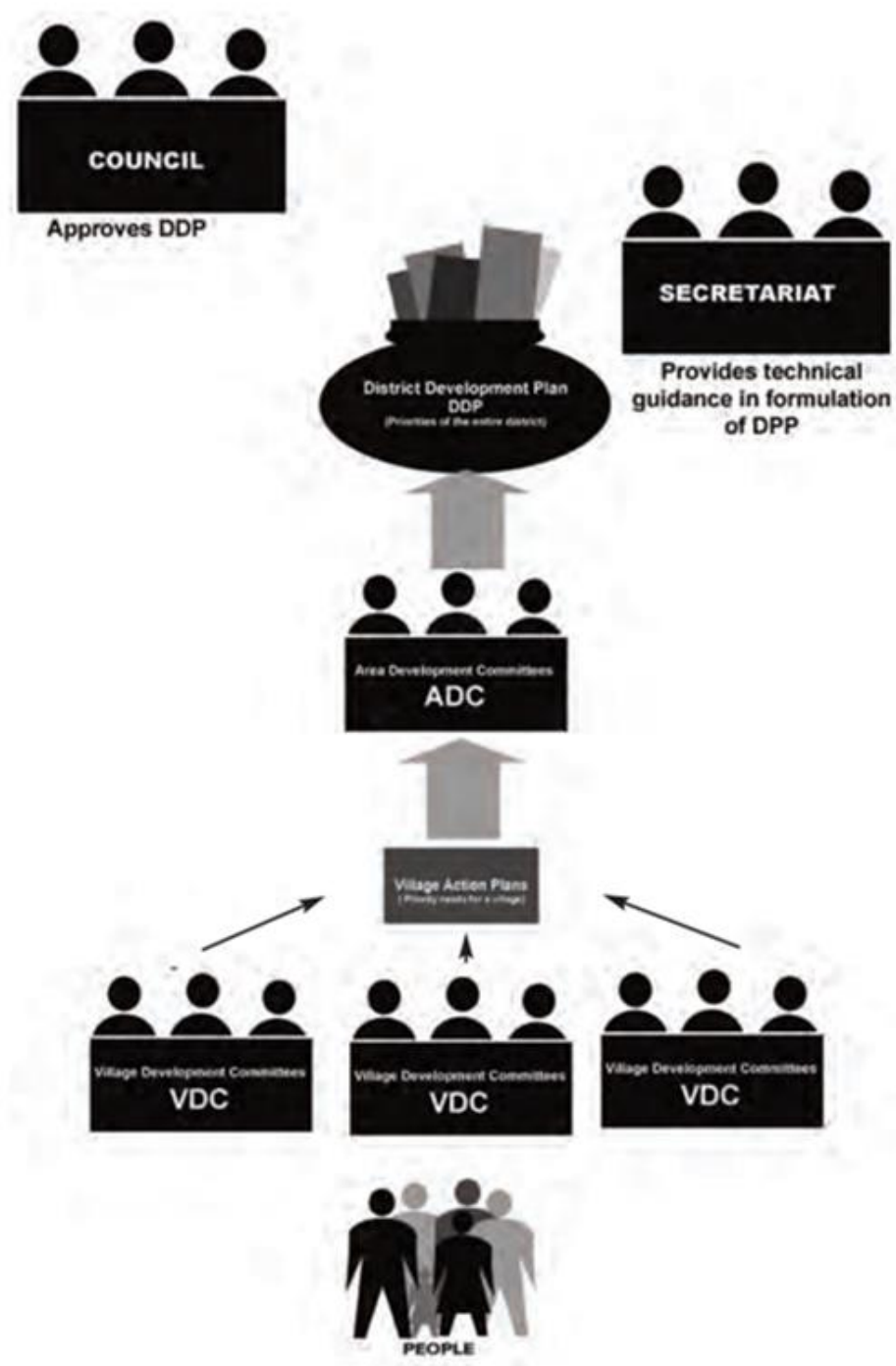


Figure 2: Illustration of the District Development Planning System at Local Government Level

Source: Guidebook on Local Government System in Malawi, 2013

The implications of this governance system on the stakeholder engagement processes are that the MHPP will ensure that all levels of the governance system are consulted and hence the stakeholder engagement schedule will ensure that as much as possible, the various committees are engaged.

In addition, the MHPP will ensure that when booking appointments with these committees, emphasis will be placed on gender and social inclusion, to ensure that the engagement meetings are attended by representatives of women and other vulnerable members of the society, including the youth, the physically challenged and those living with chronic illnesses.

4.2. Identification of Key Stakeholders

For the purposes of mapping and analysis, stakeholders that may be impacted by and/or who may have interest in and/or have influence over the Project were identified according to stakeholder type and category.

These categories included:

- Government ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs) – national, regional or district.
- Traditional authorities (traditional authority, group village head, or village head).
- Resettlement impacted communities (physical and/or economic displacement) (villages and group villages).
- Directly and indirectly impacted communities (villages and group villages, inclusive of community groups such as those focused on natural resource management) and the potentially vulnerable e.g. youth, female-headed households, child-headed households elderly, persons with disability, chronically ill, low literacy levels etc
- Civil Society Organisations, including NGOs and Community-Based Organisations (CBOs).
- Faith-based organisations (FBOs).
- Other hydropower projects in Project area.
- Other businesses and projects in the area
- Other current and future large infrastructure projects
- Academic and research institutions
- Public sector, Private sector and/or Public Private Partnership (PPP) entities or programmes in the Project area.
- Media.
- International lending institutions.

Stakeholders in these categories were identified through several processes, including review of past and current stakeholder activities, the Project Area of Influence (PAOI) as described in section 4.3 and confirmation of directly and indirectly impacted communities within this Area, desktop review and suggestions from stakeholders.

The abovementioned groups have continued to be engaged and additional groups, where required, have been identified, and included in engagement activities, with priority being given to PAPs and local communities.

The current general list of the stakeholder groups is as below in Figure 4 and the detailed list of the stakeholders including that of NGOs/CSO/FBOs is provided in Annex 5. An analysis of the stakeholders in terms of their influence and interests is provided in Section 4.4.1 and 4.5.


	<p>People and Operators Potentially Affected by the Project</p>	<p>Communities and Households Affected by the Project's Land Acquisition (Involuntary Resettlement) Communities and Households Affected by Impacts and Risks other than the Project's Land Acquisition Economic Operators Affected by the Project's Land Acquisition (Involuntary Resettlement) Economic Operators Affected by impacts and risks other than the Project's Land Acquisition Communities, Households and Economic Operators Affected by Cumulative impacts and risks</p>		
	<p>Local Authorities</p>	<p>District Local Government (District Council (DC) Office) Traditional Authorities (TA) and Groups of Village Heads (GVH) Village or Grassroots Level Committees</p>		
	<p>Governmental Ministries, Departments and Agencies</p>	<p>Regulators and Project Partners Governmental Agencies (National and Regional MDAs) Government Emergency Services</p>		
	<p>Other Future Large Infrastructure Projects</p>	<p>MoMa Interconnection Line Shire Valley Transformation Project (SVTP) Malawi Watershed Services Improvement Project (MWASIP) Malawi Resilience and Disaster Risk Management Project (MRDRMP) Kapichira Hydropower Rehabilitation Project Blantyre Water Board</p>		
	<p>Non-Governmental Agencies and Faith Based Organisations (FBO)</p>	<p>Project Related</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Accountability Project and Coalition for Human Rights • Witness NGO <p>Conservation Human Rights FBO</p>		
	<p>Academic and Research Institutions</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="616 1536 927 1749"> Universities in Malawi South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Freshwater Biodiversity Unit Bat Without Frontiers </td> <td data-bbox="932 1536 1278 1749"> Malawi Fisheries Research Institute Forestry Research Institute of Malawi National Herbarium and Botanical Gardens Malawi Plant Genetic Resources </td> </tr> </table>	Universities in Malawi South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Freshwater Biodiversity Unit Bat Without Frontiers	Malawi Fisheries Research Institute Forestry Research Institute of Malawi National Herbarium and Botanical Gardens Malawi Plant Genetic Resources
Universities in Malawi South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Freshwater Biodiversity Unit Bat Without Frontiers	Malawi Fisheries Research Institute Forestry Research Institute of Malawi National Herbarium and Botanical Gardens Malawi Plant Genetic Resources			
	<p>Donors, Lenders and Investors</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="616 1760 927 1957"> World Bank & IFC British Investment International Norfund Crossboundary USAID </td> <td data-bbox="932 1760 1278 1957"> UK Department for International Development European Union & Millennium Challenge Corporation </td> </tr> </table>	World Bank & IFC British Investment International Norfund Crossboundary USAID	UK Department for International Development European Union & Millennium Challenge Corporation
World Bank & IFC British Investment International Norfund Crossboundary USAID	UK Department for International Development European Union & Millennium Challenge Corporation			

Figure 3: MHPP Stakeholders

4.3. Regarding Vulnerable Groups

During SEP implementation, specific attention is being paid to identifying any disadvantaged or vulnerable individuals or groups, who, because of their circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable³. These individuals or groups are likely to be more and/or differently affected by Project-induced impacts and changes and may thus have different concerns and priorities about project impacts, mitigation mechanisms, and benefits, and who may require different, or separate, forms of engagement.

The individuals and/or groups identified as vulnerable include Project-affected community members who are elderly, are female headed households, child headed households, persons living with chronic illness, persons living with disabilities, persons with low literacy levels. The socio-economic vulnerabilities of directly and indirectly affected individuals and/or groups will be verified and/or expanded during the E&S studies as well as community engagement activities.

As described in Section 6.1, the Community Engagement Strategy (CES) includes forms of engagement that are accessible to vulnerable individuals and/or groups. For example, regular mobile community liaison in Project-affected villages that supports outreach to community members not able to travel to the regularly scheduled community meetings. The MHPP has, in Q1 2024, launched its community outreach programme with the process of mapping those who do not have access to project information. Through this process, there have been individuals that have been identified to be vulnerable in the sense that they are old, living with chronic illnesses, living with disabilities and child-headed households. This information has been used to refine this version of the Project SEP identification, approach, and outreach to vulnerable individuals and groups. Potentially also use of Group Village Grievance Redress Committees (GVGRCs) to share key Project information.

4.4. Relevance of Project Area of Influence (PAOI)

In developing the initial SEP, the Project Area of Influence played a key role in determining the approach to engaging with Project stakeholders. The various environmental and social studies conducted in 2023, whose results have been shared in 2024, have shown that the PAOI has not changed. The PAOI is defined as the proposed Project facilities footprint *plus* one kilometre (1 km) perimeter.

Figure 2 shows the PAOI that informs the Project SEP, especially with regards to the communities. The highlighted Group Villages (GVH) are the GVHs within which Project facilities will be located.

³ Disadvantaged or vulnerable refers to those who may be more likely to be adversely affected by the project impacts and/or more limited than others in their ability to take advantage of a project's benefits. Such an individual/group is also more likely to be excluded from/unable to participate fully in the mainstream consultation process and as such may require specific measures and/or assistance to do so. This will take into account considerations relating to age, including the elderly and minors, and including in circumstances where they may be separated from their family, the community, or other individuals upon which they depend.

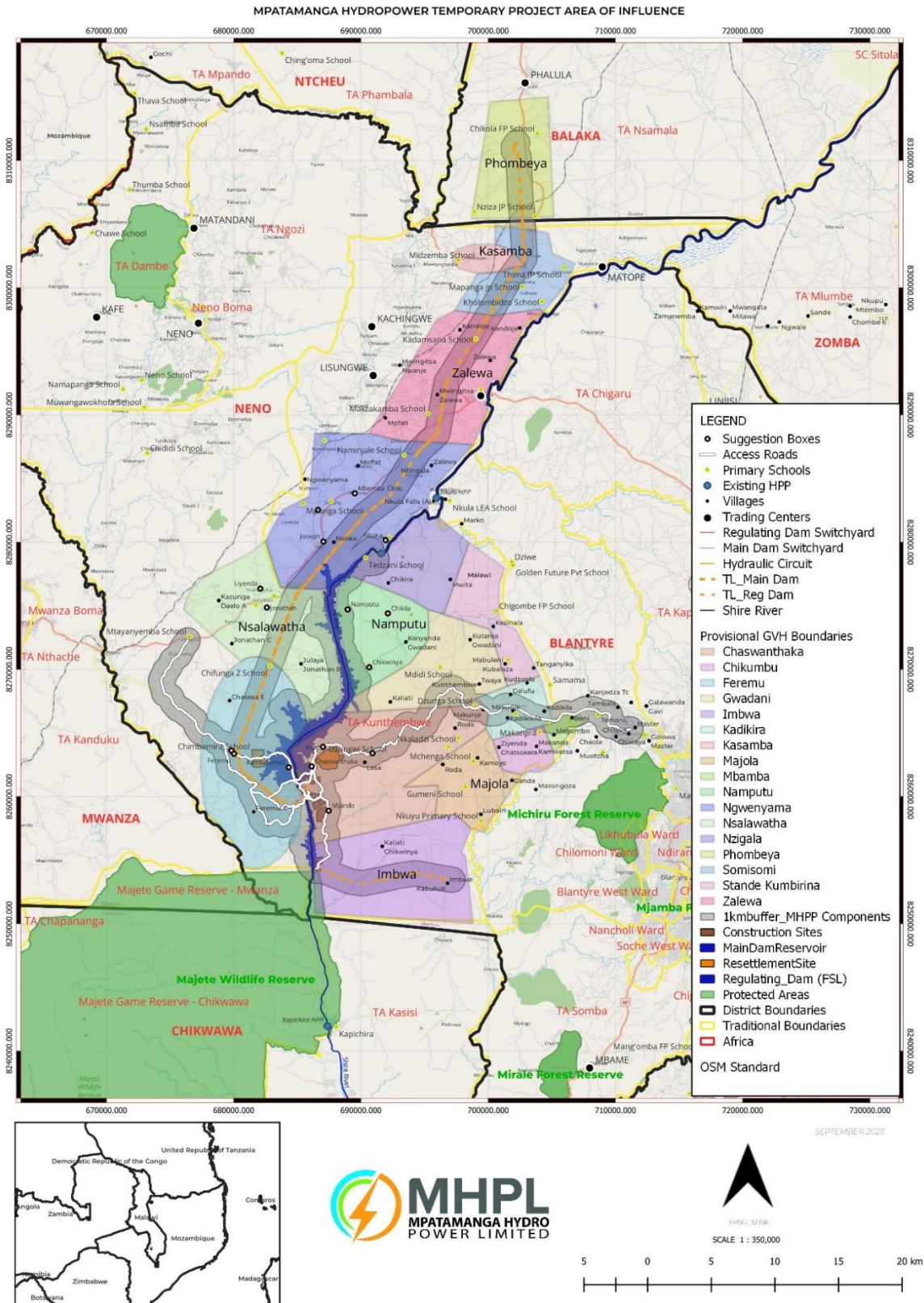


Figure 4: Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project Area of Influence (PAOI)

4.4.1. Analysis and Categorisation of Project Stakeholders within SEP PAOI

The Project's stakeholders have been categorised in relation to their proximity to the PAOI and the nature of the Project's impacts on them. This has been done to ensure that the most directly impacted stakeholders are prioritised during engagement and consultation activities.

The following criteria have been used to categorise and prioritise stakeholders:

- Likelihood of being physically and/or economically displaced.
- Likelihood of experiencing social and/or environmental risks or impacts due to proximity to Project facilities or components.
- Likelihood of having an interest in or influence on the Project due to being located within the administrative units - regions, districts, and Traditional Authority (TA) areas – that fall within the PAOI while not being directly impacted by Project social and/or environmental impacts.

Based on the above criteria, four stakeholder categories have been defined:

- **Category 4 – General Public:**

Stakeholders that may have an influence on or interest in the Project but who are located in Regions, Districts, and Traditional Authorities (TAs) outside the PAOI; defined as Other Interested Parties in alignment with IFC Performance Standards (2012) and World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) (2017).

- **Category 3 – Host Administrative Areas:**

Regions, Districts and Traditional Authorities (TAs) within the PAOI but indirectly impacted or only minimally impacted by the Project (includes government, individuals, businesses, civil society organisations, and indirectly impacted communities)

- **Category 2 - Directly Impacted Communities:**

Villages and Group Villages directly impacted by one or multiple Project components due to their close proximity and/or potential to be impacted (excludes resettlement impacts).

- **Category 1 - Resettlement Impacted Communities:**

Villages and Group Villages that will be impacted by physical and/or economic displacement.

- **Category 1 A:** Entire village to be physically and economically displaced.
- **Category 1 B:** Only some households in the village and Group Village to be physically and economically displaced.

Figure 5 over the page provides a diagrammatic representation of the four stakeholder categories.

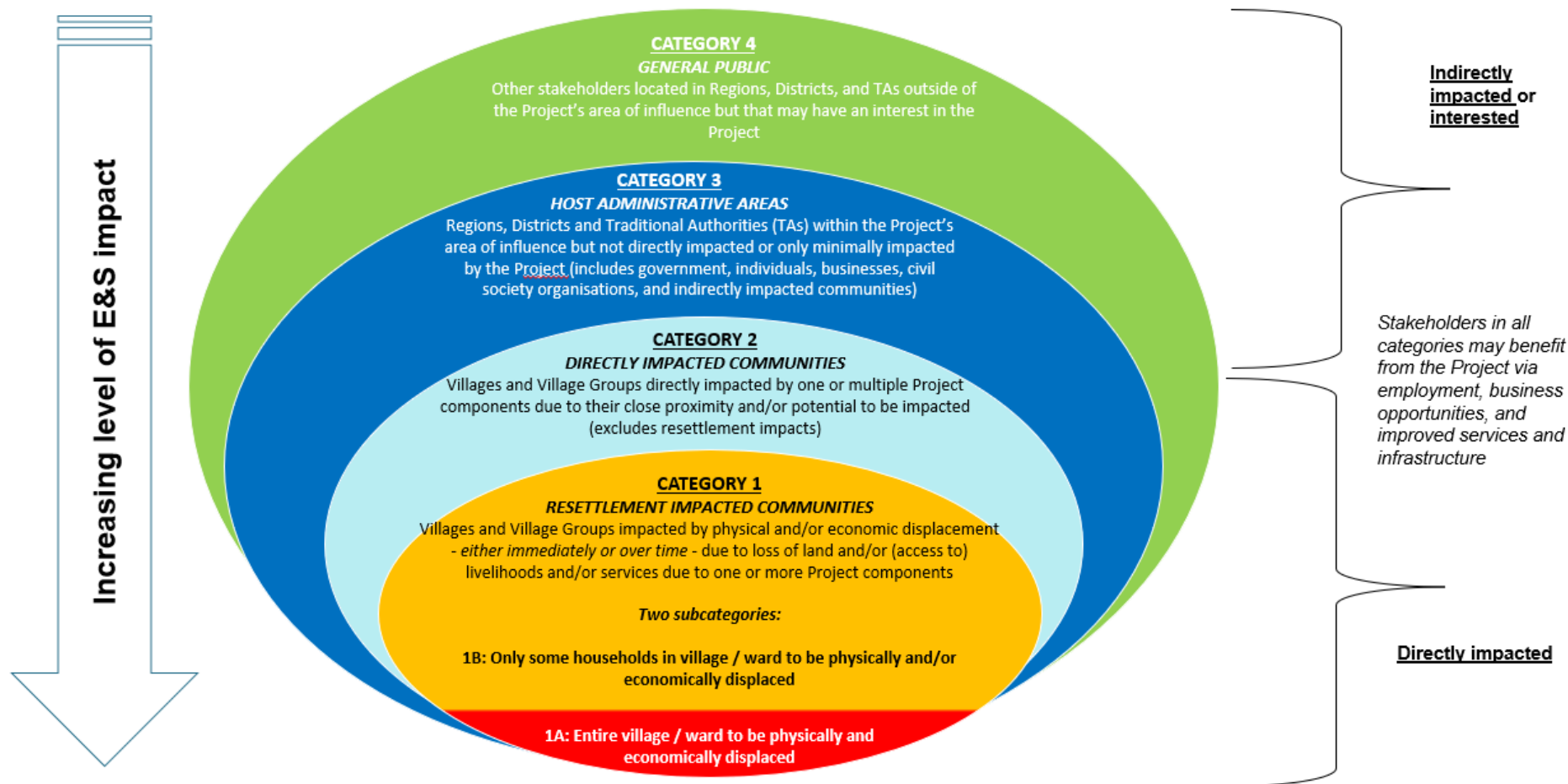


Figure 5: Diagrammatic Representation of the Four Stakeholder Categories

The E&S studies undertaken for the Project have identified all villages (communities), Group Villages, that fall within Stakeholder Categories 1, 2, and 3 and also clarify the spatial scope of potential environmental and social (E&S) impacts other than resettlement.

A list of Project-affected stakeholders, at Group Village level, is presented in Table 2 below. For Category 1 stakeholders (*highlighted in orange*), the information currently available to differentiate Category 1 stakeholders into the sub-categories 1A and 1B is as presented in Table 2 based on the RPF.

Table 1: Villages in Category 1 and 2 Potentially Affected by the Project Land Requirements (Source: Resettlement Policy Framework 2024)

District	Traditional Authority	Group Villages	Villages	Main Reservoir	Main works and regulating reservoir	400kV TL	132kV TL	S137 Access Road	Proposed biodiversity conservancy area	
Balaka	TA Phalula	GVH Phombeya	Phombeya			■				
		GVH Kuthambo	Yonamu, Chikwewe			■				
Neno	TA Symon	GVH Somi Somi	Chikapa, Kamwamba, Phokoso			■				
		GVH Zalewa	Kandoje, Salafosi, Patasoni			■				
		GVH Ngwenyama	Chitsoso, Ntingala Joseph			■				
			Nkoka, Liyenda		■		■			
	TA Mlauli	GVH Nsalawatha	Petulo, Jonathan		■		■			
		GVH Feremu	July		■		■			
			Feremu / Andivuta		■		■		■	
			Kambalame		■				■	
		Nkhwali						■		
Blantyre	TA Kuntaja	GVH Nkata	Singano, Nkata, Botomani					■		
		GVH Solomononi	Solomononi, Mwasamba, Jelani, Ntatha					■		
	TA Kunthembwe	GVH Mbanda	Beni, Magombo, Mvundula						■	
		GVH Chikumbu	Chikumbu, Malire, Mbanda						■	
		GVH Kadikira	Mkwezalamba, Chikhandwe, Kadikira, Galufu, Nkhumba						■	
		GVH Makunje	Makunje						■	
		GVH Kunthembwe	Kunthembwe, Adikachina, Chakhumbira, Chisembwere						■	
		GVH Gwadani	Gwadani, Ngoleka, Goliati, Simon						■	
		GVH Kaliati	Juma, Jelasi, Kaliati							■
	Lisangwi, Inosi			■					■	
	Chilaulo, Chaswanthaka			■		■			■	
Mpindo					■					

District	Traditional Authority	Group Villages	Villages	Main Reservoir	Main works and regulating reservoir	400kV TL	132kV TL	S137 Access Road	Proposed biodiversity conservancy area
			Divala		■ [TBC]				
			Mbwinja		■		■		
		GVH Mzigala	Mzigala, Mwazilinga	■					
		GVH Namputu	Chimphanda, Baluwa, Chikira, Namputu, Kwapita, Chinkwinya	■					
		GVH Dzikupi	Dzikunika, Kabuluzi, Gumeni, Dzikupi				■		
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>5 TA</i>	<i>19 GVH</i>	<i>70 villages</i>	<i>20 villages</i>	<i>5 to 6 villages</i>	<i>17 to 18 villages</i>	<i>5 villages</i>	<i>36 villages</i>	<i>1 village</i>

4.5. Mapping Stakeholder Influence and Interest

The MHPP has also mapped the stakeholders based on their level of influence and interest as follows:

- The stakeholders that appear in the top right quadrant, Q1, are those that need to be managed closely (i.e. the stakeholders that need to be proactively engaged on a regular basis and engagement efforts should be focused on this group). This is because these are the stakeholders that are most interested in the Project and have the potential to impact its outcome (i.e. the ability of the Project to go ahead).
- The stakeholders that appear in quadrants Q2 and Q3 need to be kept informed, i.e., provided information and consulted on issues of interest to the stakeholders.
- The stakeholders in Q4 need to be monitored, i.e., informed of key Project aspects. It is important to track if their level of interest or impact changes.

In Figure 7 below, a template is provided for how the mapping according to interest and influence is applied, including the strategies for managing the respective stakeholders.

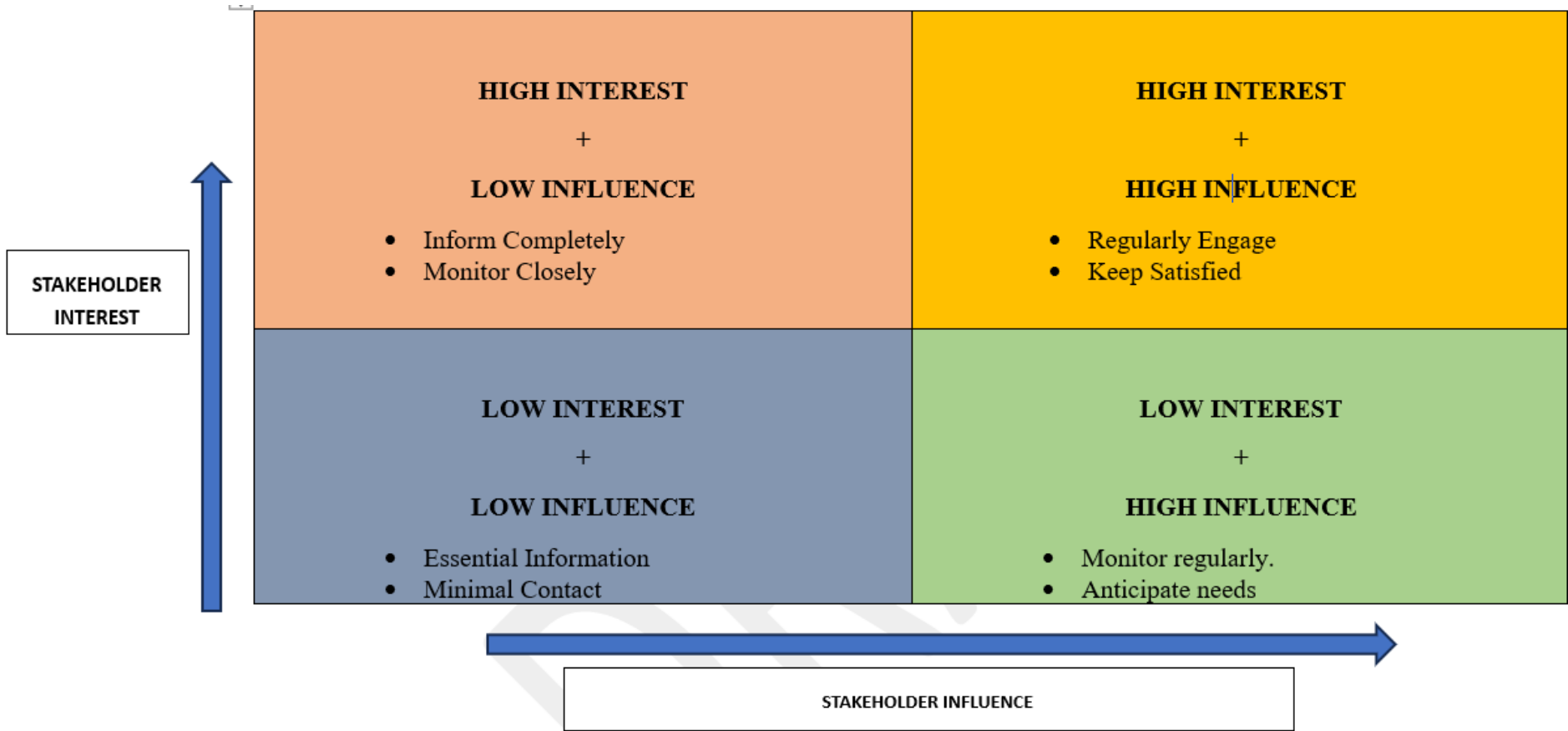


Figure 6: Template for Mapping Stakeholders According to Influence and Interest

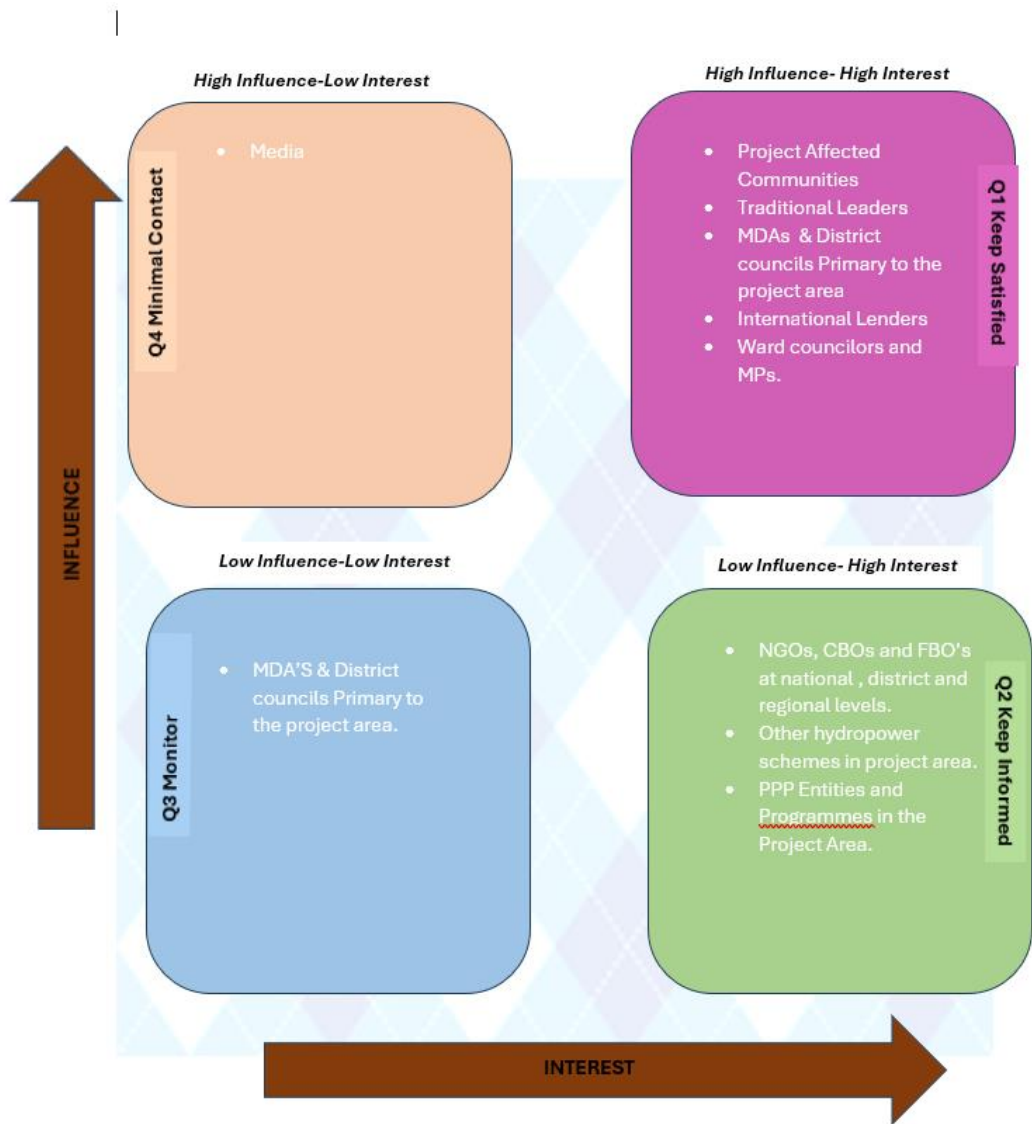


Figure 7: Diagram of Stakeholder Mapping According to Influence and Interest

Table 2 below is a mapping of stakeholders according to their interest and influence. The list is not exhaustive and will keep on being updated, hence the stakeholder engagement plan will be a live document.

Table 2: MHPP Stakeholders According to Influence and Interest

STAKEHOLDER	LEVEL OF INFLUENCE/ POWER ON THE PROJECT	LEVEL OF INTEREST ON THE PROJECT	STAKEHOLDER CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROJECT	STAKEHOLDER HINDRANCE TO THE PROJECT	ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY	COMMENTS
Project Affected People / Communities (See Table 1 above for details of the names of villages which the PAPs come from).	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acceptance of the project, Assist in safeguarding project facilities from vandalism and theft during construction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resistance/ Protest the project 	Regularly engage + keep satisfied	Regularly inform them, consult on area of interest.
Traditional Leaders (see Tables 1 for details)	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilize/ Influence their wards to support the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resistance/ Protest the project 	Regularly engage + keep satisfied	Engaging and consult on area of interest – e.g. land ownership, boundaries.
National, Regional Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs): Ministry of Energy and District Councils Primary to the Project - Neno, Blantyre, Balaka (see Table 1 for details).	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide policy direction. Provide guidance in the various phases of the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not regulating and coordinating the implemented policies. 	Regularly engage + Keep satisfied	Involve them in governance, decision making and during negotiations with various partners in the project
National, Regional Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and District councils, secondary to the Project (see Table 1 for details).	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide data necessary to the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not providing the required data when requested. 	Essential information + Minimal contact	Involve them on a need be basis.
Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) and Faith-based Organisations (FBOs) (See Table 1 and Annex 5)	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilise and sensitize people /Communities they serve to support the project as it benefits the whole country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project resistance 	Inform + Monitor closely	Engage them and utilize their interest and influence.

Other hydropower schemes in Project areas.	Medium	High	They will support MHPP, they will consider that this project will have an impact on their businesses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> They might see MHPP as a threat to the success of their projects/ operations. 	Inform + monitor closely	
Public, Private and/or Public Private Partnership (PPP) Entities and Programmes in the Project Area.	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the implementation of the public-private partnership in the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to provide guidance on public-private partnership 	Inform + Monitor closely	Engage and consult in area of interest.
Public media.	Medium	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> News coverage – publicizing the project. giving project updates to the general public. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negative Publicity 	Essential Information and Minimal contact.	Only engage the media when necessary (Project updates newsworthy).
Ward Councillors & Members of Parliament	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political will/ support towards the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political interference 	Engage + Keep satisfied	They should be engaged and consulted in specific phases of the project.
International lenders	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing funding Fully Committed to the project monitoring and supervision missions Ensuring successful implementation of mitigation measures for all safeguard policies triggered by this project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Macroeconomics risk – Increase in project cost due to inflation/ devaluation of the Malawi kwacha. Withhold funding 	Regularly engage + Keep satisfied.	Fully involve them and constantly give them reports/project updates

4.6. Tracking Changes in Stakeholder Attributes

It is important to note that stakeholder mapping and analysis is an ongoing process since new stakeholders may be identified over time as the Project expands and/or the socio-cultural, economic, and political environment changes. Moreover, current stakeholders' perceptions, expectations, priorities, and concerns may change due to unforeseen events such as the emergence of social conflicts, e.g. land-related, cultural etc, natural disasters, a surge in communicable diseases, or Project-related environmental incidents, to name a few possibilities.

5. Previous and On-Going Stakeholder Engagement Activities

5.1. Previous Stakeholder Engagement Activities

5.1.1. Stakeholder Engagement Prior to 2022

5.1.1.1. Pre-Feasibility Studies (2015 – 2019)

Under a World Bank-supported Energy Sector Support Project (ESSP), pre-feasibility feasibility studies, including a preliminary ESIA, were undertaken during 2015-2018. During 2016 and 2017, AGRI-PRO Ambiente Consultores SA and CENOR Consulting Engineers facilitated stakeholder meetings. Meetings were held with stakeholders, including ESCOM officials, the District Executive Committees, traditional leaders, Members of Parliament and Councillors for the project area, influential leaders, and VDC/ADCs.

During 2018 and 2019, stakeholder meetings were mainly facilitated through MultiConsult and TBC. A range of professionals, local government officials, farmers and fishermen were consulted during a rapid socio-economic screening for the e-flows assessment. To inform the preparation of the framework BAP, consultation meetings were held with reserve management, the Department of National Parks and Wildlife, the Department of Fishers, the South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity, IUCN, Bat without Frontiers, and local authorities. Stakeholder input from the Blantyre District Commissioner, Mwanza District Authorities, traditional leaders, and affected households informed the development of the framework RAP.

5.1.1.2. 2021 ESIA (2020 – 2021)

In August 2020, Mott Macdonald and C12 were appointed to complete the ESIA, BAP, and RAP for the Project and meet Government of Malawi (GoM) regulatory requirements for permitting. As part of RAP development, the DoL closely coordinated asset surveys with local authorities. Household socio-economic surveys of some of the affected households were undertaken. The ESIA and RAP studies, as well as the asset survey, were suspended during 2021.

The 2021 ESIA prepared by Mott MacDonald summarises the key engagement and public participation activities that previously took place between 2016 and 2017 (mostly by AGRI PRO, Ambiente Consultores SA and CENOR Consulting Engineers) in addition to those that took place between 2018 and 2019 by ESIA consultants MultiConsult and TBC.

From 2020 to 2021, additional stakeholder consultations were largely undertaken by Mott MacDonald and C12, accompanied by DoL and other local authorities. Stakeholders that were consulted included ESCOM officials, District Executive Committees, traditional leaders, members of parliament and councillors for the project area, opinion leaders, VDC, ADC and potential Project Affected Peoples (PAPs) impacted by the main reservoir as defined in the original ESIA.

5.1.1.3. Development of a Protocol for a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (2022)

Some concerns and issues were raised by local communities to NGOs during community-led research (International Accountability Project and Coalition for Human Rights in Development, 2022a) in 2021 and subsequent consultations in 2022 (International Accountability Project and Coalition for Human Rights in Development, 2022b). In response to the issues raised by the communities and the local NGO, the GoM, through the MoE prepared a Protocol for a Stakeholder Engagement Plan that guided stakeholder engagement during the project preparation stage (P-SEP-P) in 2022.

In accordance with the P-SEP-P, MHPL has since July 2022 undertaken regular and on-going engagement with Project-affected communities and other key stakeholders. Subsequently, the Project disclosed a revised SEP in December 2023, which is available via the MHPL website (<https://www.mpatamangahydro.com/>).

This SEP, which was first published in December 2023, has replaced the Protocol..

5.1.1.4. Summary of key issues during the period (2015 to 2022)

The below is a summary of stakeholders' issues raised during the preliminary ESIA processes (meetings in 2016 to 2017 and 2020 to 2021). The main potential impacts raised by stakeholders were:

- Impacts on downstream water users: The potential impacts of the project on downstream water users, particularly the impact of the project on Kapichira HPP, the SVTP's intake in Kapichira Dam, and other downstream water users who extract water downstream of Mpatamanga, such as sugar cane estates;
- Sedimentation and Soil Erosion on HPP efficiency: The potential impacts of sedimentation and soil erosion on the efficacy of the project itself;
- Influx: Potential negative impacts of influx, including increased GBV and sexual harassment, increased crime, and the impacts of influx on community dynamics;
- Impacts on biodiversity: Potential impacts to biodiversity, including the impact on trees and plants in the inundation area, potential impacts on migratory fish, as well as potential increases in poaching in Majete Wildlife Reserve due to project-related influx;
- Labour and employment risks: Potential negative impacts relating to labour and employment risks, including the risk of poor labour conditions and the potential risks of child labour and human trafficking;
- Community safety risks: Potential risks to community health, including safety risks connected to construction sites, as well as risks relating to variations in water levels, particularly at the regulating dam;

- Impacts on livestock farming: Potential impacts on livestock farming including access to water for livestock and access to grazing land;
- Cultural heritage: Potential impacts to cultural heritage, both specifically around the relocation of graveyards as well as potential impacts on intangible cultural heritage such as the *Gulu Wamkulu* cultural practice;
- Risk of dam failure: The potential impacts of dam failure on the populations of Chikwawa and Nsanje districts;
- Impacts on power structures/chieftaincies: The potential impacts of the project on traditional power structures and current chieftaincy regimes;
- Air quality: Potential negative impacts on air quality;
- Risk of double displacement: The potential risk of 'double displacement' relating to the MoMa project, whereby PAPs of the MoMa interconnector line may be resettled within the Mpatamanga project footprint and may risk being displaced for a second time by the Mpatamanga project.

Some concerns and issues were raised by local communities to NGOs during community-led research (International Accountability Project and Coalition for Human Rights in Development, 2022a) in 2021 and subsequent consultations in 2022 (International Accountability Project and Coalition for Human Rights in Development, 2022b).

These included:

- Lack of information on the Project, including a lack of clarity on the areas to be affected by the Project and the Project schedule.
- Uncertainty on the eligibility criteria and the entitlements for PAPs.
- Lack of information on the next steps of the land acquisition and compensation process, with some households claiming to have stopped cultivating their lands in 2021 as they were expecting compensation to take place at that time.

In response to the issues raised by the communities and the local NGO, the Government of Malawi, through the Ministry of Energy prepared a Protocol for a Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the preparation stage (P-SEP-P) in 2022 to:

- Comply with the effective public participation, consultation, and stakeholder engagement as required by the country Environmental Management Act of 2017 and the WB Environmental and Social Standard (ESS) 1, 5, 7, and 8, and IFC Performance Standard PS 1.
- Continue with the dialogue and consultations for the Project that commenced in 2015 with the preparation of a preliminary ESIA.
- Provide necessary Project information to communities and respond to claims, concerns, and grievances from stakeholders.
- Prevent further national and international claims that may negatively impact Project development and reputation.

In accordance with the P-SEP-P, regular engagement with Project-affected communities and other key stakeholders by the PIU and MHPL has been ongoing since July 2022. These current activities are described below.

5.1.2. Stakeholder Engagement Post-2022

The current phase of stakeholder engagement activities commenced in July 2022 when the GoM met with the Blantyre and Neno District Councils and traditional authorities from Blantyre District. Since September 2022, MHPL and the GoM PIU, (as the MHPP), have established the following stakeholder engagement schedule:

- *Monthly community meetings:* Conducted in each of the five Group Villages directly impacted by the Main Dam facilities (as identified during the 2020-2021 resettlement surveys).
- *Quarterly stakeholder meetings:* Hosted in Blantyre and Lilongwe and including National and regional government ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs); District Councils (Project-affected districts and potentially project affected districts); national, regional and district Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs); non-community-based PAPs; Public, Private and Public Private Partnership (PPP) entities and programs; other hydro power schemes in the Project area.
- Weekly presence of MHPL Grievance Officer and Community Liaison Officers (CLOs) in directly affected Group Villages to collect feedback submitted via MHPP Suggestion boxes.

In addition, short-term and targeted engagement activities have been undertaken by and/or in alignment with E&S Consultants and/or Technical Consultants contracted by MHPL and/or the PIU since around October 2022.

The current version of the project's Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) was launched in November 2022, with MHPL and the GoM PIU, as the MHPP, jointly undertaking the following activities:

- *November 2022:* Election of Group Village Grievance Redress Committees (GVGRC) in each of the five directly impacted Group Villages identified to date.
- *December 2022:* Development of grievance reporting management forms, training materials and training of Group Village Grievance Redress Committees (GVGRCs)
- *April and December 2023:* Refresher training for the GVGRCs.
- *May 2024:* Mentoring of the GVGRCs and provision of one mobile phone plus power bank for each committee to facilitate their work.
- *September 2024:* Election of GVGRCs from thirteen (13) Group Village Heads along the S137 road in preparation for the Early Works S137 Road Upgrade.
- *October 2024:* Training of the 13 new GVGRCs so that they can begin functioning.

5.1.2.1. Monthly Community and Quarterly Stakeholder Meetings (MHPP)

The MHPP has been conducting monthly community meetings in the five GVGRCs. In addition, quarterly stakeholder engagement meetings have been conducted with the MDAs, Academic institutions, traditional leaders and NGOs/CSO. A summary of these meetings is as provided below. Details of these meetings, including major questions at the meeting is provided in Annex 8.

Table 3: Monthly Community and Quarterly Stakeholder Meetings

	Meeting Type and Dates	Issues/Updates Shared
1	Quarterly stakeholder Engagement Meeting October 2022	Project update including introduction of the MHPP GRM.
2	November 2022 Community Meetings	Formation of Group Village Grievance Redress Committees (GVGRCs)
3	December 2022	GVGRC Training
4	January 2023 Community Meeting	Project updates, shared Dec 2022 Newsletter with information on GRM
5	January 2023 Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement meeting	Presentation updating stakeholders on project progress including GRM
6	April 2023	GVGRC Refresher Training
7	May 2023 Community meeting	Presented on project updates and shared Newsletter with GRM Information
8	May 2023 Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meeting	Presented project updates and GRM; shared newsletter with GRM information
9	June 2023 Monthly Community Meetings	Presented project updates and information on the GRM
10	July 2023 Monthly Community Meetings	Presented project update and information on GRM
11	August 2023 Monthly Community Meeting	Presented project update and information on GRM
12	August 2023 Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meeting	Presented project update and information on GRM and shared newsletter with information on GRM
13	September 2023 Monthly Community Meetings	Presented project update and information on GRM
14	October 2023 Monthly Community Meetings	Presented project update and information on GRM
15	November 2023 Monthly Community Meetings	Presented project update and shared newsletter with information on GRM
16	November 2023 Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meeting	Presented project update and information on GRM
17	December 2023 GVGR Training	Presented detailed SEP and GRM
18	February 2024 Monthly Community Meetings	Presented project updates and detailed SEP +GRM, shared GRM Brochure
19	February 2024 Quarterly Stakeholder Meetings	Presented project updates and detailed SEP +GRM, shared GRM Brochure
20	May 2024 Monthly Community Meetings	Presented on GRM and shared Newsletter and GRM Brochure)
21	July 2024 Monthly Community Meetings	ESIA disclosures, shared Newsletter with information on GRM

22	July 2024 Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement	ESIA disclosures, shared Newsletter with information on GRM
23	September 2024 Blantyre District Full Council Meeting	Presented project update, S137 Road Upgrade awareness and GRM + shared GRM brochure)
24	September 2024 TA Kuntaja ADC + VDC Meetings	Presented project update, S137 Road Upgrade awareness and GRM + shared GRM brochure)
25	September 2024 Kuntaja GVGR Formation	Presented project update, S137 Road Upgrade awareness and GRM + shared GRM brochure)
26	September 2024 Monthly Community Meetings	RPF Disclosure
27	September 2024 DESC Meetings	RPF Disclosure
28	September to October 2024 DESC Meetings	Resettlement Site Identification
29	September to October 2024 Selected Community Meetings	Resettlement Site identification and conceptual layout discussions
30	October 2024 S137 GVGR Training	MHPP GRM Procedures

5.1.2.2. MHPP Stakeholder Engagement through the Media

The MHPP has engaged its stakeholders through the MHPL website (www.mpatamangahydro.com) and Ministry of Energy website (www.energy.gov.mw) to share documents like the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, the ESIA reports, as well as the RPF.

The MHPP has also placed adverts in the media to notify stakeholders about the availability of the Social Safeguards documents as part of the Pelosi Disclosure processes.

MALAWI NEWS | September 14, 2024 ADVERTISING 1

MHPL
Mpatamanga Hydro Power Limited

Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project (MHPP) Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) DISCLOSURE NOTICE

The proposed Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project (MHPP) is being developed by Mpatamanga Hydro Power Limited (MHPL) in collaboration with the Government of Malawi (GoM) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) framework. The Project is located in the Southern Region of Malawi, between Banteng and Neno Districts, on the Shire River between the existing Tlokozi and Ng'ang'ang hydroelectric schemes. The Project is being developed on a total catchment area of 100 km² between the GoM and the IFC, which will be shared between the GoM and the IFC. The PPP agreement will last for a period of 30 years, after which the Project will be transferred to the GoM for continued operation. An Implementation Agreement, which stipulates the responsibilities of MHPL and the GoM, will support the BIOC agreement.

The Project will have a total generation capacity of 18.3 megawatts (MW). The proposed Main Dam (MS) is high will create a 20 square kilometre (2000) reservoir at full supply level, with a total storage volume of 224 million cubic metres. Water from the Main Reservoir will flow to approximately 40 metres in a 90° segment (BMS) powerhouse located 1 kilometre downstream of the Main Dam. The water discharged from the main powerhouse into the Shire River (total of 100 cubic metres per second) at full installed capacity will flow into a 2.6 square kilometre (2600) reservoir (BMS) located 1.5 kilometres downstream of the Main Dam. Water from the Reservoir Dam Reservoir will be discharged into the Shire River through a 0.5 MW powerhouse located at the foot of the dam (total discharge of 200 cubic metres per second). From the upper part of the main reservoir to the Regulating Dam, the Project Reservoir will extend over 20 kilometres in length.

The 200 MW plant, with its Main Reservoir storage, is designed to provide much-needed energy during peak demand hours of the day and overall grid stability with its ability to ramp up or down quickly to meet actual demand. The Regulating Dam covers 100,000 m² in designed to provide baseload. The Regulated average annual energy production for the full-scale, 200 MW plant is 100,000 MWh.

The electricity generated by the Project will be delivered to the national grid through two transmission lines: a 23 kilometre long 600 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the main power house to the existing Banteng substation in Banteng District, and a 10.5 kilometre long 132 kV transmission line that will connect the Regulating Dam powerhouse to the existing Ng'ang'ang Substation in Neno District.

As required by the Environmental Management Act (EMA), 2017, World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) (2017), and IFC Sustainability Framework (2012), the Project has developed an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) that will govern the implementation of the works for the Project.

Objectives of the ESIA

The objective of the ESIA is to provide guidelines and procedures to deal with the anticipated environmental and social impacts associated with the implementation of the Project. The specific objectives are as follows:

- Clarify the environmental and social ESIS legal requirements in Malawi and the World Bank Group's standards and guidelines;
- Identify the potential environmental and social risks and impacts due to the preparation, construction and operation of the Project;
- Provide the environmental and social management and monitoring plans to address and mitigate the identified environmental and social risks and impacts; and
- Develop the implementation and monitoring plans to manage the anticipated environmental and social risks and impacts.

Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts of the Project

The ESIA has identified potential environmental and social impacts likely to be associated with the implementation of the MHPP. The ESIA identifies the potential impacts across the three main phases of Early Works, Construction, and Operations.

- 1. Early Works Phase:** The most likely potential impacts identified by the ESIA during this phase include improved O&M road conditions, increased employment of the local population, cultural and economic displacement, loss of land, and increases in dust, noise, and community health and safety impacts.
- 2. Construction Phase:** The ESIA identified a considerable number of potential impacts within this phase. These include employment of about 2,500 people for individual construction activities, reduction in agricultural productivity, potential impacts on agriculture, potential impacts on local communities, potential impacts on natural, built, cultural and historical, and impacts on socio-economic, socio-cultural, socio-environmental, occupational health and safety and safety impacts, erosion of riverine silt, water pollution, gender-based violence, biodiversity impacts (terrestrial and aquatic), physical and economic displacement, loss of land and access to land, cultural heritage impacts, human rights and labour working conditions, and supply chain impacts.
- 3. Operations Phase:** The potential impacts identified by the ESIA under this phase include employment, sustainable electricity production for the country, maintaining the use of local suppliers (local level), regional or national suppliers, and contribution of the local area development program for local communities. One of the electricity produced could be sold into the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) thereby enabling an increase in foreign exchange reserves for Malawi. Climate change effects, hydrology, and water quality impacts, reservoir sediment trapping and downstream erosion are also some potential impacts.

Mitigation Plan

As part of the environmental and social assessment process, an Environmental and Social Management and Monitoring Plan (ESMMP) has been prepared and will be implemented by the Project. The ESMMP summarizes the proposed mitigation measures for the identified ERS risks and impacts including the nature of the anticipated impacts, timeframe, budget, and the roles and responsibilities of those that will be involved in addressing them.

The public is therefore informed that a copy of the MHPP Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) document and Environmental and Social Management and Monitoring Plan (ESMMP) are now available for your attention and review on the MHPP website, www.mpatamangahydro.com and www.esiaonline.gov.mw. These documents are used under the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Act on the MHPP website and the Resource tab on the MHPP website.

A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the ESIA and ESMMP is also available on both Malawi and English and Chichewa languages. The NTS can also be accessed in English and Chichewa languages through the office of the Environmental District Officer for Banteng, Neno, Balaka and Chitwa District Councils.

The MHPP website includes graphic illustrations of the anticipated ERS impacts and mitigations. These have been prepared to support community engagement related to the ESIA and ESMMP. They have been used during ESIA consultation and disclosure meetings held from mid-July 2024.

Where possible, feedback on the ESIA and ESMMP should be provided by close of business Friday 27th September 2024. Feedback received after this date will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

To provide feedback on the ESIA and ESMMP for the Project, please contact MHPL or the GoM using the following contact details provided below:

For MHPL Contact	For GoM Contact
MHPL Head Office 1st Floor, 2001 Neno - 020 366 272 Neno - 020 366 280	MHPL Head Office Attn: 020 366 272 / 280 Neno - 020 366 272 / 280
info@mpatamangahydro.com	ESIA@esiaonline.gov.mw
Attn: P.O. Box 200 Banteng, Neno	Attn: P.O. Box 100 Lilongwe 3, Malawi
Office: 10:30 am to 5:00 pm, From: 09:00 am to 05:00 pm, Monday to Friday	Office: 09:00 am to 05:00 pm, Monday to Friday




Figure 8: Disclosure Notice press advert

The same information has also been shared with stakeholders through the MHPL LinkedIn social media page. MHPP has been actively using WhatsApp to engage with the GVGRCs, who now have a project mobile phone per committee.

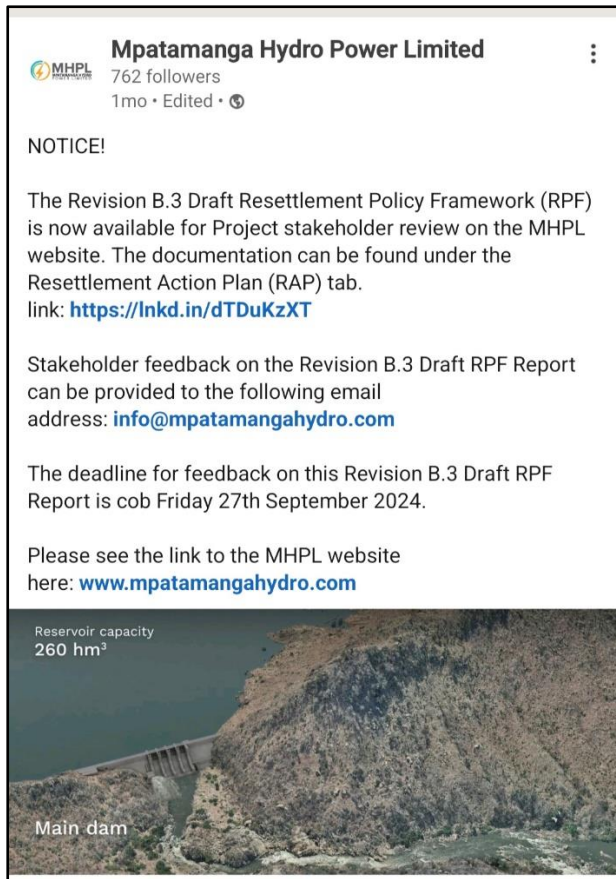


Figure 9: Notice post on LinkedIn

5.1.2.3. Social Inclusion and Vulnerability in the Communities

As part of the efforts to ensure social inclusion, the MHPP is implementing the Mobile Outreach programme which started with a mapping exercise to identify those who are not able to access project information through the means mentioned above, such as monthly community meetings and distribution of IEC materials.

The mapping exercise reached out to 211 individuals in the main PAOI. To accurately capture the diverse needs and challenges faced by community members within the project area, a comprehensive, multi-faceted data collection approach was employed. This included stakeholder spatial mapping, interviews, and field visits, each designed to ensure a thorough understanding of the community members' circumstances, and the accessibility challenges they face. Most of these methods were implemented concurrently.

A total of two hundred and eleven individuals were included in this study: 134 females and 77 males representing 63.5% females and 36.5% male respectively. 1.8% of the households were child headed, 40.3 % female headed, and 55% male headed. The Table below provides more detailed information on the demographics of those who were approached during the mobile outreach.

Table 4: Demographic Summary of Individuals Reached During Community Outreach Mapping Exercise

No	Village	Female	Male	Total	Age Range		Average Age
					Min	Max	
1	Josephy	10	5	15	40	93	69.9
2	Mkoka	8	6	14	63	92	74
3	Lisungwi	2	4	6	19	51	28.8
4	Chilaulo	3	0	3	50	65	55.6
5	July	2	5	7	23	90	65.8
6	Petulo	1	2	3	62	74	69.3
7	Liyenda	5	4	9	35	80	64.1
8	Liwonde	1	3	4	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	Kambalame	6	1	7	52	69	59.5
10	Nkhwali	2	4	6	40	89	61.8
11	Jonathan	6	2	8	23	93	71.25
12	Mbemba	14	4	18	20	101	58.3
13	Mwazilinga	1	1	2	60	100	80
14	Chimpanda	4	3	7	24	91	68
15	Chikira	8	4	12	17	100	62
16	Namputu	11	5	16	22	104	64.2
17	Kwapita	6	4	10	16	74	38.2
18	Baluwa	4	2	6	52	91	72.3
19	Chinkwinya	12	2	14	18	96	59
20	Mpindo	0	1	1	63	N/A	63
21	Divala	1	2	3	65	78	71.6
22	Nsalawatha	8	2	10	56	94	77.3
23	Daelo	6	0	6	49	97	75.5
24	Chaswanthaka	1	1	2	67	70	68.5
25	Inosi	1	0	1	45	N/A	45
26	M'bwinja	5	5	10	42	97	64.8
27	Mzigala	4	1	5	24	70	52.8
28	Felemu Trading Centre	2	4	6	32	59	46.3
	TOTAL	134	77	211			
	Percentage	63.5	36.5				

While some of the community members that were approached during this mapping can be classified as youth (under 35 years of age), 63.10% of the community members were identified as elderly, that is in accordance with Malawi Law that stipulates that anyone above the age of 63 is considered elderly. Many of these elderly face mobility issues and health-related challenges).

From the mapping exercise, several factors were identified as affecting access to project information through community meetings as follows:

- a. Other competing commitments such as care giving, businesses (including charcoal selling) (21%)
- b. Long distance to the meeting venues coupled with poor roads and difficult terrain (17.5%)
- c. Communication barriers due to speech, visual and hearing challenges (10%)
- d. Lack of information about community meetings (10%)

As part of the mapping, the MHPP analysed the data to assess vulnerability of the community members who do not have access to project information due to the above outlined factors. The analysis showed that:

- a. 32% are living with disabilities: mental, hearing, speech, visual and physical.
- b. 68% have health related vulnerabilities such as living with chronic illnesses.
- c. 58% have low-income levels
- d. 41% are female headed households with very low incomes
- e. 2% are child headed households.

The map below (Figure 10) provides a detailed analysis of the project area, highlighting the severity of accessibility challenges related to available community meeting venues. It categorizes areas based on the accessibility issues detected and evaluates the effectiveness of current engagement strategies. This visual representation aims to inform targeted actions for improving community participation and overcoming barriers to meeting access in the future.

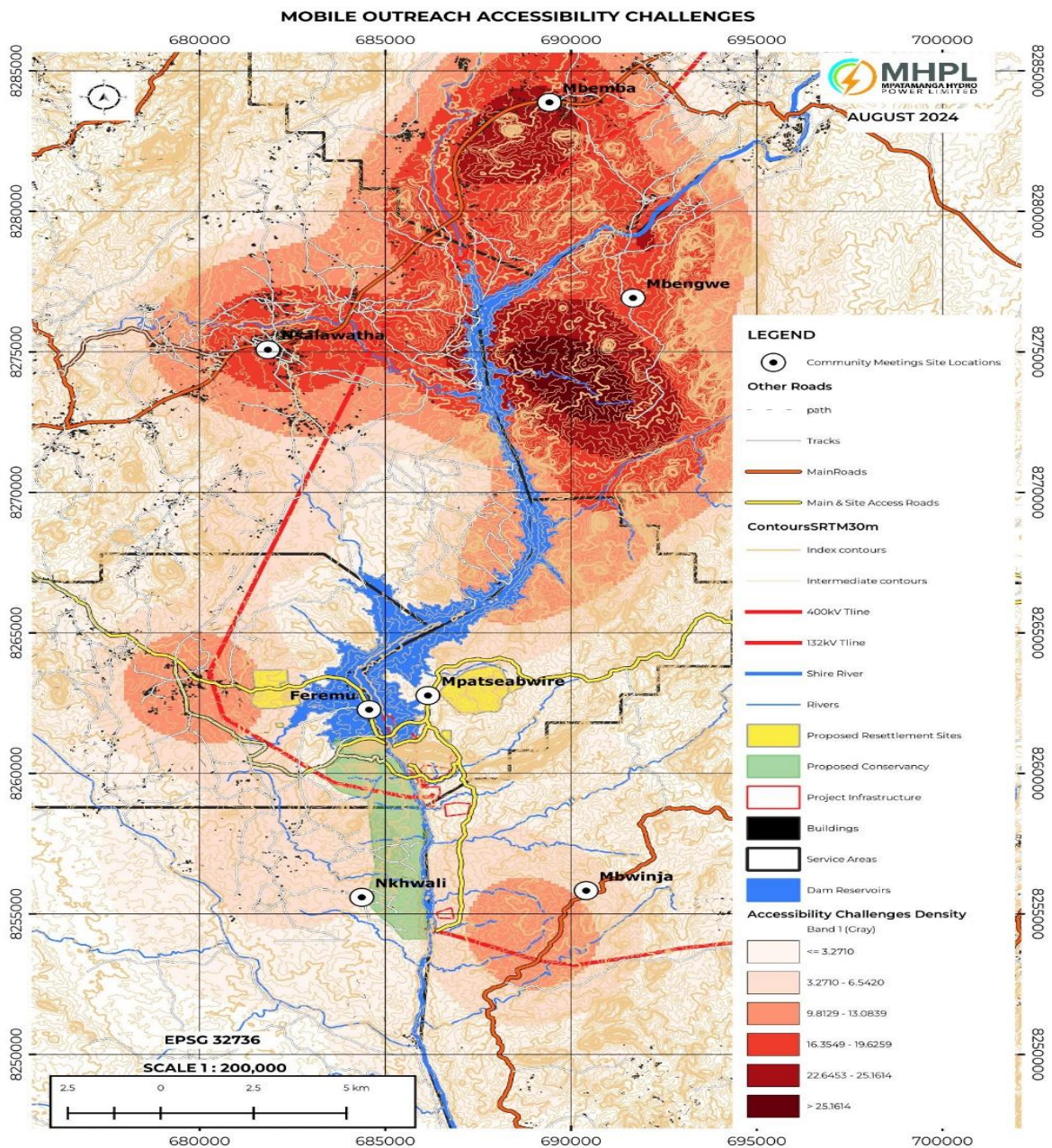


Figure 10: Map Showing Project Information Accessibility Challenges

- **Areas of Severe Accessibility Challenges:** These regions are marked in dark red and represent locations where significant barriers hinder community participation. Challenges may include poor road conditions, terrain, vulnerability and physical barriers that make it difficult for community members to access meetings and project activities.
- **Areas with Effective Engagement Strategies:** Marked in light pink, these areas are characterized by the successful implementation of the current engagement strategies. In these areas there is, accessible meeting venues, have been effective in accommodating community members and ensuring their participation.

- This visual tool will help to clearly communicate the rationale behind the selection of new venues and ensure that decisions are data-driven and focused on improving stakeholder engagement.

As can be seen on the map above, most of the communities are residing very far from the established monthly meetings venues. On average the stakeholders are required to travel five kilometres to reach meeting venues, however most of the community members have to travel more than five kilometres to access project meeting.

These results have influenced the planned stakeholder and community engagement activities in the sense that there is need to target these community members with more meeting venues, reaching out to women, engaging Community-Based Focal Points to support the Community Liaison Officers and implementation of the mobile outreach programme.

5.2. Planned Engagement Activities

Looking ahead into 2025, the MHPP intends to continue with community and stakeholder meetings. Through the comprehensive community and stakeholder engagement that the MHPP has been conducting as well as the community Mobile Outreach Mapping exercise, a lot of lessons have been learnt and these have shaped the approach to stakeholder engagement being planned for 2025.

5.2.1. Monthly Community Meetings

There will be changes to frequency of community meetings in the main Project Area of Influence, from monthly to bi-monthly. This is because of feedback from the communities who have expressed that the frequency is too high for the phase of the project, especially when there is no construction taking place and few updates to be provided to them.

Based on the results of the mobile outreach mapping, and the observations as outlined in Table 5 below, there will be changes in number of meeting venues and approaches (see Table 6 below) to reach out to the communities so that there is more social inclusion, especially for the women who were identified as more affected by the current approaches.

Table 5: Communities Currently Engaged and Their Respective Meeting Venues

District	Villages Engaged	Meeting Venue	Observation
Blantyre	Mbwinja, Mpindo, Divala	Mbwinja (Orphan Centre)	Venue accommodates all listed communities and is easily accessible.
	Chaswanthaka, Inosi, Chilaulo, Lisangwi	Chaswanthaka (Mpatsabwire School)	Suitable for Chaswanthaka and Inosi, but not accessible for Chilaulo and Lisangwi.

District	Villages Engaged	Meeting Venue	Observation
	Chinkhwinya, Chimpanda, Baluwa, Mwazilinga, Mzigala, Chikira, Namputu Kwapita	Chikira (Mbengwe School)	Centrally located, but not accessible to Chinkhwinya, Kwapita, Namputu, Mzigala, and Baluwa communities.
Neno	Mbemba, Nkoka, Josephy, Liyenda	Mbemba (church)	Accommodates Mbemba, Nkoka, and Josephy, but not accessible for Liyenda.
	Nsalawatha, Jonathan, Liwonde, Daelo Petulo	Nsalawatha (Chifunga school)	Suitable for all communities except Petulo.
	Feremu, Kambalame, July	Kambalame (Zagaf)	Accessible for all listed communities, except July.
	Nkhwali	Nkhwali (Village Head's house)	Venue accommodates all listed communities.

While the current engagement strategy has established sufficient meeting venues to facilitate community involvement, there are still barriers that prevent some stakeholders from attending meetings.

Table 6: Proposed Strategies for Community Engagement

Communities	Current Engagement strategy	Proposed Strategy
Chinkhwinya, Namputu and Kwapita	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community Meeting at Mbengwe School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introducing a community meeting point within one of these communities ▪ Community Focal Persons to disseminate information to vulnerable individuals. ▪ Implementation of Road shows (HSSE and Social Team)

Baluwa, Mwazilinga, Chikira, Chimphanda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Meeting at Mbengwe School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have a centralised meeting point in Chikira for these communities Capacity building for the GVGRC to disseminate project information Implementation of Road shows (HSSE and Social Team) Community Focal Persons to disseminate information to vulnerable individuals
Inosi and Chilaulo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Meeting Chaswanthaka Village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate the Public address system for meeting information Implementation of Road shows for project (HSSE and Social team) information dissemination Community Focal Persons to disseminate information to vulnerable individuals
Chaswanthaka, Mpindo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Meeting Chaswanthaka Village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building for the GVGRC members to disseminate project information Community Focal Persons to disseminate information to vulnerable individuals
Divala, Mpindo and Mbwinja	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mbwinja orphan centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Focal Persons to disseminate information to vulnerable individuals Implementation of Road shows (HSSE and Social Team)
Nkhwali, Feremu and Kambalame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community meeting at Feremu Zagaf 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase awareness by utilizing the public address system for meeting information Implementation of Road shows (HSSE and Social Team) Capacity building for the GVGRC to disseminate project information Community Focal Persons to disseminate information to vulnerable individuals
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community meeting at Feremu Zagaf 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase awareness by utilizing the public address system for meeting information Implementation of Road shows (HSSE and Social Team) Community Focal Persons to disseminate information to vulnerable individuals
Daelo, Nsalawatha and Jonathan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community meeting at Chifunga School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase awareness by utilizing the public address system for meeting information Implementation of Road shows (HSSE and Social Team) Community Focal Persons to disseminate information to vulnerable individuals
Petulo, Liyenda and Josephy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community meeting at Mbemba Church 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase awareness by utilizing the public address system for meeting information Introducing a new meeting point at Liyenda school Community Focal Persons to disseminate information to vulnerable individuals
Josephy, Mbemba and Nkoka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community meeting at Mbemba Church 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase awareness by utilizing the public address system for meeting information dissemination

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community Focal Persons to disseminate information to vulnerable individuals ▪ Implementation of Road shows (HSSE and Social Team) •
Liwonde	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensuring the non-community-based PAP attends quarterly stakeholder engagement meetings
Lisangwi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community meeting in Chaswanthaka 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mobile outreach setup unit ▪ Implementation of Road shows (HSSE and Social Team) ▪ Community Focal Persons to disseminate information to vulnerable individuals

The proposed engagement strategy has been recommended to better suit the needs of community members and foster more social inclusion, by focusing on selecting locations that reduce travel distance thereby improving accessibility and ensuring inclusivity for all community members especially those that are vulnerable or face mobility challenges.

Further, there will be addition of other villages into the bi-monthly community meetings program as the MHPP begins the S137 road upgrade. Currently, meetings with these communities have been limited to awareness raising about the upcoming RAP surveys, which will be undertaken in Q2 2025, in addition to the formation of GVGRCs and training of the committees. Similarly, villages affected by the Transmission Lines, particularly the 400kV TL, will be included in the community meetings in Q4 2025 during RLRap preparation.

5.3. Planning for Additional Engagement Activities

There are likely to be instances where additional, targeted stakeholder engagement is required over and above the engagement methods and processes described in this SEP. Examples of circumstances requiring additional stakeholder engagement activities not covered by this SEP include, but are not limited to:

- Stakeholder engagement relating to public disclosure of the Project’s ESIA and/or ESMMP.
- Stakeholder engagement related to land acquisition and involuntary resettlement.
- Any other unforeseen events requiring engagement with external stakeholders at national, regional, district, group village, or village level.

Any additional stakeholder engagement activities will need to be planned, implemented, and reported on in accordance with the general principles outlined in this SEP. This includes the requirement that engagement ***consider the needs of vulnerable persons and groups.***

Specific steps to be undertaken in respect of planning, implementing, and reporting on additional stakeholder engagement activities are outlined in Table 7 below.

Table 7: Requirements for Additional Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Action	Description
Identify party (ies) responsible for undertaking engagement	E&S Management Unit, PIU, or an external party (e.g., a consultant).
Responsible party compiles an Action Plan describing planned engagement activities and procedures	Responsible parties to include specific dates where applicable. The inclusion of record-keeping/ reporting methods is essential.
E&S Management Unit approves the Implementation Plan	E&S team members review the Action Plan, and the responsible party must address any comments prior to the plan being approved.
Records of completed engagement activities and outcomes are submitted to the E&S Management Unit	Record-keeping and reporting on completed stakeholder engagement must be undertaken in terms of the methods and procedures stipulated in the approved Action Plan.
Records of completed engagement are incorporated into the Project's stakeholder information management system	More detail on the Project's stakeholder engagement information management system is provided in Section 9.

6. Stakeholder Engagement Strategies

The MHPP recognises that meaningful engagement with its stakeholders, based on the principles of informed consultation, participation, transparency, accountability, and respect for human rights, is fundamental to managing the social and environmental sustainability of the Project, contributing to successful Project design and implementation, and establishing and maintaining a Social License to Operate (SLO) for the Project⁴.

The Project will therefore undertake stakeholder engagement to:

- Create long-term, positive relationships with stakeholders.
- Disclose Project information to enable stakeholders to contribute meaningfully to impact management throughout the Project life cycle.
- Establish a constructive dialogue with stakeholders to understand their concerns and collaboratively seek solutions.
- Commit to addressing stakeholder concerns and grievances in a fair, transparent, and effective manner.

⁴ SLO refers to the ongoing acceptance and approval of a development project by local community members and other stakeholders that can affect its activities. It is the real or current credibility, reliability, and acceptance of a project.

To ensure the Project's stakeholder engagement is effective and supports the development of strong, constructive, and responsive stakeholder relationships, the following principles guide the stakeholder engagement strategies and practice:

- Open and transparent engagement:
 - Timely dissemination of Project information to allow stakeholders to understand the risks and impacts of the project, to provide input into project design, management and mitigation measures of impacts and risks, and to understand potential opportunities.
 - Disclosure of proposed stakeholder engagement process, highlighting opportunities for participation.
 - Disclosure of schedule for public consultation meetings, including time, venue, notification methods, and record-keeping protocols.
 - Disclosure of the grievance management process, highlighting the various access points.
 - Direct discussion and active management of unrealistic stakeholder expectations.
- Meaningful consultation:
 - **Timely:** Engagement to commence as early as possible in the Project life cycle to enable meaningful consultation on Project design.
 - **Relevant:** Engagement on Project information that is relevant and of concern to different stakeholders.
 - **Understandable:** Information to be presented in a format and language that is understandable to different stakeholders.
 - **Accessible:** Disclosed Project information to be accessible to all Project stakeholders, including those with low literacy levels.
- Inclusive:
 - Allows effective participation of those identified as disadvantaged, vulnerable, or marginalised.
 - Differentiated engagement measures included to ensure meaningful participation of disadvantaged, vulnerable or marginalised groups.
- Culturally appropriate:
 - Respects cultural protocols for accessing stakeholder groups and scheduling, attending, and chairing meetings.
 - Adopts culturally appropriate dress codes and greeting rituals.
 - Aligns engagement format and language with culturally appropriate practices, recognizing that certain stakeholder groups may prefer verbal and in-person communication.
 - *Free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination, and intimidation.*
 - *Effective grievance management procedure in place.*

6.1. Community Engagement Strategy

The Community Engagement Strategy (CES) focuses on engagement with Project-affected communities and the traditional and government authorities that administer these communities.

The Project footprint will, for the most part, directly impact rural communities. Project-affected communities reside in rural villages and/or homestead clusters that are widely distributed across administrative areas. The administrative areas relevant to the CES, from the smallest geographical and administrative area to the largest, are Village; Group Village; Traditional Authority and District. The corresponding administrative authorities are Village Head; Group Village Head; Traditional Authority and District Council.

The Project-affected communities generally have low education and low literacy levels. The language most spoken and widely understood in the communities is Chichewa.

A detailed Table summarising the CES is provided in Annex 6, including engagement method, frequency of engagement for each method, purpose of engagement for each method, responsible parties, as well as explanatory notes. All engagement and consultation to be undertaken in accordance with relevant cultural protocols, pre-existing local modes of engagement and communication, local language needs, and consideration of education and literacy levels.

The CES will be operationalised through internal Community Engagement Programs (CEP) that will be developed for each Project phase and related engagement requirements.

A summary of the CES is provided below:

- Community Meetings:
 - Continue with **bi-monthly community meetings** in the **directly impacted communities** within the five Group Villages that have been identified to date.
 - Extend **bi-monthly community meetings** to other **directly impacted Group Villages** that in alignment with the phased RLRAPs, so that they do not suffer from consultation fatigue.
 - Conduct **quarterly meetings** with the Village Heads, Group Village Heads and Traditional Authority of **directly impacted Group Villages** a few hours prior to the monthly community meetings (at the request of these authorities).
 - Conduct **biannual community meetings** with **indirectly impacted Group Villages**.
 - Conduct **annual meetings** with the Village Heads, Group Village Heads and Traditional Authority of **indirectly impacted Group Villages** a few hours prior to the monthly community meetings.
 - **Focus group discussions and/or one-to-one interviews** with directly and indirectly impacted communities to obtain feedback on GRM, GBV/SHEA management procedure, identify community needs and/or verify vulnerability categories. As required.
 - Ad hoc meetings: Only as required to avoid stakeholder fatigue.
- Community Presence:

- **Community Centres (Planned):**
 - *Project phase:* Construction and Operation.
 - *Purpose:* Establish a Project presence in the most significantly impacted Districts (Blantyre and Neno) where all stakeholders can come to engage Project staff, collect and/or share information, submit feedback, including grievances.
 - Blantyre District: A community centre will be established in an appropriate location, staffed by CLOs and/or Grievance Officers, ensuring a weekly presence.
 - Neno District: A community centre will be established in an appropriate location, staffed by CLOs and/or Grievance Officers, ensuring weekly presence.
- **Mobile Community Liaison (Being implemented):**
 - *Project phase:* Development, Construction, and Operation.
 - *Purpose:* To ensure that all affected community members have access to Project information and GRM, including vulnerable members that cannot access monthly meetings. To establish and maintain a constructive relationship with communities.
 - CLO and/or Grievance Officer to visit each directly impacted village at a minimum every quarter to communicate Project information, collect and respond to community feedback, including grievances, and present and distribute Project information materials, including for the GRM, GBV/SHEA management procedure. The HSSE team will join these quarterly visits periodically to sensitise communities on selected health and safety issues relevant to the Project and communities. These mobile Community Liaison visits will be in addition to the bi-monthly community meetings. Mobile community liaison activities with directly impacted villages will commence in Q1 2024. Include Annex of records to date.
 - CLO and/or Grievance Officer to visit each indirectly impacted village once annually to communicate Project information, collect and respond to community feedback, including grievances, and present and distribute Project information materials, including for the GRM, GBV/SHEA management procedure. These community liaison activities with indirectly impacted villages will be conducted prior the commencement of the Early Works and Main Works. The HSSE team will join these annual visits periodically to sensitise communities on selected health and safety issues relevant to the Project and communities. These mobile Community Liaison visits will be in addition to the monthly community meetings. Mobile community liaison activities with indirectly impacted villages will commence once the Project is approved. Include Annex of records to date.
- *Project Stakeholder Committees:*
 - **Group Village Grievance Redress Committees (GVGRCs) (Being implemented):**
 - *Project phase:* Development, Construction, and Operation.
 - *Purpose:* Access point to receive and resolve grievances and communicate Project information using approved FAQs.
 - *Currently:* Five existing GVGRCs in each of the five **directly impacted** Group Villages where monthly community meetings are currently held and thirteen new GVGRCs

along the S137. Regular training and capacity-building on Project GRM, GBV/SHEA management procedure, and FAQs.

- *Going forward:* Establish new GVGRCs in other **directly impacted** Group Villages, especially those along the Transmission Lines. Training and capacity-building on Project GRM, GBV/SHEA management procedure, and FAQs.
- Selected GVGRC members volunteer to keep and manage Suggestion Boxes to receive Project feedback (currently, 35 boxes functional across eighteen Group Villages).

- **Resettlement Working Groups (RWGs) (Planned):**

- Project Phase: Planning, implementation and monitoring phases of land acquisition and resettlement activities including livelihood restoration.
- Purpose: Consultative forum for Project land acquisition and resettlement activities. RWG to represent the interests of PAP in terms of compensation and resettlement-related benefits and communicate RWG decisions to PAP.
- Will be established in each District where Project impacts include physical and/or economic displacement: Blantyre, Neno, and Balaka. Timing of establishment of RWGs to be determined by land acquisition and resettlement schedules.
- RWG membership: District Council officers, Traditional Authorities, Group Village Heads, Village Heads, elected Project-Affected Persons (PAP).

- Community Theatre:

- *Project phase:* Development (resettlement activities), Construction, and Operation.
- *Purpose:* To communicate Project information and messages in an interactive manner that is accessible to all community members.
- Quarterly or as required theatre productions that include community “actors” to communicate Project-related messages in an effective and interactive manner.
- Specific Project-related topics, incl. Risks associated with not spending compensation money wisely (resettlement); GRM management procedure; GBV/SHEA management procedure; workers’ rights; HSE incident management procedure.
- Broader topics (also Project-related): Human rights; GBV/SHEA; HIV/AIDS and STIs; traffic and road safety; diagnosis and management of chronic diseases; vector-borne and water-borne diseases (malaria, cholera); hygiene etc.

- Project Media:

- *Project phase:* Development, Construction, and Operation.
- *Purpose:* Communicate Project
- Quarterly Project Newsletters (Chichewa and English).
- GRM flowchart and brochure; GRM contact cards.
- GBV/SHEA flowchart and brochure.

- Posters, flyers and other.
 - Videos.
 - Printed media directed at Project-affected communities will consider literacy levels and prioritize infographics and explanatory diagrams and images.
- **Public Media:**
 - **Local and community radio (MBC and Times are the radio stations audible in the PAOI):**
 - *Project phase:* Development, Construction, and Operation.
 - *Purpose:* To communicate Project information to impacted communities in an accessible and wide-reaching manner.
 - Project information and updates.
 - Interviews (Q and A) with MHPL spokesperson/s (pre-recorded or live).
 - Publicise GRM and GBV/SHEA management procedures.
 - Publicise community meeting schedules.
 - Publicise Project access points and schedules (community centres (fixed and mobile), contact numbers).
 - **Newspapers:**

Focus will be on infographics and flowcharts.

 - *Project phase:* Development, Construction, and Operation.
 - *Purpose:* Publish key project information to the wider public.
 - Project information and updates; wide audience, including Project-affected communities.
 - Project GRM flowchart and brochure; GBV/SHEA management procedure flowchart and brochure; wide audience, including Project-affected communities.
 - **Social Media:**
 - *Project phase:* Development, Construction, and Operation
 - *Purpose:* To publicise Project information to the wider public
 - Publish project IEC Materials online.
 - Publicise Job Opportunities
 - Publicise project activities.

6.2. Stakeholder Engagement Implementation Plan

The Stakeholder Engagement Implementation Plan outlines the plan for engaging with the Project stakeholders categorised as “Other interested parties” to distinguish these stakeholders from Project-affected communities, categorised as “Project-affected parties”. The Stakeholder Engagement Implementation Plan focuses on stakeholder categories, while recognising that specific stakeholders within these categories may require different modes of engagement at different phases of the Project.

Table 8 provides a detailed presentation of the Stakeholder Engagement Implementation Plan, including stakeholder category, engagement method, objective of engagement, frequency of engagement, key messaging, records of engagement, and facilitator/s.

Table 8: MHPP Stakeholder Engagement Implementation Plan

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Objective of Engagement	Frequency	Key Messaging	Records of Engagement	Responsible
National MDAs	<p><i>Primary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal quarterly stakeholder meetings. Ad hoc meetings as required. Ad hoc workshops as required. Formal letters to ministries for technical or other support required for specific activities or issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and maintain constructive relationships. Build and maintain trust in the credibility of the Project by communicating in a transparent and accurate manner. Provide information on current and planned project activities, including resettlement, community development projects, stakeholder engagement activities, as well as issues identified, and grievances submitted. Discuss key issues of interest and request government intervention/clarification of issues, if required. Inform government of technical and other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly (PIU only) Monthly (PDC only) Quarterly Ad hoc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up-to-date information on current and planned project activities (including resettlement). Report on stakeholder engagement activities undertaken and issues arising in preceding week and/or month and/or quarter. Report on Project grievances recorded, under investigation, and resolved during preceding week and/or month and/or quarter. Follow-up on action items arising from previous engagements with MDAs. Ministry of Energy and MHPL websites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written meeting requests. Meeting agendas. Power Point presentations for quarterly meetings. Attendance registers. Photographs of meeting participants, with permission. Minutes of meetings. List of action items arising from meetings. Written requests for technical or other support required from provincial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL PIU
	<p><i>Secondary:</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly Ad hoc 			

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Objective of Engagement	Frequency	Key Messaging	Records of Engagement	Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly Stakeholder meetings. Ad hoc meetings as required. Ad hoc workshops as required. 	support required for planned activities, including resettlement, community development projects, engagement activities, capacity building for communities, road safety.			governor or ministries.	
Regional MDAs	<i>Southern Region:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly Stakeholder meetings. Ad hoc meetings as required. Ad hoc workshops as required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and maintain constructive relationships. Build and maintain trust in the credibility of the Project by communicating in a transparent and accurate manner. Provide information on current and planned project activities, including resettlement, community development projects, stakeholder engagement activities, as well as issues identified, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly Ad hoc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up-to-date information on current and planned project activities (including resettlement). Report on stakeholder engagement activities undertaken and issues arising in preceding week and/or month and/or quarter. Report on Project grievances recorded, under investigation, and resolved during preceding week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written meeting requests. Attendance registers. Photographs of meeting participants, with permission. Minutes of meetings. List of action items arising from meetings. Written requests for technical or other support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL PIU
	<i>Other Regions:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As required. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As required 			

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Objective of Engagement	Frequency	Key Messaging	Records of Engagement	Responsible
		<p>and grievances submitted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform of technical and other support required for planned activities, including resettlement, community development projects, engagement activities, capacity building for communities. 		<p>and/or month and/or quarter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow-up on action items arising from previous engagements with MDAs. 	<p>required from urban government authorities.</p>	
District Councils (DCs)	<p><i>Directly Impacted Districts:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly stakeholder meetings. Co-facilitate, with MHPL and PIU, monthly community meetings with directly impacted communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain relationships with district authorities based constructive dialogue. Inform district authorities of current and planned activities and activities schedule. Inform local authorities of development opportunities, including employment, skills training, and development projects. Involve local authorities in communicating project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly: Community meetings (district officers co-facilitate these meetings) Quarterly: Stakeholder meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior notification of Project activities to be undertaken in District; District to inform Traditional Authorities and Group Village Heads in accordance with protocol. Up-to-date information on current and planned project activities (including resettlement). Report on stakeholder engagement activities undertaken and issues arising in preceding week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written meeting requests. Attendance registers. Photographs of meeting participants, with permission. Minutes of meetings. List of action items arising from meetings. Written requests for technical or 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL PIU

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Objective of Engagement	Frequency	Key Messaging	Records of Engagement	Responsible
		<p>information, activities, and opportunities (employment, training, community development projects) to their communities.</p>		<p>and/or month and/or quarter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on Project grievances recorded, under investigation, and resolved during preceding week and/or month and/or quarter. • Invite to participate in Grievance Mediation Committee meetings, as and when required. • Consult for specific information and/or support needs. • Monthly report on any GBV/SHEA incidents recorded by and referred to GBV/SHEA service provider. • Inform immediately of any community health and safety and/or environmental incidents. • Follow-up on action items arising from previous engagements with DCs. 	<p>other support required from urban government authorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Store records on central server 	

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Objective of Engagement	Frequency	Key Messaging	Records of Engagement	Responsible
	<p><i>Indirectly Impacted Districts:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly stakeholder meetings. • Co-facilitate, with MHPL and PIU, as required community meetings with indirectly impacted communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain relationships with district authorities based constructive dialogue. • Inform district authorities of current and planned activities and activities schedule. • Inform local authorities of development opportunities, including employment, skills training, and development projects. • Involve local authorities in communicating project information, activities, and opportunities (employment, training, community development projects) to their communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As required. • Biannual: Community meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior notification of Project activities to be undertaken in District; District to inform Traditional Authorities and Group Village Heads in accordance with protocol. • Up-to-date information on current and planned project activities (including resettlement). • Biannual report on any GBV/SHEA incidents recorded by and referred to GBV/SHEA service provider. • Inform immediately of any community health and safety and/or environmental incidents. 		

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Objective of Engagement	Frequency	Key Messaging	Records of Engagement	Responsible
NGOs and CBOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly stakeholder meetings Project communication media: MHPP Quarterly Newsletters, brochures, etc. Project website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and maintain constructive relationships. To inform and strengthen the project's E&S performance. Build and maintain trust in the credibility of the Project by communicating in a transparent and accurate manner. Provide a platform for NGOs to raise potential issues the project might not be aware of. Provide information on current and planned project activities, including resettlement, stakeholder engagement and consultation activities, as well as stakeholder questions, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly As required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up-to-date information on current and planned project activities (including resettlement). Biannual report on any GBV/SHEA incidents recorded by and referred to GBV/SHEA service provider. Inform immediately of any community health and safety and/or environmental incidents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written meeting requests Attendance registers Feedback register Grievance register Minutes of meetings Photographs of meeting participants, with permission Action tracker: List of action items arising from meetings Store records on central server 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL PIU

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Objective of Engagement	Frequency	Key Messaging	Records of Engagement	Responsible
		<p>comments, concerns, and complaints.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share information on potential Project risks and impacts and associated mitigation and management measures. Familiarise with Project GRM and SEP. Familiarise with Project GBV/SHEA management procedure. 				
Other hydropower facilities in the Project area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly stakeholder meetings. Ad hoc meetings. Project website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify potential MHPP impacts and management mechanisms on these hydropower schemes. Provide information on current and planned project activities. Share information about issues and suggestions for resolutions. Identify ways in which hydropower facilities could collaborate to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly As required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objectives of meeting. Project activity updates and schedules. Recommendations for collaboration. Information on Project community development plan. Issues and topics for discussion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written meeting requests Attendance registers Feedback register Grievance register Minutes of meetings Photographs of meeting 	

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Objective of Engagement	Frequency	Key Messaging	Records of Engagement	Responsible
		<p>increase development impacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify potential cumulative impacts arising from concurrent hydropower activities. • Information-sharing on community development plans (successes and lessons learned), on reputable local suppliers, and skills training and capacity building organisations. • Inform of Project GRM and GBV/SHEA management procedure. 			<p>participants, with permission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action tracker: List of action items arising from meetings • Store records on central server 	

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Objective of Engagement	Frequency	Key Messaging	Records of Engagement	Responsible
Public, Private and PPP Entities and Programmes in the Project Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly stakeholder meetings Ad hoc meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify potential MHPP impacts and management mechanisms on these entities and programs. Provide information on current and planned project activities. Share information about issues and suggestions for resolutions. Identify possibilities for collaboration to increase development impacts. Identify potential cumulative impacts arising from concurrent activities. Information-sharing on community development plans (successes and lessons learned), on reputable local suppliers, and skills training and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly As required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objectives of meeting. Project activity updates and schedules. Recommendations for collaboration. Information on Project community development plan. Issues and topics for discussion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written meeting requests Attendance registers Feedback register Grievance register Minutes of meetings Photographs of meeting participants, with permission Action tracker: List of action items arising from meetings Store records on central server 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL PIU

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Objective of Engagement	Frequency	Key Messaging	Records of Engagement	Responsible
		<p>capacity building organisations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform of Project GRM and GBV/SHEA management procedure. 				
Public Media: Newspapers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publicise Project-related information: Overall Project description; Project updates, including Quarterly Newsletter; Project GRM; Project GBV/SHEA management procedure. • Publicise procurement and employment opportunities. • Publicise Project's community development initiatives and programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly • As required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall Project description, including benefits to Malawi and its citizens. • Project GRM. • Project GBV/SHEA management procedure. • Project updates: Progress, activities, timelines. • Project community development initiatives. • Project access points: Telephone numbers, website, Blantyre office address. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Records of correspondence with newspapers. • Copies of publications • Store records on central server 	Ministry of Energy in coordination with MHPL

Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Objective of Engagement	Frequency	Key Messaging	Records of Engagement	Responsible
International Lenders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly Project reports As required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on Project progress. Report on stakeholder engagement activities. Report on GRM. Report on GBV/SHEA management procedure. Report on any issues and risks. Request technical, incl. E&S, where required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly As required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates on Project progress and activities: Technical and E&S. Report on SEP implementation using key indicators. Report on GRM using key indicators. Identify issues and risks, if applicable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Records of correspondence (email, letters) Records of reports and accompanying documentation Store records on central server 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL PIU

7. Grievance Management

The Mpatamanga Project recognises the importance of establishing a robust and culturally appropriate grievance mechanism to ensure good communication between the Project, local communities and other stakeholders; prevent and address stakeholder concerns and grievances about the Project's social and environmental performance; reduce Project risks and enhance Project benefits; establish and maintain social licence to operate and meet GIIP requirements.

The MHPP Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) Procedure has been developed to receive and address concerns and complaints related to all Project phases: Development studies; Early Civil Works (ECW); Construction; Commissioning; Operational; and Decommissioning.

It will continually evolve and improve based on stakeholder feedback as well as other monitoring and evaluation activities regularly undertaken by MHPL, GoM PIU and Lenders. This section presents an abridged version of the MHPP GRM manual which is available separately.

7.1. Introduction to the MHPP Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

The MHPP seeks to build strong stakeholder relationships and manage the impact of its activities on host communities. It recognises however that grievances related to its activities may sometimes occur.

The MHPP Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) facilitates stakeholders to raise questions or concerns to the MHPP and have them addressed in a prompt and respectful manner. The MHPP aims to address all grievances received, whether they stem from real or perceived issues.

Any stakeholder who considers themselves affected by the MHPP's activities will have access to the MHPP GRM at no cost. The statutory rights of any complainants to undertake legal proceedings remain unaffected by participation in the MHPP GRM process.

The MHPP seeks to foster trust in the GRM process and its outcomes. It will therefore communicate the MHPP GRM in an understandable manner to affected stakeholder groups. Confidentiality will be respected and the MHPP will take all reasonable steps to protect parties to the process from any retaliation that may occur due to complainants' decision to use the MHPP GRM to resolve a grievance.

Grievances could arise with regards to any aspect of the Project, including but not limited to the following:

- Measurement of land and other assets for communities that are to be directly affected;
- Changes in access to natural resources e.g. rivers, forest etc;
- Potential impacts on farming, fishing, and other livelihoods;
- Proposed compensation and other support measures;
- Proposed resettlement sites and housing options;
- Changes in water and air quality;
- Impacts on cultural or religious sites;
- Confusing or insufficient information about the Project;

- Potential impacts to roads, schools, or other infrastructure.

Any person, or group, can make a complaint and the issue will be handled with respect. A grievance can be defined as an actual or perceived problem that might give grounds for complaint.

Grievances received will be acknowledged within 7 days. The action/s to be taken to address the grievance/s raised will be communicated to the complainant within 30 days of receiving the grievance.

The current pilot procedure for processing grievances is summarised below. Adaptations will be made on a regular basis to ensure the GRM remains effective and efficient for all users.

What is the purpose of a GRM?

Community Side

- To give to all community members, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion, and ability, the opportunity to express their concerns and provide any specific suggestions for improvements.
- To support men, women, and youth within local communities to identify actual and potential impacts of a Project to achieve a common understanding about Project activities.

Developer Side

- To support Project developers to understand and address concerns of local communities.

Outcomes

- Local communities, the Project developers, and local authorities listen to and help each other to identify, understand, and prevent potential issues related to a Project.
- Local communities, the Project developers, and local authorities collaborate to maximise the benefits of a Project. Community concerns and complaints are resolved in a timely and respectful manner based on practical solutions agreed between local communities, Project developers and local authorities.

7.2. Channels or Access Points for Raising a Grievance

The MHPP GRM Procedure considers communities’ literacy levels and focuses on in-person interaction with complainants using Chichewa, and/or other relevant local languages, in addition to English; to ensure that processes, decisions, and outcomes are clearly understood.

There are a number of “channels”, or access points, which can be used by community members and other stakeholders to submit feedback – questions, comments, concerns and/or complaints – regarding the MHPP. These are summarised in the Table 9 below.

Table 9: Channels or Access Points for Providing Feedback

Modality	Access Point
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In person: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to a GoM PIU or MHPL representative; e.g. during their visits to local communities. • at regular MHPP stakeholder engagement meetings; for example MHPP Monthly Community Engagement Meetings and Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meetings. • at the GoM PIU (Ministry of Energy office in Lilongwe) or MHPL (Blantyre + Site offices):

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ministry of Energy, 2nd floor, Capital House, City Center, Lilongwe 3. ○ MHPL Addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Headquarters</u>: 16, 17 and 18 on First Floor, Almira Complex at Plot Number BC1114, Mandala, Blantyre. • <u>Site Office</u>: S137, near Main Dam site, Blantyre District. ● to Village focal points; specifically, members of MHPP Group Village Grievance Redress Committees (GVGRCs).
By phone (call, SMS, WhatsApp):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● to GoM PIU: +265 1 770 688. ● to MHPL: 4265 (Toll Free Number) or 0886 595 369 (Airtel) or 0886 595 369 (TNM). ● to members of MHPP Group Village Grievance Redress Committees (GVGRCs).
● In writing:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● by placing a completed GRM Form or written letter in an MHPP Suggestion Box. These are currently located in directly impacted villages in Blantyre and Neno Districts. Each Box is held by a GVGRC member however boxes are opened by MHPL Grievance Officers; for reasons of confidentiality. ● By email to the GoM or MHPL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ GoM Email: info@energy.gov.mw ○ MHPL Email: info@mpatamangahydro.com ● By mail to the GoM or MHPL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ GoM Postal Address: Ministry of Energy, Private Bag 309, Lilongwe 3, MALAWI. ○ MHPL Postal Address: P.O. Box 886 Blantyre, MALAWI. ● Via the GoM or MHPL websites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ GoM website: www.energy.gov.mw ○ MHPL website: www.mpatamangahydro.com ● to Village focal points and/or other members of MHPP GVGRCs.

All community and stakeholder feedback received through the above channels or access points is screened to determine the appropriate management procedure:

- **Grievances:** Referred into the MHPP grievance redress mechanism;
- **Incidents:** Directed to the MHPL HSSE incident management procedure. If this incident affects a member/s of the public, it should also be recorded as a complaint under this procedure and be investigated and resolved accordingly;
- **Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Abuse (SHEA):** All GBV and SHEA incidents brought to the attention of the Project to be referred into the GBV management procedure. If this incident affects a member/s of the public, it should also be recorded as a complaint under this procedure and be investigated and resolved accordingly; and
- **Questions, comments, or concerns (QCC):** Referred into the QCC management process.

Community and stakeholder feedback received through listed channels/access points will be reviewed to identify general stakeholder concerns that should be addressed through ongoing engagement.

7.2.1. The Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project GRM Structure

The Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project GRM structure is designed to be efficient and effective in addressing the communities and stakeholders' grievances. To this end, it is comprised of three tiers including referral arrangements as described below.

7.2.1.1. MHPP Grievance Redress Management Levels

The MHPP GRM will be implemented using a three-tier grievance redress arrangement as follows:

- a) Community level through Group Village Grievance Redress Committees;
- b) Project-level through joint PIU/MHPL Project Grievance Redress Committee and Workers-level Grievance Redress Committee.
- c) Eligible grievances not able to be resolved by these bodies are escalated to a Project Grievance Review Board.

7.2.1.1.1. Community Level Grievance Management

The community level grievance management will comprise of Group Village Grievance Redress Committee (GVGRC) which shall be established at Group Village Headman (GVH) level as early as possible in the project cycle. While previous versions of the Table 10 below showed the names of villages in the Project Area of Influence (PAoI) who shall be involved in the grievance redress processes, the current version has been updated to include the communities along the S137 road which will be upgraded as part of the project. These villages have been included because the GVGRCs have been formed and trained. The table will be updated in the future to include communities impacted by the Transmission Lines.

Table 10: GVHs with Group Village Grievance Redress Committees Established and Trained

District	Traditional Authority (TA)	Group Village Headman (GVH)
Blantyre	Kunthembwe	Namputu
		Kaliati
		Kunthembwe
		Gwadani
		Makunje
		Sitande
		Kadikila
		Chikumbu
		Mvundula
		M'banda
	Kuntaja	Kuntaja

		Solomoni
		Mchenga
		Nkata
Neno	Mlauli	Felemu
		Nsalawatha
	Symon	Ngwenyama

a. Composition of a Group Village Grievance Redress Committee (GVGRC)

A GVGRC shall be formed under the project at a Group Village Headman (GVH) Level in TA Kuthembwe, TA Mlauli, TA Kuntaja and TA Symon as a first level of the first tier of grievance redress to resolve grievances which may emanate at community level during the project implementation cycle. The GVGRC members shall appoint a chairperson and a secretary. The committee shall consist of the following members:

- i. Village Development Committee (VDC) representative
- ii. 2 PAP representatives (one male and one female)
- iii. Representative of Community Policing
- iv. Women Representative
- v. Youth Representative
- vi. Faith Based Organization Representative
- vii. Natural Resource Management Committee (NRMC) member
- viii. Extension Worker in the area
- ix. Group Village Head

The chairperson and secretary will be the focal persons for receiving any grievances which may emanate from the communities.

Note: Chairperson and Secretary will be chosen among themselves, and the composition of the committee should have at least 40% representation of women.

b. Roles and Responsibilities of GVGRC

The GVGRC roles and responsibilities include but not limited to:

- i. Receive and screen community queries, concerns, complaints and grievances in accordance with the processes and timeframes outlined in the MHPP GRM
- ii. Vet all received grievances and consider their appropriateness for resolution under this GRM. If the grievance is not within jurisdiction of the committee, it shall be referred to the appropriate authority;
- iii. Record all grievances as submitted to them by complainant;

- iv. As required, assist in investigation and resolution of grievances related to the MHPP.
- v. Refer the grievance to the PGRC for resolution with appropriate documentation and justification for reference if the case is unresolved;
- vi. Provide feedback to the complainant and ensure reporting;
- vii. Document status of the complaint and its resolution; and
- viii. Sensitize or raise awareness among communities on the GRM and other project information.
- ix. Refer all incidents and emergencies, and gender-based violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEASH) issues, immediately to the nominated pathways.

7.2.1.1.2. Project Level Grievance Management

This will be the second tier of grievance redress and will comprise of two levels of Grievance Redress as follows:

- i) Project Grievance Redress Committee,
- ii) Project Grievance Redress Board

a. Project Grievance Redress Committee (PGRC)

The Project Grievance Redress Committee will be instituted to include members who are lead in environmental, social and resettlement management from the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and Mpatamanga Hydro Power Limited (MHPL), Community Liaison Officers, GVGRC chairperson, and secretary for GVGRC. The PGRC will consist of:

- i. Social Safeguards Specialist – Ministry of Energy PIU
- ii. Environmental Safeguards Specialist - Ministry of Energy PIU
- iii. Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project Desk Officer - Ministry of Energy
- iv. Regional Lands Desk Officer for MPHPP – Ministry of Lands PIU
- v. Malawi Environment Protection Agency Desk Officer for MPHPP – PIU
- vi. Environmental and Social Coordinator – MHPL
- vii. Consultation and Stakeholder Management Coordinator – MHPL
- viii. Environmental Lead – MHPL
- ix. Community Liaison Officers – MHPL
- x. Chairperson GVGRC (from the Group Village where the grievance originates – if needed)
- xi. Secretary Village Level Committee (from the Group Village where the grievance originates – if needed)
- xii. A Committee member as maybe required (From the Group Village where the grievance originates – if needed).

b. Roles and Responsibilities of PGRC

The roles and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- i. Review grievances submitted to project through the established channel;
- ii. Participate in investigations as required and assess findings from investigations;
- iii. Identify resolution and mediation measures;
- iv. Resolving and addressing grievances which have been referred from community level (GVGRC).

- v. Assigning grievances to Responsible Parties for resolution
- vi. Communicate resolution to complainant (formal letter and verbally);
- vii. Refer to the PGRB grievances that have failed to be resolved by the PGRC;
- viii. Build capacity of GVGRC on GRM and crosscutting issues;
- ix. Report to the PGRB all complainants/grievances handled at community and project level
- x. Document status of the complaint and its resolution.

The MHPL and PIU will meet on a weekly basis (online and where possible, in person) to discuss the weekly grievances and decide on actions to be taken.

c. Project Grievance Redress Board (PGRB)

The PGRB is instituted at project level as a referral for all unresolved grievances between the project and the aggrieved person or individual. The members of the PGRB resolved to appoint Co-Chairpersons to ensure that both parties (GOM and MHPL) are represented at that level and that there will be continuity after construction phase when GOM presence through the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) will be scaled down. The Co-Chairpersons for the PGRB are the PIU Coordinator and the MHPL General Manager. The Consultation and Stakeholder Management Coordinator from MHPL is the secretary. Other members include the following:

- i) District Commissioners (Blantyre, Balaka, Neno – depending on which district the grievance emanates from)
- ii) Other council members as required;
- iii) Project Coordinator PIU;
- iv) Deputy Project Coordinator PIU;
- v) E & S Manager MHPL;
- vi) Managing Director MHPL;
- vii) HSSE Manager MHPL; and
- viii) other as may be required.

Table 11: PGRB Membership

GRB Membership	Standing Member or Occasional Member	Comment
GoM PIU Project Director, representing the GOM	Standing Member	
GOM PIU Deputy Project Coordinator, representing the GoM leadership of the MHPP.	Standing Member.	
The MHPL General Manager, representing MHPL company leadership.	Standing Member.	

The MHPL E&S Manager , representing the MHPP E&S leadership.	Standing Member.	
District Commissioner or representative (delegated according to the issues at hand)	Standing Member; dependent on if the issue is relevant to his/her district.	Relevant District Commissioner will be invited to attend relevant GRB meetings.
Community Leader	Occasional Member; dependent on if the issue is relevant to his/her community.	A Community Leader or equivalent nominated by the complainant as his representative. Could be TA/GVH/VH.
District-level Chairperson of NGOs	Occasional Member; dependent on if the issue is relevant to his/her district.	This position is a formal position recognised by District Government as representing NGOs within the District.
GVGRC Chairperson	Occasional Member; dependent on if the issue is relevant to his/her Group Village.	Chair of relevant Group Village Grievance Redress Committee (GVGRC).

The District Commissioner, District Chairperson of NGOs, Community Leader and GVGRC Chairperson could vary each time the GRB meets, depending on the relevance and location of the grievances and the requirements of the Complainant. It is essential that these persons are agreed to by the Complainant as persons who can represent their interests on a fair and neutral basis.

d. Roles and Responsibilities of PGRB

- i. The PGRB shall review the evidence collected to date as well as the resolutions and/or additional actions previously proposed but rejected by the Complainant. The PGRB then determines if further reasonable action is possible.
- ii. If the GRB recommends additional actions, the resolution is presented to the Complainant. If the Complainant agrees, the solution is implemented and the grievance is closed out.
- iii. If no further reasonable action is possible, the PGRB shall authorise the close out of the grievance. A close out letter is then sent to the Complainant explaining the decision and providing the associated rationale. In addition, the District Commissioner, the Traditional Authority and the MHPL Grievance Officer, as relevant, meet with the Complainant and/or his/her/their representative and explain the GRB's decision as well as the fact that there is no further recourse within the MHPP GRM and that the Complainant has the right to refer the grievance to other non-judicial and judicial channels.
- iv. The MHPL Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator is responsible for informing the Complainant of the outcome of the GRB findings. This should be provided in writing and signed by the GRB members.
- v. Where feasible, the GRB process will be efficient and not drawn out. It is expected that the review process should take no longer than two months, except in very complex circumstances *[this does not mean that all resolutions will be made by then, but rather that the GRB will take a decision within this timeframe]*.

- vi. The GRB will make recommendations for resolution of a grievance to be implemented by the Responsible Party/ies, where the grievance has been deemed legitimate (i.e., related to and/or caused by the MHPP).
- vii. In cases where the grievance has been deemed not legitimate (i.e., not related to and/or caused by the MHPP), OR it has not been possible to contact the Complainant after two months following receipt of a complaint and efforts to trace his/her whereabouts have been unsuccessful, these will be deemed “conditionally resolved” after authorisation for close out by the GRB.
- viii. The MHPL Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that the GRB recommendations are carried out, documented and the Complainant is fully informed of the outcomes.

7.2.1.1.3. Workers Grievance Redress Committee (WGRC)

A Workers Grievance Redress Committee (WGRC) will be formed under the Project to resolve the grievances which may result from workers engaged on the project by MHPL, GoM, contractors, and subcontractors. The project will encourage all workers at any level to form WGRCs. A more detailed description of the proposed roles and responsibilities for WGRCs is attached as an addendum to this document. Contractors will be encouraged to adapt the nature of the WGRCs to suit their operations.

a. Example Composition of a Contractors Workers Grievance Redress Committee (WGRC)

the contractors WGRC members could consist of the following members:

- i. Supervising Engineer representative
- ii. Three Workers representative
- iii. Two Women worker’s representative
- iv. Representative of GBV service Provider
- v. Community Liaison Officer – Mpatamanaga Project
- vi. District Labour Officer (Blantyre, Neno, Balaka)
- vii. Ex-Officio VG or GVH where the grievance originated and Senior Traditional Authority or Traditional Authority

Note: Chairperson and Secretary will be chosen among themselves, and the composition of the committee should have at least 40% representation of women

b. Roles and Responsibilities of WGRC

The Workers Grievance Redress Committee (WGRC) roles and responsibilities include but not limited to:

- i. Record all grievances as submitted to them by complainant;
- ii. Vet all received grievances and consider their appropriateness for resolution under this GRM. If the grievance is not within jurisdiction of the committee, it shall be referred to appropriate authority
- iii. Consider and investigate the issue, facilitate and mediate resolution of grievance;
- iv. Summon all concerned parties for hearing
- v. Document status of the complaint and its resolution;

- vi. Refer the grievance to the PGRC for resolution with appropriate documentation and justification for reference if the case is unresolved;
- vii. Provide feedback to the complaining party and ensure reporting;
- viii. Document status of the complaint and its resolution; and
- ix. Raise awareness among workers on the project WGRM.

7.3. The MHPP GRM Procedure

The figures below summarise the MHPP GRM Procedure. One summarises the GRM Procedure at the community level (Figure 11) and the other one summarises the procedure at Project Level (Figure 12). These figures will be revised, as needed, to address feedback from GRM users and other Project stakeholders.

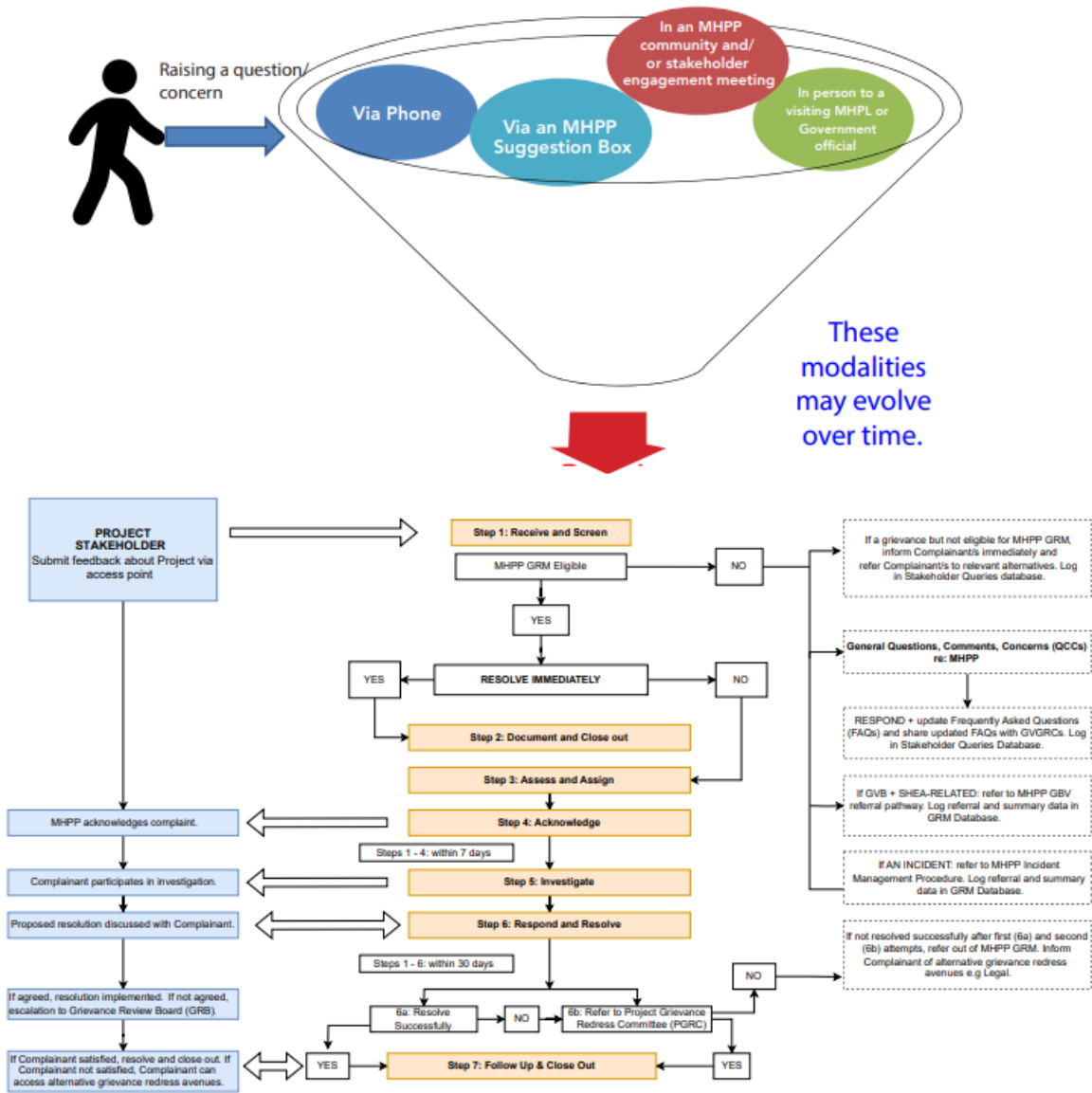


Figure 11: MHPP GRM Procedure at Community/GVGRC Level

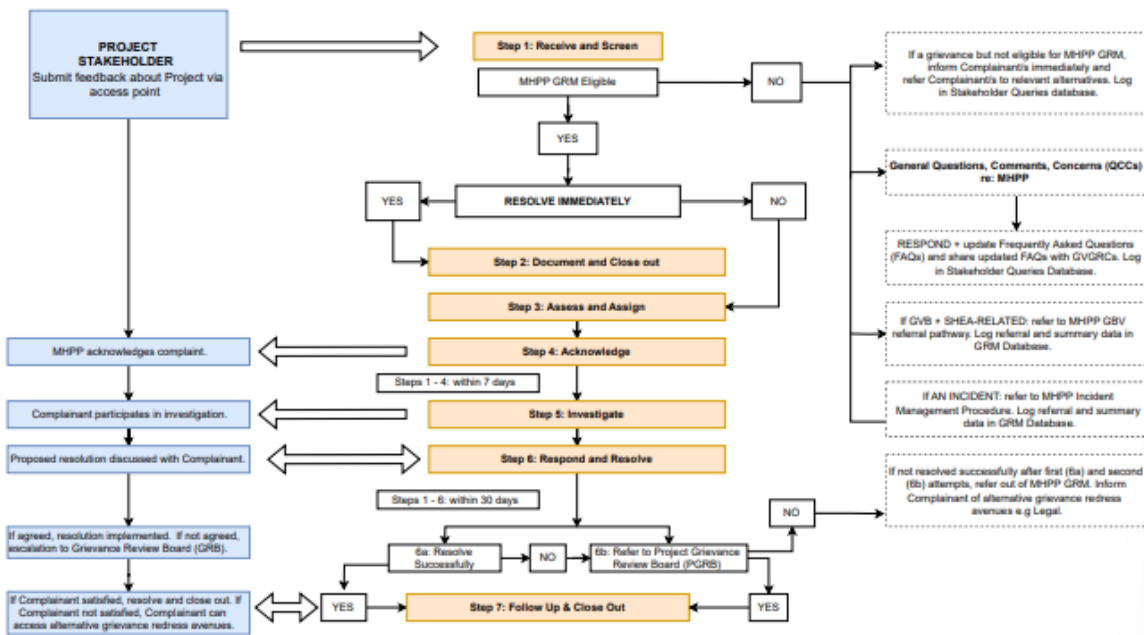
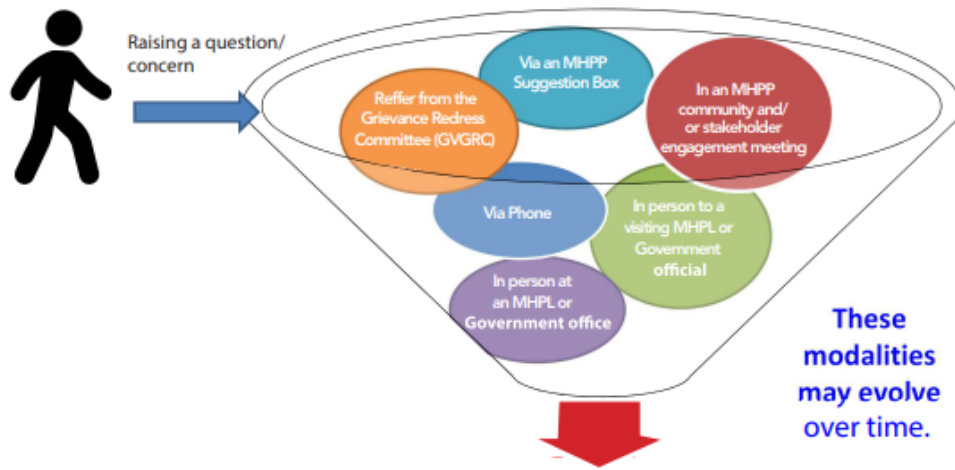


Figure 12: MHPP GRM Procedure at Project Level

8. MHPP E&S Organisation

8.1. MHPL Environmental and Social Management Unit (ESMU)

MHPL has established a dedicated Project Environmental and Social Management Unit (ESMU), led by the E&S Manager, comprising suitably qualified and experienced staff to provide environmental, social, health, safety, security, resettlement and biodiversity management capacity throughout the Project's planning, construction, commissioning, and operation phases. The E&S Manager will coordinate and collaborate with the various functions to ensure effective implementation of the ESMS, that includes the SEP and GRM and will report directly to the Project Director.

As the Project progresses, resource requirements shall vary in line with implementation demands. MHPL will continue to allocate the necessary management, human, and financial resources to ensure the ESMS and its associated plans, including the SEP and GRM, and commitments are effectively implemented and managed throughout the Project lifecycle.

Resources recruited to date that are involved in the day-to-day planning and management of MHPP stakeholder engagement and grievance redress management activities include: Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator, Community Liaison Officers (CLOs), and Grievance Officers.

8.2. GoM Project Implementation Unit (PIU)

The GoM established an Environmental and Social Government Team (ESGT) in the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) to provide technical, environmental, and social support to the Government of Malawi during the development, construction, and operation phases of the Project. The ESGT consists of seconded social and environmental experts from relevant Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) as well as an Environmental Specialist and a Social Risk Safeguards Specialist appointed as consultants. Key MDAs represented in the PIU are the Department of Energy, Department of Environment (MEPA), Department of Lands, Ministry of Local Government, and Ministry of Education.

Reporting to the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) Coordinator, the ESGT works to ensure the MHPP is planned, designed and built according to the World Bank Group Standards and Good International Industry Practices (GIIP). The project will also comply with applicable Malawi regulations⁵ and with international standards and best practice from the hydropower sector.

The ESGT ensures stakeholders are consulted and their views incorporated in ESS tools in line with the Project SEP, which incorporates the public participation requirements stipulated by the EMA of 2017 as well as the P-SEP-P framework. It ensures gender and disadvantaged/vulnerable group considerations are incorporated in E&S Safeguards documents.

The ESGT is supported by a Panel of Experts for Environmental and Social Management (PoE-ESM) that has been formed as required by the WB ESF. The PoE-ESM shall be maintained throughout the construction phase as well as for one year subsequent to the commencement of the operation phase

⁵ Relevant to the project such as Labour, Occupational Health and Safety, land, access of information, grievance redress, Environmental Impact Assessment, waste management, mining and blasting, water, health, forest, wildlife, wetlands, biodiversity, protected areas, among others.

to ensure environmental and social issues are resolved and no legacy issues remain, particularly with respect to the affected communities and their livelihoods.

8.3. Roles and Responsibilities for MHPP SEP Implementation

Roles and responsibilities relevant to SEP implementation are presented in the Table 12 below:

Table 12: MHPL and PIU Roles and Responsibilities for SEP

Role	Responsibility
MHPL ESMU: E&S Manager	Accountable for the implementation of the Project SEP.
MHPL ESMU: Social Lead	Responsible for overseeing MHPL components of SEP implementation.
MHPL ESMU: Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator	Responsible for managing MHPL components of SEP implementation.
MHPL ESMU: CLOs and Grievance Officers	Engaging with Project-affected communities regularly, as per the engagement schedule specified in the CES by establishing a site presence in the affected communities, attending community meetings, implementing the grievance mechanism, and recording and responding to questions, comments and concerns about the Project.
GoM PIU: Social Specialist	Ensure stakeholders are consulted and their views incorporated in the ESS instruments and tools in line with the Project SEP. Coordinate and manage GoM responsibilities for Project SEP implementation.
Joint Responsibilities (MHPL/PIU)	
ESMU PIU	Joint Responsibilities (MHPL/PIU)
	Responsible for the overall implementation of this SEP. This includes attending all stakeholder meetings, presenting Project information, including Project updates, potential social and environmental impacts, the Project GRM, and any other Project information. Responsible for implementation of the GRM. Informing MHPL and PIU management of issues and risks identified during engagement activities and providing support in managing GRM, assigning responsible parties for grievance resolution, monitoring the management of grievances, and suggesting changes to policies or practices based on lessons learned.

Role	Responsibility
	<p style="text-align: center;">MHPL Responsibility</p> <p>MHPL is responsible for developing accurate and up-to date messaging regarding the Project and for ensuring the content and format of the messaging is appropriate for the Project’s different stakeholder groups.</p> <p>For Project-related meetings, MHPL is responsible for: Producing and distributing meeting agendas; compiling attendance register, recording minutes of meetings, capturing photographs and/or video footage (with the permission of participants), and archiving all stakeholder records in a central storage platform.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PIU Responsibility</p> <p>The PIU is responsible for scheduling and coordinating all stakeholder engagements outlined in the CSE and Stakeholder Engagement Implementation Plan, including monthly community meetings with directly affected communities and quarterly stakeholder meetings with other key Project stakeholders.</p> <p>The PIU is also responsible for reviewing all Project-related messages developed by MHPL and for supporting the MHPL engagement team in presenting Project messages during the scheduled meetings. The PIU is responsible for recording minutes of meetings / meeting reports on behalf of the GoM and submitting these to MHPL within 3 weeks of a meeting.</p>
Group Village Grievance Redress Committee (GVGRC)	<p>Elected committees operate as focal points at the Group Village level representing the villages directly impacted by the Project. VGRC members are responsible for receiving feedback about the Project, whether in-person or via the Suggestion boxes. The members are also responsible for screening the feedback and responding accordingly: Referring complaints and grievances to the grievance management process; responding to questions, comments, and concerns addressed in the official Project Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) brochure; recording and escalating to MHPL CLOs the questions, concerns and concerns that they cannot respond to, and referring Gender-Based Violence (GBV) issues, and Incidents, to the appropriate management procedure. VGRC members will attend all Project-related community meetings and be asked to share official Project-related messages (brochures, posters etc.) within the communities that they represent.</p>

8.4. Capacity Building and Training for SEP implementation

To ensure effective implementation of the SEP, capacity-building and training will be provided to MHPP personnel responsible for the activities related to SEP implementation as well as to members of the Village Grievance Redress Committees (VGRCs) who have been elected to support the implementation of the Project GRM and manage Project feedback from affected communities.

The CLOs will receive the following capacity-building and training:

- Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) requirements and standards underpinning the SEP.
- Principles for establishing constructive and positive relationships with affected communities.
- Identifying and following relevant cultural protocols.

- Facilitating community and other stakeholder meetings.
- Recording engagements, including attendance registers, minutes of meetings, Feedback Registers, Action Trackers, Daily Field Reports, and others, as required.
- Eliciting and regarding stakeholder data using qualitative and quantitative methods, specifically, for developing Village Profiles (including vulnerability data).
- Identifying and reporting issues and risks.
- Managing expectations.
- Project Grievance Redress Mechanism.
- Project GBV/SHEA management procedure.
- HSSE incident reporting.

The Grievance Officer will receive the following capacity-building and training:

- Good International Industry Practice (GIIS) requirements and standards underpinning the SEP.
- Principles for establishing constructive and positive relationships with affected communities.
- Identifying and following relevant cultural protocols.
- Implementing the Project GRM, including receiving, recording, and support in investigating, tracking and responding to grievances received by the Project.
- Receiving, recording, responding to and tracking all Project-related feedback, including questions, comments, concerns, and complaints.
- Managing expectations.
- Working effectively with VGRC members.
- Project GBV/SHEA management procedure.
- HSSE incident reporting.

So far, the Community Liaison Officers, inclusive of the Grievance Officer have received formal online training provided by the University of Capetown Graduate School of Business: Fundamentals of Community Engagement and Stakeholder Relations.

The Village Grievance Redress Committee (VGRC) members, who support the implementation of the GRM as well as sharing approved Project information with affected communities, will be provided with the following capacity-building and training on a continued basis:

- Receiving, recording, and responding to, where appropriate, to Project-related feedback, including questions, comments, concerns, and complaints.
- Supporting implementation of the Project GRM, including receiving, registering, support in investigating, and responding to, where appropriate, grievances received by the Project.

So far, the existing GVGRCs have all received training at least once. The training is scheduled to be held once a year, with an additional mentoring session also to be held once a year.

Supporting Project GBV/SHEA management procedure, especially the GBV/SHEA champions that will be identified among VGRC members. Suggest summarizing this in a table and including in an Annex, along with any other anticipated trainings.

9. Stakeholder Engagement Management System

9.1. Information and Data Management

A data management system will be developed to capture and track relevant data on stakeholders, engagement activities, and grievances.

An *MS Excel Stakeholder Engagement Database* has been developed and includes the following:

- A Stakeholder Register:
 - Relevant information on individual, community, and organisational stakeholders.
- An Engagement Activities Register:
 - Record of all stakeholder engagements activities undertaken (including type of engagement, date, venue, stakeholders engaged, objectives of engagement, etc.); and
 - The database will allow for linking of engagement records for each engagement, such as photographs, audio files of audio-recordings, video files of video-recordings, electronic copies of attendance registers, meeting minutes, etc., to each engagement activity captured.
- A Feedback Register: To log all Project-related feedback – questions, comments, concerns, and complaints – received during engagement activities and by VGRC members; and
 - Feedback registers will be developed in book or file format for VGRC members and CLOs and Grievance Officer for use in the affected communities.
 - Contents of Feedback Registers will be reviewed weekly and the captured into an associated database.
 - The Feedback Registers will be used in the identification of issues that need to be reflected in the project's E&S management plans/procedures.
- A Grievance Register:
 - To log all grievances received in accordance with the MHPP GRM Procedure including details about the complainant/s, the grievance (date received, description of incident) grievance category, grievance priority level, time frames, investigation results, recommended remedial measures, status, etc; and
 - The database will allow for linking of all records associated with grievance management process, including electronic copies of the Grievance Registration Form, Grievance Close-Out Form, Grievance Response Letter/s, and any reports or correspondence associated with grievances.

- An Actions Tracker:
 - Details of any required actions identified during engagement, including description of issue necessitating action, description of action, responsible party for implementing action, and deadline for implementation of action; and
 - The Actions Tracker will allow for linking of records related to actions, such as electronic copies of meeting minutes, agreements, progress reports, correspondence, photographs, etc.
- Various SEP-related *templates*, including:
 - Meeting Agenda (Annex 1);
 - Attendance Register (Annex 2); and
 - Minutes of Meetings (Annex 3).

9.2. Budget for MHPP SEP Implementation

A budget for MHPP SEP implementation during the development phase has been developed. As both MHPL and the GoM PIU are involved in funding stakeholder engagement and grievance redress management (GRM) activities, this budget has drawn on inputs from both parties. The budget covers all meetings including monthly community meetings and quarterly stakeholder meetings. Further, it also covers formation and capacity building of the grievance redress mechanism committees in terms of their meetings, equipment and trainings. The same is done for resettlement working groups.

The budget for MHPP SEP implementation will be tracked and monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure effective and efficient use of human and financial resources involved in Project SEP implementation.

10. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting

10.1. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring the stakeholder engagement activities is important to ensure that consultation and disclosure efforts are effective and that stakeholders have been meaningfully consulted throughout the process. The objective of monitoring and evaluating stakeholder engagement activities is to improve current and future management of engagement outputs, outcomes, and impact. Each stakeholder engagement activity should be monitored and evaluated, then aggregated and evaluated as a whole. A set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) shall be defined to enable monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the SEP and guide updates and revisions of the document.

Performance shall be reviewed annually by tracking:

- Project-approved communication materials disseminated: type, frequency, and location.
- Number and type of formal, scheduled engagement events and level of participation by specific stakeholder categories and groups.
- Number and type of ad hoc engagements and stakeholder category.

- Number of queries, comments, and concerns, by category, sub-category and stakeholder group received, as well as responses provided.
- Number of complaints/grievances, by category, sub-category, stakeholder group, and district, as well as status (new, under investigation, pending, closed out) of complaints/grievances.
- Recording and tracking commitments made to stakeholders and/or actions identified during stakeholder meetings.
- Community attitudes and perceptions towards the Project based on media reports and stakeholder feedback.

10.2. Reporting

It is essential to keep a record of each stakeholder meeting and the key outcomes or information derived from it. In this way, the Project can keep track of its engagements and build on them to establish the most effective relationships with stakeholders. Keeping meeting records helps to establish 'audit' trails if the need to demonstrate the content or appropriateness of meetings arises. On-going feedback to affected stakeholders is essential to ensure and maintain a SLO. MHPP will provide periodic reports to the affected stakeholders that describe progress with implementation of the project Management and Action Plans on issues that involve on-going risks to or impacts on affected stakeholders and on issues that the consultation process or grievance mechanism have identified as a concern to those stakeholders.

This SEP identifies several key reporting activities. The SEP will be reviewed by the Project throughout the different Project cycles, biannually during the development phase and annually thereafter, to assess whether:

- The type of consultation and disclosure activities are appropriate for the different stakeholders.
- The frequency of consultation activities and information disclosure is sufficient.
- The grievance management process is effective.
- The staffing capacity to effectively implement the SEP.
- Stakeholder attributes have changed, necessitating adjustments in engagement strategies.
- The list of identified stakeholders remains appropriate or certain stakeholders are no longer relevant to the Project and/or whether certain stakeholders should be added.
- Additional updates are required due to Project developments.

10.2.1. Monthly Reports

The MHPL ESMU will compile a monthly summary report for distribution to MHPL management and the PIU. The monthly report will provide the following information:

- Number and type of scheduled engagement activities undertaken for the previous month.
- Deviations from engagement schedule and corrective actions to be taken.
- Number and type of ad hoc engagement activities undertaken and reason/s for undertaking.

- Required actions arising from the engagements and status of actions.
- Summary of queries, issues and concerns raised by stakeholders during engagements.
- Risks identified by Project team plus recommendations to prevent and/or manage risks.
- Support and/or input required from MHPL management and/or PIU management.
- Comparison of data from previous monthly reports to identify trends and/or fluctuations.
- Summary of grievances received, including grievance categories, response times, grievance status (number of new grievances received; number of grievances under investigation, number of grievances pending, number of grievances closed out), actions implemented to resolve grievances, grievances escalated to Project grievance committees.
- Engagement schedule for upcoming month.
- Reports to include tables, graphs, and photos.

10.2.2. Quarterly Reports

The MPHLESMU team will prepare quarterly reports summarising stakeholder engagement activities undertaken for each quarter. The quarterly reports will be shared with lenders and other relevant stakeholders. The quarterly stakeholder engagement reports will include any lender requirements for documentation and reporting. At a minimum, the quarterly reports will include the following:

- Number and type of scheduled engagement activities undertaken for the previous quarter.
- Deviations from engagement schedule and corrective actions to be taken.
- Number and type of ad hoc engagement activities undertaken and reason/s for undertaking.
- Required actions arising from the engagements and status of actions.
- Summary of queries, issues and concerns raised by stakeholders during engagements.
- Risks identified by Project team plus recommendations to prevent and/or manage risks.
- Support and/or input required from MHPL management and/or PIU management.
- Comparison of data from previous quarterly reports to identify trends and/or fluctuations.
- Summary of grievances received, including grievance categories, response times, grievance status (number of new grievances received; number of grievances under investigation, number of grievances pending, number of grievances closed out), actions implemented to resolve grievances, grievances escalated to Project grievance committees.
- Engagement schedule for upcoming quarter.
- Reports to include tables, graphs, and photos.

10.2.3. Annual Report

A Project specific annual report summarising Project progress and/or performance, including stakeholder engagement and grievance management, will be produced during Project development and construction phases. Information about the Project during its operational phase will be included in the project company's annual reports.

10.3. Ongoing Review and Continuous Improvement

The SEP will be periodically updated as the Project progresses, biannually in the first year and annually thereafter. The SEP will be updated based on:

- Additional stakeholders identified during the E&S studies, including directly and indirectly communities identified as the PAOI is further elaborated and confirmed.
- Changes in stakeholder attributes identified during updates of the stakeholder mapping and analysis done for the current version of the SEP.
- Feedback from stakeholders on stakeholder engagement methods, frequency and/or messaging.

ANNEX 1: MEETING AGENDA TEMPLATE

MPHL Reference				
Meeting Type				
Subject				
Date		Start Time		End Time
Location				
Participant/s				
For Distribution				
Distribution				
Recorded by				

MEETING AGENDA

No	Agenda Item	Time	Presenter
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

ANNEX 2: Attendance Register Template

A: COMMUNITY MEETINGS

MPHL ATTENDANCE REGISTER: <i>COMMUNITY MEETINGS</i>				
Date		Time Started		Location
Topic				Facilitator/s PIU, MHPL, CIA consultant etc.
Participant/s				

No	Name	M/F	DoB/Age	Residence	Occupation	Tel. No.	Signature
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							

B: OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

MPHL ATTENDANCE REGISTER: <i>OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES</i>

Date		Time Started		Location	
Topic				Facilitator/s	PIU, MHPL, CIA consultant etc.
Participant/s					

No	Name	M/F	Organisation	Position	Email	Tel. No.	Signature
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							

NB: By signing this attendance register you agree to having your photograph taken during the meeting and for the photos of yourself to be used by the Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project (MHPP) for any legal use. Such use may include: MHPP Project Publications (quarterly newsletters; public presentations; brochures), MHPP website; MHPP Annual Reports; Public media: Newspapers, magazines, etc.

ANNEX 3: Minutes of Meeting Template

MPHL Reference	MHPL-MR-CM-202x-0x-xx
Meeting Type	Community Meeting
Subject	Monthly Meeting
Date	202x/0x/xx
Location	Name of village / village group
Participant/s	Community members + other e.g. TA, GVH, VH, DC
Distribution	MHPL and PIU E&S
Recorded By	

Meeting Objective

- Topic 1
- Topic 2
- Topic 3
- Topic 4
- Topic 5

Agenda

The agenda for the meeting is presented below.

No	Agenda Item	Time	Presenter
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

Meeting Summary

The meeting is summarized below.

- ...
- ...
- ...
- ...
- ...

Follow-Up Actions / Next Steps

The issues and/or questions and/or comments and/or complaints recorded during the meeting as well as the required follow-up actions or next steps, where relevant, are captured.

Follow-Up Actions / Next Steps

No	Issue/Question/Complaint/Comment	Response	Response By	Follow-Up Actions / Next Steps	Responsible	Deadline
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
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12						
13						
14						
15						

ENDS

ANNEX 4: LIST OF MHPP STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Stakeholder Group	Interest in the Project	Administrative Level	Traditional Authority (where applicable)
A. People and Operators Potentially Affected by the Project			
A1. Communities and Households Affected by the Project's Land Acquisition (Involuntary Resettlement)			
Households potentially affected by <u>physical</u> displacement: 150 to 220 households living in the project facilities' footprint (including roads and transmission lines)	Affected by loss of dwelling or shelter because of project-related land access, which requires the affected person(s) to move to another location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blantyre District • Neno District • Balaka District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kunthembwe • TA Mlauli • TA Symon • TA Phalula • TA Kuntaja
Households affected by <u>economic</u> displacement only: between 1,600 to 2,100 households	Affected by loss of assets (including land) or access to assets that leads to loss of income sources or means of livelihood because of project-related land acquisition or restriction of access to land and natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blantyre District • Neno District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kunthembwe • TA Mlauli • TA Symon
Households not physically or economically displaced, but living in host communities, where displaced households will be relocated	Affected by increased pressure on natural resources, density of dwellings and associated risks on community health and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blantyre District • Neno District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kunthembwe • TA Mlauli
A2. Communities and Households Affected by Impacts and Risks other than the Project's Land Acquisition			
Households living around the two reservoirs, the transmission line corridors, the service road (Main Dam to Regulating Dam) and the upgraded S137 road. Includes also vulnerable groups that may be disproportionately adversely affected by the project and associated facilities	Potentially exposed to community health, safety and security risks, influx, or reduced ecosystem services (e.g. fishing and charcoal making) associated with increased noise and dust exposure, traffic risks, drowning risks, disease transmission, human-animal conflicts or reduced access to water, sense of place, and fertile land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blantyre District • Neno District • Balaka District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kunthembwe • TA Mlauli • TA Symon • TA Kuntaja • TA Phalula
Households farming and fishing in the Shire River floodplain downstream of the Regulating Dam, between the Kapichira Dam and the confluence with the Mwanza River	Potentially affected by the consequences of the long-term Shire riverbed bed incision and riverbank erosion due to sediment trapping in the main reservoir: lowering of ground water level in the floodplain, reduction of floodplain flooding and loss of hydraulic connectivity from the Shire River	Chikwawa District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kasisi, • TA Katunga, • TA Maseya, • TA Makhwira

Households residing within 20 m along the right bank of the Shire River in Chikwawa, within 1 km upstream of the Chikwawa Bridge	Potentially affected by loss of dwelling or shelter because of the long-term Shire riverbank erosion due to the natural erosive process of the unconsolidated cliff accelerated by the sediment trapping in the main reservoir	Chikwawa District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kasisi
Chikwawa Town	Potentially affected by incremental erosion of the foundation of the Chikwawa Bridge	Chikwawa District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kasisi
A3. Economic Operators Affected by the Project's Land Acquisition (Involuntary Resettlement)			
Ranches or commercial farms affected by economic displacement: 16 ranches or commercial farms are affected by the main reservoir and main works areas	Affected by loss of assets (including land) or access to assets that leads to a loss of income sources because of project-related land acquisition or restriction of access to land and natural resources. Workers employed by the ranches or commercial farms are potentially affected by the loss of jobs and associated income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blantyre District • Neno District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kunthembwe • TA Mlauli
A4. Economic Operators Affected by impacts and risks other than the Project's Land Acquisition			
Power Production: EGENCO, for existing hydropower plants (HPP) along the Shire River: Upstream (Tedzani and Nkula HPPs) and Downstream (Kapichira HPP)	Adjustment of operations with the presence of Mpatamanga. Coordination for flood control, drought management, sediment management, dam safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blantyre District • Neno District • Chikwawa District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kunthembwe • TA Symon • TA Kasisi
Power transport: ESCOM for the existing lines and the Mozambique-Malawi (MoMa) interconnection, and as future operator of the Mpatamanga transmission lines	Assistance in avoiding double-resettlement (households displaced for the construction of the MoMa line and then displaced again for the construction of the Mpatamanga lines). Environmental and social management of the Mpatamanga lines during operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blantyre District • Neno District • Balaka District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kunthembwe • TA Mlauli • TA Symon • TA Phalula
Conservation Management: Management authorities of the Majete Wildlife Reserve	Potentially exposed to an incremental risk of poaching and logging due to improved access and increased influx of job seekers closer to the park boundaries	Chikwawa District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kunthembwe • TA Kasisi
Tourism operators: Robin Pope Safaris – Majete Wildlife Reserve, and African Parks (AP) - Mkulumadzi Lodge	Potentially affected by loss of attractiveness of the existing tourist lodges due to noise and light pollution and visual impacts (dam and transmission lines)	Chikwawa District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kunthembwe • TA Kasisi
Sugar Estate with pumping stations extracting water from the Shire River downstream of the Regulating Dam (Presscane, Illovo Sugar Cane, Agricane)	Potentially affected by a reduction in Shire River flow during reservoir filling and impairment of irrigation associated with erosion of the banks where the pumping stations are located and/or long-term riverbed incision and associated lowering of the river water level	Chikwawa District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kasisi • TA Katunga • TA Maseya • TA Makhwira

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Lundo
Extractive industries operators: existing mining or oil and gas operators with concessions encroaching onto the reservoir footprint	Potentially affected by loss of access to exploration areas and/or deposits due to reservoir impoundment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blantyre District • Neno District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kunthembwe • TA Mlauli
B. Local Government			
B1. District Local Government (District Council (DC) Office)			
Blantyre District, Neno District, Chikwawa District, Balaka District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the project adheres to regional statutes practices and create a conducive environment to undertake the project and manage the main impacts, especially land acquisition and livelihood restoration • Involved in information disclosure, representing community interests, local stakeholder mobilisation, identification of alternative land for the affected community, approval of housing designs, grievance redress mechanism and conflict resolution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blantyre District • Neno District • Chikwawa District • Balaka District 	
District Office Specialised Services, Units or Committees Social Welfare Service: Land Service, Agricultural Service, Victim Support Units, Gender Officers, Environmental Sub-Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information disclosure, representation of community interests, mobilisation of local stakeholders, identification of alternative land for the affected community, approval of housing designs, grievance redress mechanism, and conflict resolution. • Information on district development plans and needs assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blantyre District • Neno District • Chikwawa District • Balaka District 	
B2. Traditional Authorities (TA) and Groups of Village Heads (GVH)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kunthembwe • TA Mlauli • TA Symon • TA Kuntaja • TA Phalula 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA Kasisi, • TA Chikwawa Boma • TA Katunga, • TA Maseya, • TA Makhwira • TA Lundo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the project adheres to local statutes, practices and creation of a conducive environment to undertake the project and manage the main impacts, especially land acquisition and livelihood restoration • Involved in information disclosure, representing community interests, local stakeholder mobilisation, identification of alternative land for affected community, approval of housing designs, grievance redress mechanism and conflict resolution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blantyre District • Neno District • Chikwawa District • Balaka District
B3. Village or Grassroots Level Committees			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village: Development Committees (VDCs), Natural Resources Management Committees (VNRMCs), Area Development Committees (ADCs), Beach Committees. • Community Conservation Area Committees (Elephant Marsh) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involved in information disclosure, representing community interests, local stakeholder mobilisation, identification of alternative land for affected community, approval of housing designs, grievance redress mechanism and conflict resolution. • Community expectations and perceptions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blantyre District • Neno District • Chikwawa District • Balaka District 	

C. Central Government: Ministries, Departments and Agencies			
C1. Regulators and Project Partners			
Ministry of Energy (MoE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision making power Member of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and lead government agency in project 	National	-
Ministry of Natural Resources, and Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exercises general supervision and coordination over all matters relating to the environment, natural resources, and climate change management 	National	-
Malawi Environmental Protection Authority (MEPA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central authority in charge of ESIA evaluation Exercises general supervision and coordination over all matters relating to the environment, natural resources, and climate change management 	National	-
National Water Resources Authority (NWRA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage and award water abstraction rights Will be involved in assessing minimum flow released downstream of the Main Dam and potential water extraction application for small-scale irrigation initiatives from the Main Reservoir 	National	-
Ministry of Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate the legal land acquisition process through its Survey Department and Department of Lands (DoL) and Valuation Review and approve the preparation of the Resettlement and Livelihood Restoration Action Plan (RLRAP) development During the RLRAP implementation, verify and finalise the Compensation Schedule 	National	-
Malawi Energy Regulatory Authority (MERA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring policy direction, statutory compliance, security, financing and coordination Provide advice on policy as well as implementation and other matters Establish technical, safety and quality standards, with which the project must comply, and monitoring their compliance 	National	-
Ministry of Transport and Public Works and Roads Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owner of public roads constructed or upgraded as part of the project Managed by the Roads Authority 	National	-
Department of Museums and Monuments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepares/updates the reports as per the regulatory requirements: (i) a “Graves Impact Assessment”, and (ii) a “Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment; and Provide a Graveyards Exhumation and Relocation Plan. 	National	-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Education Ministry of Health Ministry for Water and Sanitation & Southern Region Water Board Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review, approve and participate to the community development initiatives supported by the Mpatamanga Project Review, approve and participate to the education, health and water arrangements implemented by the Project for the resettlement sites 	National	-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electricity Supply Commission of Malawi (ESCOM) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National sole electricity power supplier. 	National	-

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electricity Generation Company of Malawi (EGENCO) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsible for Power Generation in Malawi and potential Government of Malawi partner institution in the MHPP 	National	
C2. Governmental Agencies (National and Regional MDAs)			
Ministry of Labour	Labour and working conditions; Labour Influx; Occupational Health and Safety	National	-
Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare	Gender, Gender Based Violence (GBV), vulnerable persons	National	-
Ministry of Mining	Quarries, borrow pits, blasting	National	-
Ministry of: Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development Development Planning and Cooperation Local Government Department of: Land, Housing and Urban Development Department of Fisheries Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) Department of Forestry Department of Irrigation Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) (Biodiversity, EIA): Department of Water Resources National Red List Working Group	Ensuring policy direction, statutory compliance, security, financing and coordination Provide advice on policy as well as implementation and other matters Establish technical, safety and quality standards with which the project must comply, and monitor their compliance Impact on natural resources (as applicable) Management, maintenance and conservation of protected and wildlife areas and natural resources (as applicable) Majete and Elephant Marsh and Wildlife related issues (as applicable) Input into National Parks falling within the Catchment (Liwonde, Majete, Lengwe, etc) - Biodiversity dependant on the Shire in Liwonde and Majete	National	-
C3. Government Emergency Services			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police and Fire Departments Chikowa Health Centre Chimembe Health Centre Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital (QECH) Neno District Hospital Chifunga Health Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency service providers in Malawi, responsible for responding to emergency incidents Capacity to respond to emergencies, including GBV incidents Information and data sharing, technical input 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blantyre District Neno district 	-

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luwani Health centre • Tedzani Health Centre • Dziwe Health Centre • Victim Support Unit (Chileka) 			
D. Other Current and Future Large Infrastructure Projects			
MoMa Interconnection Line	At the time of writing, resettlement was underway across Mwanza, Neno, and Balaka. Some impacted villages are close to the MHPP site	National	-
Shire Valley Transformation Project (SVTP)	Biodiversity work and linkages with SVTP NRM Work	Chikwawa District	-
Malawi Watershed Services Improvement Project (MWASIP) Malawi Resilience and Disaster Risk Management Project (MRDRMP)	World Bank-funded watershed management in tributaries of the Middle Shire	National	-
Kapichira Hydropower Rehabilitation Project	Reconstruction of the dam may involve a biodiversity management plan and potential offsets	Chikwawa District	-
Blantyre Water Board	Abstractor of drinking water from the Shire River close to Nkula HPP for use in Blantyre City. Currently developing a new pumping station	Blantyre District	-
E. Non-Governmental Organisations and Faith Based Organisations (FBO)			
E1. Project Related			
Witness NGO	Recruited by MHPL to act as an independent observer in the phased RLRAPs preparation and implementation process	National	-
International Accountability Project and Coalition for Human Rights	In February 2022, the NGO published a Memo to the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and World Bank - Mpatamanga Hydropower Project: Community Complaints and Grievances and Recommendations Supplementary to the Project Community-Led Research Report.	National	-
E2. Conservation			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elephant Marsh Association, Community Conservation Areas Committee • Lilongwe Wildlife Trust • Centre for Environmental and Policy Advocacy (CEPA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute knowledge to help improve the management of impacts • Play a role in implementing or monitoring project activities • Act as project accountability mechanisms on behalf of the affected community 	National	-

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife and Environmental Society of Malawi (WESM) • Mulanje Mountain Conservation Trust • Association of Environmental Journalists • Shire Basin Environmental Support Trust • National Youth Network on Climate Change • Concern Worldwide, • United Purpose, • Centre for Integrated Community Development 			
E3. Human Rights			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxfam • Mary's Meals • Income Generating Public Works Programme (Blantyre) • Partners in Hope • Partners in Health • Cadecom (Mwanza) • Save the Poor Foundation • Hands of Hope • Gender Support Programme • Malawi Human Rights Commission • Centre for Human Rights and Rehabilitation • Development Aid from People to People 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute knowledge to help improve the management of impacts • Play a role in implementing or monitoring project activities • Act as project accountability mechanisms on behalf of the affected community 	National	-
E4. FBO			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DanChurchAid • Evangelical Association of Malawi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute knowledge to help improve the management of impacts • Play a role in implementing or monitoring project activities • Act as project accountability mechanisms on behalf of the affected community 	National	-
F. Academic and Research Institutions			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Universities in Malawi (University of Malawi, Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences, Malawi University of Science and Technology) South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Freshwater Biodiversity Unit Bat Without Frontiers Malawi Fisheries Research Institute Forestry Research Institute of Malawi National Herbarium and Botanical Gardens Malawi Plant Genetic Resources Center and Museum Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute knowledge to help improve the management of impacts Play a role in implementing or monitoring project activities Act as project accountability mechanisms on behalf of the affected community 	National	-
G. Donors, Lenders and Investors			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Bank IFC British Investment International Norfund Crossboundary United States Agency for International Development (USAID) United Kingdom Department for International Development European Union, Millennium Challenge Corporation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistency and coordination for aid initiatives in the Project area Monitor the performance of the Project 	International	-

ANNEX 5: DETAILED LIST OF NGOS/CSOS/FBOS WORKING IN PAOI

Community-based Organisation (CBO)	Community Action for Sustainable Development Organisation (CASDO)	Neno	A community-based organization, works to prevent sexual abuse and promote child protection. CASDO collaborates with local welfare offices to safeguard vulnerable children and women in Neno.	child rights education rights sexual reproduction health rights
Community-based Organisation (CBO)	Kunthembwe Farmer Union	Blantyre	A community-based organisation that provides agricultural support, education, and water sanitation services. They work on youth development and income generation through farming initiatives.	
Community-based Organisation (CBO)	Neno Active Youth in Development (NAYODE)	Neno	A community-based organisation working on youth empowerment, education, and vocational training in Neno. They help young people develop skills for better livelihoods.	Sustainable land management
Community-based Organisation (CBO)	Umodzi Youth Organisation	Neno	A community-based organisation working to promote education and human rights for youth, women, and girls. They support agriculture, irrigation, and livestock cooperatives in Neno.	Promotion of quality Education Women and girl empowerment through Gender and Human Right advocacy Democracy and governance
Faith-based Organisation (FBO)	Blantyre SYNOD	Blantyre	A faith-based organisation providing education, healthcare, and social services through churches in Malawi. They work on community welfare projects, particularly in agriculture, health, and education for vulnerable groups.	
Faith-based Organisation (FBO)	Cadecom (Mwanza)	Mwanza	The Catholic Development Commission (CADECOM) works on sustainable agriculture, disaster risk reduction, and community development. They focus on building resilience and improving food security for rural communities.	Agriculture, nutrition and food security. Water, sanitation and hygiene Capacity building/training for transformation Capacity building/training for transformation Natural disaster prevention, relief and rehabilitation Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS and gender in all projects Natural resource management Access to markets and income generating activities Youth Development and Economic Empowerment Climate adaptation and mitigation Lobbying and advocacy
Faith-based Organisation (FBO)	DanChurchAid	Lilongwe	A faith-based organisation that focusses on food security, education, and disaster relief. They work on climate adaptation and empower vulnerable communities to become resilient to environmental challenges.	Humanitarian Aid
Faith-based Organisation (FBO)	Evangelical Association of Malawi	Blantyre	A faith-based organisation that provides healthcare, education, and social support services. They focus on community welfare projects, particularly in agriculture and education for disadvantaged groups.	Agriculture
Faith-based Organisation (FBO)	Stephanos Foundation	Blantyre	A Christian NGO supporting orphans and vulnerable children through education, adoption services, and skill training. They also provide day care and healthcare services.	Stephanos Outreach Adoption Program Talandira Harvest Centre Care Department Education Family Adoption Vocational Training Spiritual Guidance

International Aid Organisation	Action Aid	Lilongwe	Action Aid works to combat poverty and injustice globally, focusing on education, women's rights, and social justice in Malawi. They support vulnerable groups, including women and children, to secure access to basic rights like food, shelter, and education.	Promoting and securing the realisation of women's, young women's, and girls' rights. Building resilience in people living in poverty while strengthening women-led secure livelihoods, preparedness, and emergency response. Enhancing civic participation and state accountability for the redistribution of resources and delivery of quality, gender-responsive public services.
International Aid Organisation	CAMFED	Zomba	The Campaign for Female Education (CAMFED) promotes girls' education by supporting their access to schools, preventing child marriage, and empowering young women to become leaders in their communities.	Support for adolescent girls at secondary school Financial support for girls to attend school Teacher Mentors Learner Guides Parent Support Groups Enterprise Development Climate-Smart Agriculture Guides
International Aid Organisation	Concern Worldwide	Lilongwe	An international NGO working to reduce poverty and hunger. They provide emergency relief, education, and healthcare to vulnerable populations, particularly in rural and underserved areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poverty reduction Community development programs Livelihoods Health and nutrition Education Emergencies Gender equality Climate and environment Educational Resources Fundraising in Schools
International Aid Organisation	Elisabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation	Lilongwe	Works on pediatric HIV/AIDS prevention, testing, and treatment. The foundation supports children and families affected by HIV with life-saving medication and healthcare services.	Sustaining HIV Epidemic Control through Efficient Case Finding and Quality Care & Treatment in Malawi Supporting, Mobilizing, and Accelerating Research for Tuberculosis Elimination Developing and Scaling Delivery of Advanced HIV Disease Services Improving Quality of Care and Health Impact Through Innovative Systems and Technologies in Malawi
International Aid Organisation	Feed the Children	Lilongwe	Works to combat hunger by providing school feeding programs, child nutrition services, and healthcare. They support vulnerable children in rural Malawi through nutrition and education initiatives.	Water and boreholes
International Aid Organisation	GOAL Malawi	Lilongwe	Provides emergency relief, healthcare, and livelihood support. GOAL works to improve food security, nutrition, and climate resilience for vulnerable populations across Malawi.	
International Aid Organisation	Management Sciences for Health	Lilongwe	Works to strengthen health systems and improve maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS care, and family planning. They collaborate with local organisations to provide better healthcare services.	
International Aid Organisation	Mary's Meals	Blantyre	Focusses on school feeding programs to improve child education and reduce hunger. By providing free meals to schoolchildren, Mary's Meals helps increase school attendance and learning outcomes.	Feeding programme
International Aid Organisation	One Acre Fund	Blantyre	Supports smallholder farmers by providing agricultural inputs, training, and climate resilience strategies. Their goal is to increase food security and farmers' incomes.	Improving the harvests by providing quality farm products and training. Encouraging farmers to diversify their crop Providing farmers with access to tree seedlings Providing insurance Developing innovative trials of larger tree packages of trees

International Aid Organisation	Oxfam	Lilongwe	Focuses on poverty reduction, education, and women's rights. Oxfam provides emergency relief and works to empower marginalized groups through advocacy and development programs.	
International Aid Organisation	Partners in Health	Neno	Provides healthcare services focusing on TB, HIV/AIDS, and chronic diseases in Neno. They support community health workers to deliver essential health services to underserved populations.	TB screening HIV support Non Communicable Diseases Programmes using Integrated Chronic Care Centre approach
International Aid Organisation	Save the Children	Lilongwe	Works to improve the lives of children through education, healthcare, and emergency relief. They focus on child protection and gender equality in Malawi.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child protection • Gender champions training • Education and healthcare support
International Aid Organisation	SOS Malawi	Blantyre	Supports disadvantaged families and orphaned children through their Family Strengthening Programme. SOS provides education, healthcare, and psychosocial support for children.	Family Like Care Family Strengthening Institutional Partnerships Development Youth Skills Development Advocacy Education Child Protection and Child Safeguarding
International Aid Organisation	UNICEF	Lilongwe	An international organisation focussed on child protection, education, healthcare, and nutrition. UNICEF works to improve health outcomes and access to education for vulnerable children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child malnutrition prevention • Education support • Works with Blantyre Social Welfare Office
International Aid Organisation	United Purpose (formerly Concern Universal)	Blantyre	Works on livelihood support, agriculture, and WASH programs. They support community resilience and development, focusing on sustainable livelihoods and environmental conservation.	Sustainable livelihoods and healthy lives for all in a changing climate
International Aid Organisation	USAID	Lilongwe	A development agency that supports programs in healthcare, education, economic development, and food security. USAID helps vulnerable populations through humanitarian assistance and development projects.	
International Aid Organisation	World Vision	Blantyre	An international NGO focusing on child protection, education, healthcare, and water sanitation. World Vision builds community resilience and improves access to essential services for vulnerable children.	Child Protection Economic Development Education Health & Nutrition Clean Water and Sanitation
International Aid Organisation	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Malawi	Lilongwe	Focuses on sexual and reproductive health, maternal health, and gender equality. UNFPA works to reduce maternal mortality and supports programs for adolescent health and gender-based violence prevention.	Regional programme Safeguard Young people SYP Joint Programmes on Adolescent Girls JPAG Joint Programme on Girls Education JPGE youth policy initiatives Gender equality Women empowerment.
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Action Hope Malawi	Lilongwe	A non-governmental organisation working on youth empowerment, community health, and education. They focus on improving healthcare services and providing educational opportunities, particularly for disadvantaged groups.	Agriculture and Livelihood Improving Access to Youth-friendly Services HIV/AIDS Prevention Primary Justice Good Governance Disaster Relief Women Economic Empowerment
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Ana Patsogolo (APA)	Blantyre	A non-profit organisation focussed on HIV prevention among vulnerable children and adolescent girls. It aims to reduce new HIV infections, provide health services, and protect at-risk youth in Blantyre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV prevention • Vulnerable children support • Works with Blantyre Social Welfare Office

Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Association of Early Childhood Development in Malawi	Lilongwe	Supports early childhood development by providing resources and training for community-based childcare services. They focus on the health, nutrition, and education of young children in underserved areas.	ECD
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Association of Environmental Journalists	Blantyre	Works to promote environmental awareness and journalism by providing training and advocacy on environmental issues such as climate change, deforestation, and wildlife conservation.	watchdog on environmental concerns. promoting desirable attitudes towards sustainable care and maintenance of the environment. To increase use of information resources, training, and educational events that are already available to journalists and editors who may be covering environment issues. Encourage information sharing within the network, partners, government officials on legislation, policy, guidelines, research documents or any critical publication deemed relevant for work of journalists and environmental communicators and people of Malawi.
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Centre for Environmental and Policy Advocacy (CEPA)	Blantyre	A policy advocacy NGO focussed on environmental protection and sustainable management of natural resources in Malawi. CEPA advocates for improved environmental policies and practices.	Sustainable development
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Centre for Human Rights and Rehabilitation	Lilongwe	A human rights organisation that advocates for the protection of civil and political rights in Malawi. It provides legal support, human rights education, and policy advocacy for marginalized groups.	Citizen engagement and accountability
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Circle for Integrated Community Development (CICOD)	Lilongwe	Focusses on sustainable agriculture, WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene), and climate resilience. CICOD works to build community capacity for managing natural resources and improving food security.	Enhancing Access to Profitable and Inclusive Agriculture Markets for Smallholder Farmers in Kasungu District
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	ChildCare Malawi	Lilongwe	Works to support orphaned and vulnerable children through child protection programs, education, and health services. They provide safe spaces and resources for children's growth and development.	Children's clothes Cooking stoves Solar lights Wheelchairs for children
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Chisomo Children's Club	Blantyre	Supports street children in Blantyre by providing counseling, education, skills training, and healthcare. The club helps vulnerable children integrate back into society through empowerment programs.	Services to street children
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Community Action Women	Blantyre	Focusses on gender-based violence prevention by raising awareness and providing support to women and children affected by abuse. They run community awareness programs to combat violence against women.	Vulnerable women
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Creative Solutions for the Environment	Neno	Works on climate change resilience, sustainable agriculture, and community development. The organisation supports local farmers by providing resources for improved agricultural practices in Neno.	help rural communities adapt to climate change,create alternative livelihoods,fight against deforestation, educate &engage communities in afforestation.
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Development Aid from People to People	Blantyre	Focusses on HIV/AIDS prevention, education, and rural development. They provide community-based training and support to improve livelihoods and health outcomes in vulnerable areas.	Increasing access to inclusive quality education Improving food-security and economic growth through Climate Smart Agriculture among small holder farmers Improving children's conditions Combating HIV & AIDS, TB, Malaria, Malnutrition and Pandemics

Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Gender Support Program	Blantyre	Focusses on gender equality, reproductive health, and HIV prevention. The program works to empower women and girls by raising awareness about gender-based violence and sexual health in Blantyre.	
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Hands of Hope	Blantyre	Focusses on supporting people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups in Blantyre. They provide economic empowerment through in-kind support, such as livestock distribution, to help improve livelihoods.	Construction of facilities (e.g. church building) Feeding programme Education
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	M'thetsa Njala	Lilongwe	Works on promoting climate-smart agriculture and food security by providing farmers with tools and training to adapt to changing environmental conditions in Malawi.	
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Malawi Against Physical Disabilities	Blantyre	Provides medical rehabilitation and disability services for people with physical disabilities. They offer support for education and vocational training, enabling disabled persons to live independently.	Rehabilitation Outreach clinics Workshops
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Malawi Environmental Endowment Trust (MEET)	Lilongwe	Focusses on funding and promoting environmental conservation initiatives. MEET supports projects that protect natural resources and improve biodiversity in Malawi.	Mountains and Land Restoration Wetland Management Waste Management
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	National Association for People Living with HIV and AIDS	Blantyre	Provides a platform for people living with HIV/AIDS to share knowledge and receive counseling and support. They offer prevention, treatment, and training services for communities.	HIV support Prevention, Treatment, Care and Psychological Support Advocacy and Communication Women Empowerment and Ending Gender Based Violence
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	National Youth Network on Climate Change	Lilongwe	A youth-led organisation advocating for climate change action and environmental protection. They mobilize young people to engage in sustainable development and environmental advocacy.	Climate change
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Neno Civil Society Network	Neno	A collective of civil society organisations advocating for human rights, community development, and gender equality in Neno District.	
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Pakachere Institute	Blantyre	Works to improve access to HIV prevention, care, and treatment services for female sex workers, young women, and marginalized groups through behavioral and structural interventions.	HIV support implement and monitor Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) interventions.
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Partners in Hope	Lilongwe	Focusses on HIV/AIDS care and treatment for vulnerable groups. They offer prevention services and healthcare for people living with HIV/AIDS in Malawi.	Healthcare
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Save the Poor Foundation	Blantyre	Empowers women and vulnerable groups through entrepreneurship training and gender-based violence support. They work on women's access to economic resources and social protection.	Vulnerable women Education, health and the environment
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Wildlife and Environmental Society of Malawi (WESM)	Blantyre	Focusses on wildlife conservation, environmental education, and community outreach. They work to protect biodiversity and natural resources while engaging communities in conservation efforts.	Capacity Building For Rangers Capacity strengthening workshop for environmental club patrons and matrons Equipping youth with practical skills and tools to practice innovation for green jobs in Malawi
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Women for Fair Development (WOFAD)	Blantyre	Supports women living with HIV/AIDS by providing training, advocacy, and psychosocial support. WOFAD works to empower women and promote gender equality.	HIV and AIDS and sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) Economic Empowerment Psycho-Social Support

Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Youth Action for Environmental Management (YAEM)	Lilongwe	Focuses on environmental advocacy and sustainable development. YAEM engages young people in climate change action and promotes sustainable use of natural resources.	Climate resilient programmes
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Youth for Environment and Sustainable Development (YSD)	Blantyre	Promotes environmental conservation and climate change resilience among youth. YSD educates communities on sustainable practices and advocates for youth involvement in environmental issues.	Small scale farmer's capacity building for climate change Building climate resilient communities in Malawi Food sovereignty and socio-economic resilience
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Youth Net and Counselling (YONECO)	Zomba	Provides counseling, child protection, and gender-based violence services. YONECO focusses on youth empowerment and mental health support in Zomba and other districts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counselling services • Youth empowerment • Gender-based violence advocacy
Non-governmental Organisation (NGO)	Lilongwe Wildlife Trust	Lilongwe	Focuses on wildlife conservation and environmental education. The trust runs anti-poaching programs and promotes sustainable natural resource management.	Conservation Environmental education Biodiversity research Wildlife rescue and welfare

ANNEX 6: MHPP COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

Engagement Method	Sub-Category	Frequency/Number	Project Phase	Purpose	Facilitator/s	Record Keeping	Notes
Community meetings	Directly impacted communities	Bi- Monthly	Development Construction Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep informed of and disclose Project information. Record and respond to (where appropriate) questions, concerns, and comments (QCC). Record and respond to (where appropriate) complaints / grievances. Feedback on Project-related questions, concerns, and comments (QCC). Present / review grievance management procedure, including GBV/SHEA referral pathways. Provide feedback on Project-related complaints / grievances (number received, number resolved, number under investigation). Provide feedback on local employment to date and upcoming employment opportunities. Identify and manage potential risks and negative impacts. Identify potential areas for community investment / support. Special topics e.g., human rights, resettlement-related, community health and safety, GBV, and SHEA etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL PIU DC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance register Minutes of meetings Photographs of meeting participants, with permission Feedback Register Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) Grievance register Lessons learnt meetings/workshop Store records on central server 	Number of villages / group villages to be included in the bi-monthly meeting schedule will increase as Project gears up.
	Leaders of directly impacted communities (Village Heads, Group Village Heads, TAs)	Quarterly		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep informed of and disclose Project information. Inform leaders of content to be presented in upcoming community meetings, obtain feedback, and elicit support for key messages to be shared. Provide feedback on complaints / grievances received since previous monthly meeting (where appropriate and maintaining confidentiality). Educate on grievance management procedure and GBV/SHEA management procedure. Identify and manage potential risks and negative impacts. Identify potential areas for community investment / support. Special topics e.g., human rights, workers' rights, resettlement-related topics, community health and safety, GBV/SHEA etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL PIU DC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance register Minutes of meetings Photographs of meeting participants, with permission Feedback Register Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) Grievance register Store records on central server 	Number of village heads / group village heads to be included in monthly meeting schedule will increase as Project gears up.

Engagement Method	Sub-Category	Frequency/Number	Project Phase	Purpose	Facilitator/s	Record Keeping	Notes
	<i>Indirectly impacted</i> communities	Annual and/or Bi-annual during construction		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep informed of and disclose Project information. Record and respond to (where appropriate) questions, concerns, and comments (QCC). Record and respond to (where appropriate) complaints / grievances. Feedback on Project-related questions, concerns, and comments (QCC). Present / review grievance management procedure, including GBV/SHEA referral pathways. Provide feedback on Project-related complaints / grievances (number received, number resolved, number under investigation). Provide feedback on local employment to date and upcoming employment opportunities. Identify and manage potential risks and negative impacts. Identify potential areas for community investment / support. Special topics e.g., human rights, resettlement-related, community health and safety, GBV, and SHEA etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL PIU DC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance register Minutes of meetings Photographs of meeting participants, with permission Feedback Register Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) Grievance register Store records on central server 	Number of villages / group villages to be included in monthly meeting schedule will increase as Project gears up.
	Leaders of <i>indirectly impacted</i> communities (Village Heads, Group Village Heads, TAs)	Annual and/or Bi-annual during construction	Development Construction Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep informed of and disclose Project information. Inform leaders of content to be presented in upcoming community meetings, obtain feedback, and elicit support for key messages to be shared. Provide feedback on complaints / grievances received since previous monthly meeting (where appropriate and maintaining confidentiality). Educate on grievance management procedure and GBV/SHEA management procedure. Identify and manage potential risks and negative impacts. Identify potential areas for community investment / support. Special topics e.g., human rights, workers' rights, resettlement-related topics, community health and safety, GBV/SHEA etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL PIU DC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance register Minutes of meetings Photographs of meeting participants, with permission Feedback Register Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) Grievance register Store records on central server 	Number of village heads / group village heads to be included in monthly meeting schedule will increase as Project gears up.
	Ad hoc	As required	Development Construction Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceptional meetings where information/messages cannot be aligned with monthly community meetings due to specificity or urgency. For example, ESIA disclosure; election of Resettlement Working Groups etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL PIU DC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance register Minutes of meetings Photographs of meeting participants, with permission Feedback Register Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) Grievance register Store records on central server 	Minimize such instances to avoid stakeholder fatigue.

Engagement Method	Sub-Category	Frequency/Number	Project Phase	Purpose	Facilitator/s	Record Keeping	Notes
	Focus group discussions and/or interviews	As required	Development Construction Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation and participation on certain Project aspects, e.g., designing and improving GRM and GBV/SHEA management procedures; improving local labour policy etc. • Identifying and obtaining feedback from vulnerable groups. • Identifying community needs and potential community development initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHPL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance register • Minutes of meetings • Photographs of meeting participants, with permission • Feedback Register • Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) • Grievance register • Stakeholder register • Store records on central server 	Community groups to be included: Women, elderly, youth, leaders, etc.
Quarterly stakeholder meetings	Non-community-based landowners to be economically displaced	Quarterly	Development Construction Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep informed of and disclose Project information. • Record and respond to (where appropriate) questions, concerns, and comments (QCC). • Record and respond to (where appropriate) complaints / grievances. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHPL • PIU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance register • Minutes of meetings • Photographs of meeting participants, with permission • Feedback Register • Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) • Grievance register • Store records on central server 	Conducted as part of quarterly stakeholder meetings with “Other interested parties”
Community Presence: Community Centres	MHPP Community Centre (Blantyre)	3 days per week (once and if community centres are established)	Construction Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project access point and information hub (Project staff member/s, maps, brochures, infographics, quarterly newsletters, video, photos, other. • GRM and GBV/SHEA access point. • Record questions, comments, and concerns in feedback register. • Employment and local procurement: Advertise employment and procurement opportunities, receive and record employment and procurement queries; receive and file CVs. • Office space, as needed, for GBV/SHEA coordinators. • Meeting space for other Project meetings (scheduled and ad-hoc). 	At least one MHPL staff member will be present in the MHPP Community Centre: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grievance Officer • CLO • HSSE (nurse) • GBV/SHEA coordinator (as per schedule). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor register • Feedback register • Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) • Grievance register • Stakeholder register • Store records on central server 	Community Centre to be established at temporary Project campsite, next to clinic, in a suitably equipped container.

Engagement Method	Sub-Category	Frequency/Number	Project Phase	Purpose	Facilitator/s	Record Keeping	Notes
Community Presence: Community Centres	MHPP Community Centre (Neno)	1 day per week (once and if community centres are established)	Construction Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project access point and information hub (Project staff member/s, maps, brochures, infographics, quarterly newsletters, video, photos, other. GRM and GBV/SHEA access point. Record questions, comments, and concerns in feedback register. Employment and local procurement: Advertise employment and procurement opportunities, receive and record employment and procurement queries; receive and file CVs. Office space, as needed, for GBV/SHEA coordinators. Meeting space for other Project meetings (scheduled and ad-hoc). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL Grievance Officer CLO GBV/SHEA coordinator (as per schedule) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitor register Feedback register Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) Grievance register Stakeholder register Store records on central server 	Use existing structure (Community-Based Organisation) in proximity to Project-affected communities in Neno District
Community Presence: Community Outreach	MHPP Mobile Community Liaison	Minimum quarterly visit to each directly impacted village Annual visit to each indirectly impacted village	Development Construction Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access vulnerable and other groups who do not attend monthly community meetings. GRM and GBV/SHEA access point for vulnerable and other groups. Inform and disclose Project information. Distribute Project communication media (quarterly newsletters, GRM brochures, etc.). GRM and GBV/SHEA access point. Develop community profiles for each village. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHPL Grievance Officer CLO The GBV/SHEA coordinator will be present as per schedule. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback register Photographs of participants, with permission Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) Grievance register Stakeholder register Store records on central server 	Start with directly impacted villages in Neno and Blantyre Districts Two villages per day: AM and PM. To start: Monthly visits. Adjust as appropriate based on community needs and Project phase.
Project Stakeholder Committees	Village Grievance Redress Committee (VGRC)	One VGRC per directly impacted Group Village	Development Construction Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GRM access point: In-person or via Project Suggestion Box. Project feedback access point: In-person or via Project Suggestion Box. GRM management procedure: Support sensitization of communities on GRM; Provide immediate response to grievances (where possible and appropriate); participate in investigation of grievances (where appropriate); and support in communicating resolutions (where appropriate). Engagement focal points: Record questions, comments, and concerns in feedback register; respond to questions, comments, and concerns based on Project-approved FAQ. GBV/SHEA access point (selected VGRC members). GBV/SHEA management procedure: Support sensitization of communities on procedure; connect complainant to GBV/SHEA referral pathway and service provider. Educating VGRCs on workers' rights and human rights. CLO or Grievance Officer to have monthly meeting with VGRC members keeping Suggestion Box as well as VGRC chairman to review and discuss feedback register. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elected community representatives CLO or Grievance Officer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback register Photographs of participants, with permission Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) Grievance register Stakeholder register Store records on central server 	Current Project phase: 5 VGRCs established. Number will increase as Project ramps up.

Engagement Method	Sub-Category	Frequency/Number	Project Phase	Purpose	Facilitator/s	Record Keeping	Notes
	Resettlement Working Group (RWG)	One RWG per directly impacted District	<i>RLRAP Activities:</i> Development, Implementation, and Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represent interests of physically and/or economically displaced PAP regarding compensation and resettlement-related benefits, including livelihood restoration measures. Communicate resettlement-related information and benefits to PAP (as required). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District government officials. Customary authorities. Elected PAP representatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance register Minutes of meetings Photographs of meeting participants, with permission Feedback Register Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) Grievance register Stakeholder register Store records on central server 	RWGs for Blantyre District and Neno District to be established in September 2023 (excl. PAP representatives). Number will increase as Project ramps up.
Community theatre and role-play	Topic-specific productions	As required: Focus on directly impacted communities	Development Construction Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To communicate and educate affected communities in an engaging, interactive, and culturally appropriate manner. Specific Project-related topics, incl. Risks associated with not spending compensation money wisely (resettlement); GRM management procedure; GBV/SHEA management procedure; workers' rights; HSSE incident management procedure. Broader topics (also Project-related): Human rights; GBV/SHEA; HIV/AIDS and STIs; traffic and road safety; etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appoint local specialists (Blantyre). Community participation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance register Video recordings, with permission Photographs, with permission Action Tracker (record action items arising from meetings) Grievance register Stakeholder register Store records on central server 	None
MHPP Communication media	<p><i>Printed:</i> Newsletters; brochures; posters; contact cards</p> <p><i>Video:</i> Project design</p> <p><i>Audio:</i> Project jingle; recorded Q&A "interviews"</p>	<p>MHPP Newsletter: Quarterly</p> <p>Brochures and posters: As required.</p> <p>GRM contact cards: Ongoing</p> <p>Video and audio: As required</p>	Development Construction Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project information and updates: Activities to date (previous period) and upcoming activities. Key project milestones and/or announcements. GRM and GBV/SHEA management procedures. SEP: Community engagement modes and schedule. Other topics: Resettlement-related. Broader topics (also Project-related): Human rights; GBV/SHEA; HIV/AIDS and STIs; traffic and road safety; etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Distribution:</i> Community meetings. MHPL: MHPP Community Centres. MHPL: MHPP community visits. VGRC members RWG members Notice boards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store records on central server Stakeholder register (record distribution dates and places) Feedback register 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low literacy levels in affected communities. MHPP Quarterly Newsletters to be read out at monthly meetings. Brochures with infographics demonstrating information are crucial.

Engagement Method	Sub-Category	Frequency/Number	Project Phase	Purpose	Facilitator/s	Record Keeping	Notes
Public media	Local and community radio National newspapers	As required	Development Construction Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project information and updates. • Interviews (Q and A) with MHPL spokesperson/s (pre-recorded or live). • Publicise GRM and GBV/SHEA management procedures. • Publicise community meeting schedules. • Publicise Project access points and schedules (community centres (fixed and mobile), contact numbers). 	MHPL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Records of correspondence with newspapers. • Copies of publications • Store records on central server 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low literacy levels in affected communities. • Local and community radio are effective means to communicate Project announcements. • National newspapers are an effective means to publicise GRM and GBV/SHEA management procedure to a broader audience.

ANNEX 7: DETAILS OF MEETINGS HELD WITH STAKEHOLDERS AND COMMUNITIES POST-2022

Date	Extracted from:	Stakeholder Group	Issue (s) raised/Question	Response reported (if any)
July 2022	District And Community Traditional Leaders Stakeholder's Engagement Meetings Report Blantyre and Neno DCs July 2022	Blantyre DC	The DIE asked how long it would take to fill the dam, considering the requirements of downstream users such as the Shire Valley Transformation Project and environmental flow	In response, the team explained that the project's design considered all requirements in the River cascade, including the SVTP and that during dam filling, the project will maintain the required flow for power generation and other downstream users, including the e-flow
July 2022	District And Community Traditional Leaders Stakeholder's Engagement Meetings Report Blantyre And Neno DCs July 2022	Neno DC	The question was asked by Charlotte Neema, Environmental District Officer (EDO). The EDO noted that the project's transmission line would connect to the Phombeya substation from the main powerhouse and will be parallel to the MoMa Interconnection project transmission. She informed the meeting that the MoMa interconnection project is currently compensating PAPS along the corridor, and the project is constructing houses for some of the displaced people. She was, therefore, worried that some PAPS compensated under the MoMa project would settle in the planned corridor for the Mpatamanga Transmission line and would be required to be reallocated. She wanted to know if ESCOM was involved in the Mpatamanga project to ensure that such issues were taken on board at an early stage	In response, it was stated that ESCOM was involved in the project and would be the transmission line's owner; as such, it was their role to vet the line's route. The participants were informed that once the designs for the transmission lines were completed, the project would be shared with the DC
July 2022	District And Community Traditional Leaders Stakeholder's Engagement Meetings Report Blantyre And Neno DCs July 2022	Neno DC	The District Nutrition and HIV Officer indicated that he did not hear much about the risk of the spread of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), including HIV and Aids, and the potential risk of increased sexual harassment as a negative impact of the project. He noted that the nature of the project will increase the risk of such impacts	In responses, it was stated that the potential risk of the spread of STDs, including HIV and Aids and the risk of an increase in incidences of sexual harassment within the project area were among the major impacts of the project and that they were covered under Community, Health, Safety and Security impacts in the Draft ESIA Report (Mott MacDonald)
27th Jan 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meeting With DC, January 2023	DCs from Zomba, Machinga, Chikwawa and Nsanje	Have you considered in the project any migrating fish?	Two fish studies were conducted in 2015 and 2020, and another one is upcoming. Mitigation Measures are still being discussed
27th Jan 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meeting With DC, January 2023	DCs from Zomba, Machinga, Chikwawa and Nsanje	Is the project not going to affect the flow of water at the Kapichira Dam?	It will not. Hydropower is not water-consuming compared to irrigation systems, which is why we have about three hydropower stations along the Shire River
27th Jan 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meeting With DC, January 2023	DCs from Zomba, Machinga, Chikwawa and Nsanje	Lack of rehabilitation of borrow pits in reference to projects in Nsanje (children are dying playing around the pits) and also there is a need for consultation of such borrow sites to authorities because if not consulted, it leads to difficulties in supervision	No answer provided
27th Jan 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meeting With DC, January 2023	DCs from Zomba, Machinga, Chikwawa and Nsanje	Cultural dilution- people coming in from different countries leading to exposure to various activities (need to orient visitors on the dos and don'ts)	No answer provided
27th Jan 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meeting With DC, January 2023	DCs from Zomba, Machinga, Chikwawa and Nsanje	Has the project put something in the design to contain water flow when we have disastrous effects?	Weather patterns change, and studies on how these are changing, and their impact are being undertaken. We have managed to change the design of the turbines to be running 7 hours a day, turbines producing more water downstream, they will also help in bringing the dam levels down in a controlled manner. 100 years flow included in Climate change studies
20th January 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meeting Minutes: Blantyre MDAs, January 2023	MHPL, PIU, Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Water and Sanitation, SVTP, MNREE	The Project should ensure the management of tributaries and smart farming technologies introduced to substantial farmers on good farming practices to avoid soil erosion and also advise on the project to go for long-term planning as they provide long-term solutions to project challenges	No answer provided

20th January 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meeting Minutes: Blantyre MDAs, January 2023	MHPL, PIU, Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Water and Sanitation, SVTP, MNREE	There are some tapping water projects that rely on the flow of the Shire River. Won't this project impact the flow of water in the Shire River?	With the experience of the existing hydropower stations, hydropower is not water-consuming compared to irrigation and farming
20th January 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Meeting Minutes: Blantyre MDAs, January 2023	MHPL, PIU, Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Water and Sanitation, SVTP, MNREE	The catchment of the water in the Shire River is very high, and since Malawi is becoming bare, there is an increase in sedimentation, e.g. Kapichira. Is the Mpatamanga Hydro Power Project implementing any technical innovations to address the issue?	No immediate engineering solution for the project There are Interventions to manage through promoting immediate catchment by working with communities and institutions by EGENCO. The 'kwa neba kuwale project' (supplying free electricity to one's neighbour to avoid cutting down trees for energy use)
January 2023	Report on Stakeholder Engagement meetings, January 2023	Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (Academia)	What Measures have been taken into consideration to manage siltation and soil erosion in the design	A sedimentation study has been instituted as part of the design. In addition, there are also other studies on biodiversity which will come up with an action plan for biodiversity management and monitoring. ESIA studies will also look into the issues
January 2023	Report on Stakeholder Engagement meetings, January 2023	CSOs	How is the project considering the issues of GBV as experience of other projects in Neno has not been pleasant due to labour influx. Many workers in such projects have left children behind with no care	The project will engage a GBV service provider and Labour influx consultant Has a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) where incidents can be reported Will develop a GBV prevention, management and reporting plan
January 2023	Report on Stakeholder Engagement meetings, January 2023	Forestry Research Institute and Botanical Gardens	There is a need to look into broader catchment management for the Shire River in terms of all tributaries, as whatever happens there affects the Shire River There is a need to look into species of trees in the areas that will be affected and their replacements as, in most cases, the replacement trees are not of the same species and may have different impacts	The project will look into studies that are already taking place in other projects on catchment management The BAP studies will look into that
January 2023	Report on Stakeholder Engagement meetings, January 2023	Mkulumadzi	Concerns have been raised about the potential increase in poaching due to the influx of foreign individuals and the proximity of the potential resettlement area to Majete	There will be a specific influx study to understand how to mitigate and manage potential impacts from influx into the area. The current workforce is estimated at 2,000 to 3,000 during construction – to feed into ESIA A study was done during the fauna study, including wildlife crime and poaching, where the study found rampant poaching in the area around Majete, and experts proposed mitigation studies, which will be stated in the ESIA and E&S management plan Resettlement – people not to be resettled towards Majete but within the existing area, especially Chaswanthaka and Feremu
January 2023	Report on Stakeholder Engagement meetings, January 2023	Dept of Museums and Monuments	Mpatamanga is a site of cultural heritage significance in Malawi with many cultural resources, and as such, care must be taken to safeguard the resources	The project will support the department in conducting Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (CHIA) and developing mitigation measures, including relocating graveyards. The department will work in collaboration with the RLRAP consultant and regional lands
January 2023	Report on Stakeholder Engagement meetings, January 2023	Min of Labour	Experience has shown that some contractors threaten their workers not to report chance finds to avoid delays. So, workers don't report for fear of being fired. Encourage the contractors to report chance finds	No answer provided
January 2023	Report on Stakeholder Engagement meetings, January 2023	Min of Labour	Interested to know what procedures are in place for workers' rights and labour management procedures to be used Contractors need to register with the Ministry of Labour	A local labour management procedure has been developed and will be shared

			Labour management plans to include all categories of labour, including casual labourers	The project will engage a labour influx consultant to develop a labour management plan
January 2023	Report on Stakeholder Engagement meetings, January 2023	DPNW	The project needs to ensure that there are emergency rescue plans for Wildlife in times of cyclones and experiences with other dam failures	No answer provided
18th May 2023	Stakeholder Engagement Meeting Minutes, Feremu Village, May 2023	Feremu Village	Graveyards. Issues relating to graveyards are never highlighted in the newsletter, is it that the project thinks they are irrelevant	There is a Cultural Heritage survey starting next week
19th May 2023	Stakeholder Engagement Meeting Minutes, Ngwenyama Village, May 2023	Ngwenyama Village	Social welfare by contractors in terms of employment to avoid abuse. What policies are put in place to avoid abuse?	We have an Employment policy that is shared with all our contractors, and we monitor their activities to ensure compliance
May 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Report (May 2023)	DCs- Zomba, Machinga, Nsanje, Chikwawa, Mwanza	The project's design shows that it will hold a huge volume of water. From a disaster perspective, what mechanisms are put in place in case of overflowing so that people from lower Shire areas—Nsanje—are not put at risk?	There is a special consideration, which is why we are heavily invested in Geotechnical studies The dam design is a roller compact concrete dam There is such a big height between the Maximum flood level and the actual top of the dam There is a buffer within the dam that acts as a flood control measure and is designed for a 10,000-year flood, and the spillway for 1,000 years n-1 Cyclone Freddy and other cyclones have given us an idea of how best to do the design
May 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Report (May 2023)	DCs- Zomba, Machinga, Nsanje, Chikwawa, Mwanza	We have been having issues with our erratic power supply because the sediments are blocking the machine. Has that been considered in the dam design?	There are two tunnels, and it's a peaking plant designed to operate only during peak hours and not 24 hours a day. Should there be a problem, one tunnel can run while the other one is being fixed The location of the intake structures is far away from the spillway/watercourse Will also allow sediments to pass through so as not to starve the fish downstream
May 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Report (May 2023)	DCs- Zomba, Machinga, Nsanje, Chikwawa, Mwanza	Impact of the water level of Mpatamanga dam on Tedzani.	Tedzani is at a higher level than Mpatamanga. The outlet for Tedzani is at a higher maximum reservoir level than the one at Mpatamanga
May 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Report (May 2023)	Off-site PAPS	What have you considered about crocodiles, which are already problematic in the Lisungwi area? At the confluence of Lisungwi/Shire, there is this problem already	Important topic on the Lisungwi tributary and will be related to BAP offsets where surveys are currently underway
May 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Engagement Report (May 2023)	Off-site PAPS	Child Labour – Young people who are not attending school may be tempted to look for jobs. Some youths are actively involved in charcoal activities	Human rights risk assessment picked up issues of labour
June 2023	Report On Monthly Community Engagement Meetings (28th June – 30th June 2023)	Chikila Village – Snr Chief Kunthembwe	It is important to consider graveyards as areas where many activities occur apart from burial. He said that when it comes to relocating graveyards, which are a cultural heritage, the project should also consider cultural activities like <i>Gule Wamkulu</i> . This is because graveyards are homes to <i>Gule Wamkulu</i> members	No answer provided
August 2023	Community Meeting Minutes – Chikira Village, 1st August 2023	GVH Namputu	After relocation, will the chieftainship be maintained?	It will depend on where they relocate. If it is within Blantyre and there are 30+ households, the chieftainship will progress and still be under the Blantyre District payroll. If the relocation is outside Blantyre, then it will cease
August 2023	Community Meeting Minutes – Mbemba Village, 1st August 2023	Mbemba Village – Community members	How can we ensure people's safety when the dam water levels fluctuate during heavy rain? Some people, especially children, enjoy swimming in the river, and animals rely on the river for water	There are mitigation factors and controls that will be put in place to regulate the river's flow, for example, closing the opening of the gates, and there is also a dam safety management plan.

				People are not allowed to be doing activities in the dam – compensation will be paid to all people in the inundation. However, flooding will be controlled through the opening and closing of the spillway
22 August 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting Minutes: Blantyre and Neno CSOs Ref: MHPL-MR-QS-2023-08-22	Blantyre MDAs	The studies are done in the catchment area but find riverside sediments. Even though several studies have been done on these, what will the project do to mitigate these effects?	Some developers like USAID are working on deforestation, and the project will benefit from that. Also, the project is organising sensitization/capacity building on these issues and livelihood restoration plans for the community
23 August 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting Minutes: Non-Community PAPs Ref: MHPL-MR-QS-2023-08-23	Off-site PAPs	How will you handle the impact of labour influx that may result in high STD /AIDS rates?	HSSE teams will do community health assessment
23 August 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting Minutes: Non-Community PAPs Ref: MHPL-MR-QS-2023-08-23	Off-site PAPs	They might also be thieves coming in with the labour influx. Are you looking into having a Police Unit in the project area?	We have engaged with the Ministry of Defence and private security companies regarding their roles in this project, especially during the construction phase
23 August 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting Minutes: Blantyre and Neno CSOs Ref: MHPL-MR-QS-2023-08-23	Blantyre and Neno CSOs	What measures will be taken to ensure that Mpatamanga doesn't flood Kapichira, and how will you ensure that contractors follow them if the measures are in place?	You may recall that a regulating dam was introduced to regulate flow downstream. The flow downstream will be the same as the flow upstream into the Main dam There is a tender design. The contractors will be supervised throughout the construction process For a HPP, emphasis is given to the final product There are instruments in the project to ensure that there are no negative effects of the project Tender design will be robust enough to attend to contractor compliance issues during construction
25 August 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting Minutes: Chikhwawa, Nsanje, Balaka, Mwanza and Zomba Ref: MHPL-MR-QS-2023-08-25	Chikwawa, Nsanje, Balaka, Mwanza and Zomba DCs	Were any assessments done to determine how the Project might affect water levels downstream of the Shire and any measures put in place to prevent floods?	The peaking operations at Mpatamanga will release a lot of water downstream to ensure constancy in flow. Nonetheless, the effect on flow will only be noticeable between the Main Dam and the Regulating Dam. In fact, the Regulating Dam was only factored into the design due to, partly concerns related to maintaining the original water flow downstream of the Shire River
25 August 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting Minutes: Chikhwawa, Nsanje, Balaka, Mwanza and Zomba Ref: MHPL-MR-QS-2023-08-25	Chikwawa, Nsanje, Balaka, Mwanza and Zomba DCs	How is the project managing the risk of human trafficking?	At the moment, E&S monitoring focuses on variables similar to that. In due course, the human rights study will further inform the project on such issues.
25 August 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting Minutes: Chikhwawa, Nsanje, Balaka, Mwanza and Zomba Ref: MHPL-MR-QS-2023-08-25	Chikwawa, Nsanje, Balaka, Mwanza and Zomba DCs	Are there any Air Quality Assessment Studies?	The Traffic studies include Air Quality Assessments. The baseline studies will also include noise, light, and dust. During project implementation, Air quality assessment will be key

4 September 2023	Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting Minutes: Mbwinja Introductory meeting Ref: MHPL-MR-CM-2023-09-04	Mbwinja village – Community members	Is there any foreseeable risk to fishing and grazing pastures?	Assessments will be conducted, the outcomes will be communicated to affected parties, and ways forward will be discussed
9 - 12 October 2023	Monthly Community Meeting Minutes Mbwinja, Chikira, Nsalawatha, Feremu, Mbemba, Chaswanthaka	Mbwinja village – Community members	Employment opportunities are limited and must be rotated to allow everyone to benefit	Employment opportunities are based on activities, and the contractor decides the number of people required
		Chikira Village – Community members	In the past, there was a communication that people could grow /cultivate only seasonal crops. Are we allowed to grow any crops now?	Yes, you can grow any crop. You are encouraged to continue with your livelihood until a cut-off date is announced
		Feremu Village – Community members	Has the relocation site been identified yet?	Yes, the village chiefs were consulted to determine a resettlement site and a new graveyard
		Mbemba Village – Community members	Mkulumadzi and Lisungwi are both inlets for Shire. How will the project impact the Shire River?	There will be two dams to regulate the water flow. Therefore, there won't be any flooding.
		Mbemba Village – Community members	We want to do irrigation farming in Lisungwi farms, won't this affect us?	According to the Ministry of Lands, that part isn't affected.
9 October 2023	Quarterly Chiefs Meeting	Blantyre	When getting the soil samples, they were taking it in people's fields. Will people need to cultivate in their fields this year?	Soil samples are taken to the lab for testing to determine whether the soil is fertile, etc. People should continue cultivating their fields as usual.
13 October 2023	Quarterly Chiefs Meeting	Neno	Consultation meetings should be in the afternoon because people are busy farming and are busy with their work. So, consider coming in the afternoon	Noted
			What are your thoughts/plans on girls and boys on this project? What mitigation factors have you put in place to deal with potential impacts?	Currently, the project is continuously sensitising the youth about various issues, especially girls.
21 – 23 November 2023	Monthly Community Meeting Minutes Mbwinja, Chikira, Nsalawatha, Feremu, Mbemba, Chaswanthaka	Mbwinja village – Community members	Since the project is helping fix the main road and the road linking the main dam to the regulating dam, will the project also fix smaller roads like the one coming to this village?	We have displayed A1 pictures of the S137 road that will be upgraded. This picture is also included on slide 18 of the presentations distributed. A total of 52km of road will be upgraded, of which 8.6km will be surfaced road and the rest will be gravel We would like you to remember that these are the current plans. The plans are liable to change, and any changes made will be communicated in due course
			Will electricity be accessible to villagers in Divala and Mbwinja?	MHPL only makes electricity, ESCOM decides where the electricity goes At present, we are not aware of any plans for ESCOM to bring electricity here As a project, we have discussions with the community to set priorities, and electricity supply may come out from there
			Where will villagers herd their cattle after the land is submerged under water by the dam?	We will be able to answer once the research is complete and we have findings to share
		Feremu Village – Community members	The presentation mentioned that the two dams will have bridges over them, which will be used to cross the river. One bridge is currently being fixed. Does that mean the bridge being fixed will be broken down or useless?	Rehabilitation works are ongoing and being performed by the GoM. The new Bailey Bridge will be installed before the end of June 2024. The bridge that will come on top of the dam will be permanent, considering that the Bailey Bridge will be removed and the land submerged under the dam.
		Nsalawatha Village – Community members	While the project will create jobs, members of Nsalawatha were concerned that: Lack of skilled labour means they cannot access certain jobs. Low payments (as low as MK1,200 a day) for unskilled labour, not even enough to buy food	Since December 2022, some short-term and medium-term employment opportunities supporting the Project's technical studies have

			<p>Favouritism and corruption when providing job offers</p> <p>Late payments for jobs; for example, the job agreement may be to pay every fortnight, but payments come in months after the job. This results in children being sent back from school as parents are not able to pay fees on time</p>	<p>been provided to local communities within Neno Districts and/or near the works being undertaken. Priority for recruitment will be given to the affected communities. Recruitment will follow the MHPP Labor Management Procedure, which aligns with Malawi's relevant regulatory requirements.</p>
		Mbemba Village – Community members	<p>Farmers depending on the Shire and Lisungwe Rivers and those fishing will lose their livelihood.</p>	<p>The current livelihoods of PAPs will be assessed as part of the resettlement processes, and livelihood restoration programs will be developed. The Project must ensure that PAPs are not worse off after resettlement.</p>
		Chikira Village – Community members	<p>The project may affect these beliefs we have: <i>Gule Wamkulu</i> culture. Initiation ceremonies (<i>chinamwali</i>). Will graveyards be moved according to our cultural, social and religious norms?</p>	<p>The Resettlement Action Plan will include all processes that will be followed if such cultural heritage is to be affected. The communities and their leaders will be involved to ensure cultural, social and religious norms are involved.</p>
28 February to 1 March 2024	Monthly Community Meeting Minutes Mbwinja, Chikira, Nsalawatha, Feremu, Mbemba, Chaswanthaka	Mbemba Village – Community members	<p>It is a norm that when the project starts, there is consistency in employing the impacted villages. What measures have you implemented to ensure that the contractors will follow the same thing?</p>	<p>This is noted. The project has put in place a labour management procedure that will be followed up to the end of the project</p>
		Nkhwali Village – Community members	<p>Nkula and other hydropower stations in the area are well protected. Will the local community have access to the bridge, or will another one be constructed?</p>	<p>People will not be stopped from using the bridge/road.</p>
		Nsalawatha Village – Community members	<p>With the advent of technology, many people do not listen to the radio. As a project, can you use other methods, like WhatsApp groups, to advertise for jobs at the project?</p>	<p>This is noted and will be taken into consideration</p>
May 2024	Chikira, Nsalawatha, Feremu, Mbemba, Chaswanthaka	Chawanthaka Village- community members	<p>- <u>People in Chaswanthaka village worry that local recruitments excludes women and elderly, limiting their job opportunities and community involvement</u></p>	<p>Women and elderly people were excluded from local recruitment in Chaswanthaka village primarily due to the physical demands of the job, which required significant strength and endurance. <u>Additionally, there was a noticeable lack of female applicants for the positions, possibly due to societal norms or perceived barriers.</u> This combination of job requirements and low female participation led to their exclusion from the recruitment process.</p>
		Chikira Village-community members	<p>People in Chikira are concerned about the slow progress of the project, the potential misuse of compensation funds by the Malawian government once received, and the assessment of the S137 road.</p>	<p>In response to the concerns, the MHPP representatives assured the villagers that the compensation funds would not be misused. They explained that the assessment of the S137 road is aimed at its rehabilitation. Additionally, they addressed that women should not worry about interviews and clarified that although the project's pace may seem slow, it is indeed progressing.</p>
		Feremu Village-community members	<p>. The community is particularly focused on whether compensation will be provided for land purchases if they choose not to stay in the proposed resettlement area and unresolved issues on school blocks</p>	<p>The project may allocate compensation for PAPs to buy land if they reject the proposed resettlement area. Despite skepticism due to unresolved school issues, the community appreciates the promised mobile health services. Concerns remain about the project's commitment to fulfilling its promises</p>

		M'bwinja Village-community members	-Concerns were raised about the low number of women being employed and the repeated hiring of the same individuals by contractors. Questions were asked about whether these practices are part of the project's protocols.	Most repeatedly employed workers are skilled and have prior experience with contractors, making them suitable for the job. Concerns about supervisor corruption were raised, and chiefs were advised to publicly announce employment opportunities.
		Ngwenyama village-community members	There was a discussion on why women do not show up at interviews and low numbers of women employed	There could be several reasons for the low numbers of women being employed: the physical demands of the job might deter women from applying; women might not be aware of the job opportunities available; societal expectations and norms could discourage women from seeking employment; and lack of childcare or family support might prevent women from working. Addressing these issues could help increase female employment in the project.
		Nkhwali village-community members	There was a discussion on why women do not show up at interviews and low numbers of women employed. The community appreciates the health checks and polite staff. However, men are jealous of their wives working on the project, considering PPE trousers as inappropriate. This issue, also seen at Kalibu Estate, leads to women being labeled as prostitutes. The project should assess the extent of men prohibiting their wives from working and find solutions. Introducing drama/plays at community meetings could help relay project information. Additionally, there are concerns about a foreman having an affair with a female worker at DIKA, raising questions about handling such situations if it involves one's spouse.	Although it's just one case, the project should address the cultural belief that women shouldn't wear trousers. Report any issues immediately to 4265, as it's against labor laws. Men should not prevent their wives from working. The project is also working on providing GBV services. Avoid mob justice, as it is illegal and punishable by jail.
		Nsalawatha villagers- community members	Due to low community member turnout, the group decided to improve communication by using the GVGRC WhatsApp group and phone calls. They also requested that job opportunities be expedited, as there is hunger in the villages.	Currently, only a few people are employed to assist the contractor with minor tasks. However, more employment opportunities will become available in the near future.
15 th -19 th July 2024	Quarterly stakeholder engagement meetings and community meetings	Chawanthaka Village- community members	The disclosure of environmental and social impacts and mitigation measures was presented using a 3D map of the project footprint. Development agents are hesitant to support Chaswanthaka village due to the uncertainty of the Mpatamanga Project's roadmap, affecting projects like new classroom blocks for Mpatseabwire Primary School. There are questions about whether surrounding communities will benefit from the electricity generated by Mpatamanga in the future. The community is requesting the project to expedite and clarify its processes to address these concerns and facilitate support and development in the area. Participant feedback was then collected regarding this agenda item.	The main resettlement works for the project are expected in 2026, with preliminary work on the first resettlement site in Chaswanthaka and the S137 road occurring between 2024-26, depending on funding. Detailed disclosures of the Resettlement Policy Framework will be provided by September 2024. Socio-economic surveys cover both physically and economically affected households. The project urges communities to continue daily activities and refer uncooperative development agents to the project. The Mpatamanga area will connect to the national electricity grid earlier due to dam construction needs, with individual connections for nearby houses.
		Chikira Village- community members	The disclosure of environmental and social impacts and mitigation measures was presented using a 3D map of the project footprint. Participant feedback was then collected regarding this agenda item. Concerns include potential disturbances to chieftaincy if compensated individuals move away, and whether chiefs will receive disturbance packages. Questions about employment procedures for two GVHs and ensuring access for all were raised. Community members are unclear about compensation amounts and in-kind compensation details, making decisions	The project mandates development within respective communities, disallowing relocation to other areas. Chiefs won't receive compensation as community members will stay. MHPL and SLR have consulted chiefs on land availability for PAPs. Priority for unskilled labor will go to affected community members, with

			difficult. The timeline for 2025 includes resettlement, road, and dam construction, raising questions about simultaneous construction and resettlement processes, and the duration for relocating displaced individuals.	skilled labor sourced externally if needed. The project is not yet approved, so affected individuals are unknown and will be informed later. Gravel road construction is planned but subject to change, and the relocation period is uncertain. Consultations are ongoing to gather views for the final report to government entities.
		Ngwenyama Village- community members	The disclosure of environmental and social impacts and mitigation measures was presented using a 3D map of the project footprint. Participant feedback was then collected regarding this agenda item. There were concerns regarding the proposed irrigation scheme on the Lisungwi River by the Ministry of Agriculture, and if the scheme will impact the MHPP	The project is advising the communities to continue with their daily activities and the community members should go ahead and do irrigation farming unless otherwise advised by the project
		M'bwinja Village- community members	The disclosure of environmental and social impacts and mitigation measures was presented using a 3D map of the project footprint. Participant feedback was then collected regarding this agenda item.	The session was very informative. The community feels on track. No issues were raised.
		Nsalawatha Village- community members	The disclosure of environmental and social impacts and mitigation measures was presented using a 3D map of the project footprint. Participant feedback was then collected regarding this agenda item The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project may increase flood risks for the Lisungwi and Makari tributaries. Relocated individuals will receive a starter pack to support their transition. Wildlife habitats, including fish, will be impacted by the project. People from Nsalawatha face a two-hour walk to work at the main dam; improved road access similar to Blantyre's is being considered.	The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project is conducting hydrology and water quality studies to address potential flooding concerns. The reservoir at the confluence of the Shire and Lisungwi rivers is expected to widen the Shire River, allowing it to sustain a higher water volume. Livelihood restoration measures are outlined in the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) and will be discussed with communities. Relocation will coincide with a new growing season to ensure affected people can harvest their crops. The project aims to minimize wildlife habitat impact through a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP). Employees traveling long distances will have access to special purpose buses, with pick-up points to be determined after community consultations.
		Feremu Village- community members	The disclosure of environmental and social impacts and mitigation measures was presented using a 3D map of the project footprint. Participant feedback was then collected regarding this agenda item. PAPs from GVH Feremu are unsure if they should cultivate their land this year. The project will reassess affected land plots, but resettlement/compensation dates are unknown. The project plans to provide livestock to PAPs, but access to river water for livestock is unclear due to the fenced dam area. Promised school block construction or transportation for children in Felemu and Kambalame has not occurred despite data collection by Neno District Council. A schoolteacher was introduced to tutor children, and the community suggests the project covers the tutor's fees since school block construction will not proceed.	Community members are advised to continue their livelihoods as the project is still in development and compensation/resettlement will not start in 2024. Access to the main dam will be limited for safety, with some river parts accessible, but not the stretch from the main dam to the regulating dam. Data on children not attending school was collected by the Neno District Council and sent to the Education Office. The project proposed alternatives like constructing a temporary school block, arranging transport to Chimbamira school, or using the rehabilitated Bailey bridge for access to Mpatseabwile Primary School.
		Nkwali Village- community members	The presentation highlighted several concerns: restricted Shire River access affecting livestock watering and water usage alternatives, dust impact during construction, and dust mitigation near the regulating dam.	Nkwali Village will discuss water supply solutions due to project impacts. Dust from construction in Blantyre is expected to be minimal. Trucks will operate away from

			Questions were raised about addressing new structures not included in previous assessments and the separation of interventions for vulnerable and other community members. The project must ensure environmental conservation amid population influx and clarify the involvement of the GoM in recruitment. Access to the Shire River and road construction for Neno communities were also discussed, along with recruitment considerations for Neno district and informing Nkhwali about resumed construction in Blantyre.	residential areas. Land acquisition will follow the final RLRAP, with formal compensation starting after physical demarcation. The project targets vulnerable groups and ensures controlled job opportunities. Recruitment will be managed by the contractor with GoM assistance. Community updates will be provided on road access changes. Unskilled labor will come from the project area, with job readiness training for women. Information will be shared through newsletters, CLO, and village meetings.
		African parks	The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project is addressing downstream water level variations through hydrology studies and regular communication with communities. River incision models and sediment management strategies, including annual dredging and flushing, are in place. Noise impact models and siren distances to Majete are considered. A Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) and a Black Rhino contingency plan are included. National Parks staff will have access to both sides of the river. The project includes a voluntary compensation scheme for land near Majete and aims to establish a buffer zone to protect wildlife. Chiefs and communities are being consulted throughout the process.	The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project (MHPP) aims to maintain its reputation and accountability. Information will be disclosed online, with the land between the main and regulating dams being the most dangerous. Erosion and sediment displacement to Kapichira have been considered, with improvements expected in Majete. Noise assessments will be conducted before night construction. Access agreements (MOUs) will be developed once dams are in place. Landowners will be compensated, and chiefs have been engaged. A Rhino contingency plan is recommended. A buffer zone around Majete will be established, and 900 trees have been planted with community support.
		Chikwawa Desc meeting	The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project will upgrade roads to gravel due to resource limitations, with only some patches having bitumen. Waste management plans include identifying sediment disposal sites and implementing mitigation measures. Sexual harassment mitigation measures are part of the project's Environmental and Social Management Plan. Positive impacts include increased energy and employment, while negative impacts involve land loss and displacement. Sediment trapping at the main dam will require management after 30 years. Downstream flooding is a current issue and sediment disposal plans are being developed.	Due to cost constraints, the Mpatamanga Hydropower Project will upgrade roads to gravel to keep tariffs affordable. The reservoir design captures sediments without affecting hydroelectric operations. A GBV service provider will be recruited to raise awareness and manage cases. Downstream impacts include sediment trapping at the main dam, potentially causing river incision, and affecting agriculture reliant on residual moisture. Intensive monitoring will be implemented. The National Water Resources Authority (NWRA) has released information on water release at Kamuzu Barrage. Further questions will be addressed by the SLR consultant.
		Chikwawa meeting with the chiefs	The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project proactively implements measures to mitigate impacts. Fishpond drying and siltation issues are addressed through sediment management plans. T/A boundary markings on the MHPP map follow established procedures. Meeting the District Commissioner alone is possible through formal requests. The project clarifies boundaries between Kasisi and Mlilima Traditional Authorities, ensuring accurate representation. Siltation impacts on the Shire River are managed through targeted interventions.	In two to three years, piezometers will detect impacts, allowing for quick interventions. Monitoring will extend to other areas and Traditional Authorities to implement necessary mitigation measures. Both Kasisi and Mlilima Traditional Authorities will be included in these initiatives to ensure comprehensive impact management.
		MDAs, academia, and district councils-Neno, Blantyre, Chikwawa, Nsanje, Zomba, Machinga, Mwanza, Balaka	The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project will enforce strict contractor control to prevent abuse and implement a local employment policy with training. Waste management plans are	The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project will specify labor recruitment and training for EPC

			included. Whole villages, including chiefs and graveyards, will be relocated. A private conservation area will be managed by designated authorities. Vocational training details and 100% local employment involve government collaboration. Conservancy land acquisition in Neno will be public. The Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) will handle relocations. Conflict and GBV issues will be addressed through community engagement. Bore pits will be restored post-project. Endangered species protection plans are in place. Primary school relocation continues. Climate resilience measures are included	contractors. Waste management will be handled by construction companies with facilities meeting international standards. Three villages will be partially relocated, with graveyards managed by the Department of Museums and Monuments. The Wildlife and Environment Society of Malawi (WESM) and Majete will support the conservancy. Vocational training and local employment are priorities. The project includes measures to minimize GBV and has a Grievance Redress Mechanism. Contractors must rehabilitate sites post-construction. No endangered species were found. The school relocation continues for safety. A system will manage downstream water flow.
		NGOs' And CSOs'	The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project will affect approximately 185 households, including female-headed and child-headed households. Graveyard relocations will be managed by the Department of Museums and Monuments. Relocated communities will receive basic amenities. Fuel theft prevention includes strict security measures. Invasive species like water hyacinths will be managed through regular monitoring. The livelihood restoration plan is part of the \\$.07 billion project budget. Dust management plans for S137 include regular watering. Engagement with households affected by transmission lines involves consultations. Endangered species protection includes a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) and sanctions for poachers. An independent review panel will monitor downstream erosion.	For the Mpatamanga Hydropower Project, no detailed survey has been done for transmission lines and roads. Approximately 30-40% of affected families are female-headed households, with 666 landowners. The Department of Museums and Monuments will manage graveyard relocations. Relocated communities will receive basic amenities, and schools will be constructed in Chaswanthaka and Kambalame villages. Security measures include guards and a new police station. Water hygiene will be monitored and managed mechanically. All project documents will be disclosed, with budget transparency assured. A resettlement working group will oversee the process, and the community will decide on project-financed initiatives.
		District Commissioner (DC) Chikwawa District,	The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project will implement erosion control measures throughout its 30-year operation. To ensure unskilled labor is sourced locally, the project will enforce strict recruitment policies. MHPL can engage the District Council before the next stakeholder meeting in October https://www.mpatamangahydro.com/index.php/project-stakeholder-engagement-plan-sep/ . Project representatives can attend the District Environmental Sub Committee meeting in Chikwawa during the week of July 15 th . Engaging Traditional Authorities in Chikwawa is also feasible at this time https://www.energy.gov.mw/download/35/advertisements/2429/230212_mpatamanga-project-esia-tor-consultation-version_fnl .	The project team will monitor impacts and implement interventions, considering the area's irrigation and cultivation activities. The EPC contract includes labor requirements, ensuring unskilled labor is sourced locally, with vocational training provided. Future impacts on the lower Shire will be considered. The project will write to the District Council through the environmental officer. Engaging Traditional Authorities now is acceptable, followed by a full council meeting.
		Off-site PAPs	The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project is estimated to cost \\$.07 billion. It will operate for 30 years before being transferred to the Government of Malawi. The 30% shareholding includes a 37km land requirement. Houses in Blantyre will not be affected. Compensation is scheduled for 2027 to ensure proper planning. Those who moved in 2018 will receive assistance. Biodiversity impacts, including alien species, will be managed through a Biodiversity Action Plan. Compensation amounts are determined based on asset value and regulatory frameworks. The project aims to improve communication and planning for future relocations https://www.energy.gov.mw/download/30/miscellaneous-documents/2952/901-24-1_mpatamanga-hpp_rpf-executive-summary_eng_20240910-1 .	The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project, estimated at around \\$.1 billion, involves partners SCATEC, EDF, IFC, and GoM, with the World Bank as a major lender. The project will operate for 30 years, with a global hydro plant lifespan of 40 years. Compensation includes feasibility and development costs. All affected land, including worker structures, will be compensated. Land acquisition will begin in 2025. Detailed consultations on resettlement will occur in

				September. Fish management plans and land valuation methodologies will be refined through consultations. The project aims to ensure fair compensation and effective management of environmental impacts.
10 th sep 2024	S137 road upgrade awareness meetings	Full Council Members, MHPL and GOM-PIU	The S137 road will be a mix of tarmac and gravel due to cost constraints. The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project plans to provide electricity and social amenities to host communities. Waste management will use Blantyre's dumping site. MHPP collaborates with Kapichira Hydropower Plant. Environmental restoration initiatives are in place. A single universal dam on the Shire River is not feasible due to technical and environmental reasons. Roads Authority may tarmac gravel sections https://www.cedengineering.com/userfiles/Gravel_Roads_Maintenance_and_Design.pdf . A CSR Memorandum of Understanding and involvement of the National Planning Commission will ensure project continuity and track agreements.	The S137 road upgrade is crucial for transporting project resources and preventing equipment damage. Due to funding issues, the road will be a mix of tarmac and gravel. Project-affected people will receive electricity and amenities, including schools and a health clinic. Waste management will involve building new sites. MHPP collaborates with Kapichira Hydropower Plant. Environmental restoration includes reforestation and a conservancy area. Hydropower sites on the Shire River are strategically chosen. Roads Authority will attend council meetings if invited. The project plans to implement community investment and local content initiatives, addressing participants' concerns.
10 th Sep 2024		Kuntaja communities	Community members raised several concerns and suggestions about the Mpatamanga Hydropower Project. They requested extending the road to TA Kuntaja HQ and ensuring local youth employment. Questions were asked about the condition of project equipment after 30 years and the project's impact on natural resources and community health. The project was appreciated for bringing electricity and job opportunities, with inquiries about additional community benefits and the exact start of the tarmac road. The duration of the road project was also questioned. The project team assured that these concerns would be addressed through careful planning and community engagement.	The Mpatamanga Hydropower Project will consider extending the road to TA Kuntaja HQ. The Technical Team ensures equipment will be operational after 30 years. Environmental and social impact assessments are ongoing, with draft results ready. Measures will address social issues like child marriages and diseases. Local villages near the project will receive electricity, and job opportunities will be available. A Local Area Development Plan will be developed with community input. The S137 road upgrade will start in 2025, taking about a year to complete, with sections surfaced and others gravel of high quality.
20 Sep 2024	RPF Disclosure meetings	Chaswanthaka Village	The session was well-received, and the community feels informed and involved. They requested continued updates. VH Chaswanthaka inquired about support for vulnerable groups not directly affected by the project. The project team will consider these groups to ensure comprehensive support and inclusivity.	The vulnerable groups we are talking about are those that have been impacted by the project only.
23 rd Sep 2024		Solomoni, Mwasamba, Jelani, Ntatha Villages	Concerns were raised about compensation for planted and indigenous trees, inherited land, and land near the road reserve. The project will prioritize local job opportunities, distinguishing between skilled and unskilled jobs. Compensation will be provided for those within the road reserve. Bribery cases can be reported to project authorities. Project works are expected to start in 2025, considering the farming season. Graveyard relocations will follow regulatory frameworks. Measures to protect community health from the influx include environmental and social impact assessments and community health plans	The project will compensate for crops and all trees, whether indigenous or planted, but not for the land itself. Relocation procedures will be followed for those near the reserve boundary. Unskilled labor will prioritize the host community, while skilled jobs require specific qualifications. Bribery cases can be reported to Mpatamanga through provided contact details. A cut-off date for compensation will be announced, but daily activities should continue until then. The project will cover all graveyard

				relocation costs. Plans like the Labor Influx Management Plan will address issues related to the influx of workers.
25 th Sep 2024		GVH Zalewa , VH Patisoni, VH Zalewa, VH Kandoje,VH Salafosi and Community members of these Villages	The distance between Mpatamanga and MOMA electricity poles is not specified, but building houses under electricity lines is generally not allowed for safety reasons https://www.energy.gov.mw/portfolio-item/mpatamanga-hydropower-project/ . The transmission lines will pass from Mpatamanga to Phombeya. The project will cover approximately 39 km ² of land. Employment opportunities will prioritize local community members, with both skilled and unskilled jobs available. The project will keep the community informed about the hiring process to prevent negative consequences like theft https://www.mpatamangahydro.com/ . Community members from affected villages will be given priority in employment opportunities.	The project will provide guidelines on safe building areas near electricity lines. Transmission lines from Mpatamanga to Phombeya will pass through communities, potentially affecting villages. The exact land requirement for the transmission line will be determined during the land survey. Contractors are required to hire 100% unskilled labor from Malawians. Employment centers will be set up in Neno, Zalewa, and Blantyre to ensure equal opportunities. Community meetings with village chiefs will facilitate the hiring process, with interviews conducted in Chichewa to ensure local labor is prioritized.
27 th Sep 2024		GVH Zalewa , VH Patisoni, VH Zalewa, VH Kandoje,VH Salafosi and Community members of these Villages	The distance between Mpatamanga and MOMA electricity poles is not specified, but building houses under electricity lines is generally unsafe. Transmission lines will pass from Mpatamanga to Phombeya. The project will cover approximately 39 km ² of land. Employment opportunities will prioritize local community members, with both skilled and unskilled jobs available. The project will keep the community informed about the hiring process to prevent negative consequences like theft https://accountabilityproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/CLR-Report-Mpatamanga-Hydropower-Project_v04.pdf . Community members from affected villages will be given priority in employment opportunities.	The project will provide guidelines on safe building areas near electricity lines. Transmission lines from Mpatamanga to Phombeya will pass through communities, potentially affecting villages. The exact land requirement for the transmission line will be determined during the land survey. Contractors are required to hire 100% unskilled labor from Malawians. Employment centers will be set up in Neno, Zalewa, and Blantyre to ensure equal opportunities. Community meetings with village chiefs will facilitate the hiring process, with interviews conducted in Chichewa to prioritize local labor. All labor will come from the communities.
23 rd Sep 2024		Makonje villages	Compensation for land along the road reserve will go to the current owner, typically the purchaser. You may continue farming or constructing on your land despite the upcoming census in October. Electricity poles within the road reserve will be addressed in collaboration with ESCOM. Regarding the road reserve, if old beacons do not align with the current road direction, new procedures will be followed to ensure proper alignment.	During surveys, we verify land ownership, often with the help of chiefs, typically identifying the purchaser as the owner. Land use, whether for building or farming, remains unaffected, and current land conditions are recorded. We collaborate with ESCOM for pole-related matters and with the Department of Roads Authority for road projects. For S137, road reserve boundaries guide contractors, ensuring adherence to these limits.
5-17 th October 2024	Resettlement site planning and housing designs	Chaswanthaka, Kambalame and Mpindo villages	Elizabeth Tizola from the Ministry of Lands presented findings on three land parcels in Mpindo, Kambalame, and Chaswanthaka as potential resettlement sites for project-affected people. Villagers were asked to provide feedback and possibly agree on a preferred site based on the criteria for suitability. However, Tizola emphasized that resettlement was not imminent, and participants should continue with their livelihoods.	During discussions in Kambalame, Mpindo, and Chaswanthaka, residents voiced concerns about several factors, including proximity to the main road, the presence of a nearby primary school, access to the Shire River for domestic use, and

			Community members were invited to share their ideas on the design of the houses, including their preferred orientation, size, and construction materials. This collaborative approach ensures that the new homes will meet the needs and preferences of the residents. By gathering input from the community, the project aims to create housing that is both functional and reflective of the local culture and lifestyle. Participants were encouraged to think about what would make their new homes comfortable and sustainable, contributing to a design that everyone can be proud of.	the availability of boreholes for household water use. They also inquired about the timeline for the housing designs, to which the response was that the designs would be available in November.
24 Oct 2024	GVGRC Training	GVH Gwadani, Majora, Kunthembwe, Kadikila, Standi and Makunje villages	Surveys for the S137 refurbishment were postponed from October 2024, with new dates to be announced. The first page of the grievance form goes to the complainant, the second in the suggestion box, and the third stays in the booklet. Separate forms should be kept by suggestion box custodians. The project should consider extending the training days due to the extensive content. Additionally, the transport refund is insufficient as it also covers lunch expenses.	The surveys were postponed from October 2024, with new dates to be announced. The first perforated page of the grievance form should be given to the complainant, the second placed in the suggestion box for project records, and the third kept in the booklet. GVGRCs and suggestion boxes are separate access points; grievances can be recorded by GVGRCs or in suggestion boxes, which CLOs will check weekly. Concerns about extending training days and transport refunds have been noted and will be forwarded to management.
25 th Oct 2024	GVGRC Training	GVH Solomon, Mbanda, Mvundula, Mchenga, Chikumbu, Nkata, Kuntaja villages	During the S137 refurbishment, the project should prioritize hiring local residents to prevent outsiders from taking jobs. Committee members, who will help distribute job adverts, are also allowed to apply for these jobs. Benefits of belonging to the MHPP GVGRCs include community recognition and involvement. The project is encouraged to provide logo T-shirts to S137 committee members for better identification. After today's training, committee members should return to their communities to share the training content through community engagement.	The MHPP ensures equal distribution of skilled and unskilled labor in host communities based on qualifications and follows proper procedures for job adverts, interviews, and recruitment. Local community members, including committee members, are encouraged to apply for these jobs. Belonging to the MHPP GVGRCs is voluntary, with benefits such as logo T-shirts and umbrellas for identification. The MHPP will arrange consultations with host communities, and GVGRCs will help distribute engagement dates and attend meetings to take photos and minutes. This has been noted for further consideration.
Nov 2024	Stakeholder Engagement meetings	Nkhwali, Feremu, Nsalawatha, Chikira, Chaswanthaka, M'Bwinja, Mbemba villages MDAs, Academia, District councils, Traditional authorities	-local employment, slow pace at which the project is moving, fatigue with meetings	The MHPP project has made significant progress, including near completion of tenders for EPC contractors and installation of hydrology stations along the Shire River. The Bailey Bridge project is nearing completion, with parts arriving in November 2024. Environmental and social studies have advanced, with the Resettlement Policy Framework under revision and the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment submitted for approval. Local employment efforts have recruited 243 community members, and active stakeholder engagement has included consultations on the RPF, ESIA, and Cumulative Impact Assessment, ensuring community involvement and addressing concerns.

ANNEX 8: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT UNDERTAKEN AS PART OF THE 2024 ESIA PROCESS

1. BAP Meetings

Several forms of engagement were undertaken between May and October 2023 as part of the development of the BAP to enhance the understanding of the potential impact zones, verify stakeholders, and meet and coordinate with relevant government and non-government representatives. These are summarised below:

- Scoping Meetings with Institutional Stakeholders:
 - Institutional stakeholders engaged during the January 2023 BAP Scoping Meetings organised by TBC are summarised in Table 13. The objectives of the meetings were to provide an overview of the Project, discuss possible impacts, obtain insights on mitigation measures, and map a way forward for stakeholder engagement.
- FGDs (offset strategy):
 - To better understand the feasibility of an offset, FGDs were held with 21 communities located around three tributaries of the Shire River (i.e. Mkulumadzi, Lisungwi and Nkalazi) between 9 and 25 May 2023). These discussions informed the technical, social, operational, and institutional feasibility of possible offset activities in the catchment areas. The list of the May 2023.
- Workshop:
 - To ensure full transparency of the Project and seek stakeholder feedback, a workshop was organised on 3 and 4 October 2023 at the Makokola Retreat, Mangochi to discuss the preliminary results of the biodiversity offset feasibility study and offset strategy. The participants included: African Parks; Lengwe Park Tourist Manager; MEPA; Crossboundary; Department of Fisheries; Mpatamanga HPP PIU; Department of Forestry; Blantyre District Council; MWASIP; Chikwawa District Council; NWRA; Neno District Council; DNPW (National); SVTP; DNPW (Regional); EDF; World Bank; and IFC.

2. CIA Meetings

CIA consultants held meetings with institutions and communities in July 2023. Further, in September 2024, they held a disclosure meeting and a training workshop in Lilongwe.

3. ESIA Scoping Meetings in November 2023

During the scoping mission in November 2023, meetings were held with a wide range of stakeholders as illustrated in The following information was shared:

- The Project facilities and operating mode;
- Key dates for Project development and the ESIA process;
- The potential environmental and social impacts that will be examined in detail during the ESIA process, including
 - Physical displacement, loss of land, and access to land
 - Reservoir sediment trapping and downstream erosion
 - Hydrology and water quality

- Influx: Project-Induced In-Migration
- Air, Noise, and Light Pollution
- Community Health and Safety
- Labour Working Conditions and Supply Chain
- Loss of Aquatic and Terrestrial Habitats.

The planned approach for assessing these potential environmental and social implications.

Opportunity was given for questions and answers. This talk was followed by a round of questions and answers.

The main issues raised by communities at the November 2023 ESIA Scoping Meetings are summarised in **Table .**

Figure 13: Location of Scoping Meetings in November 2023

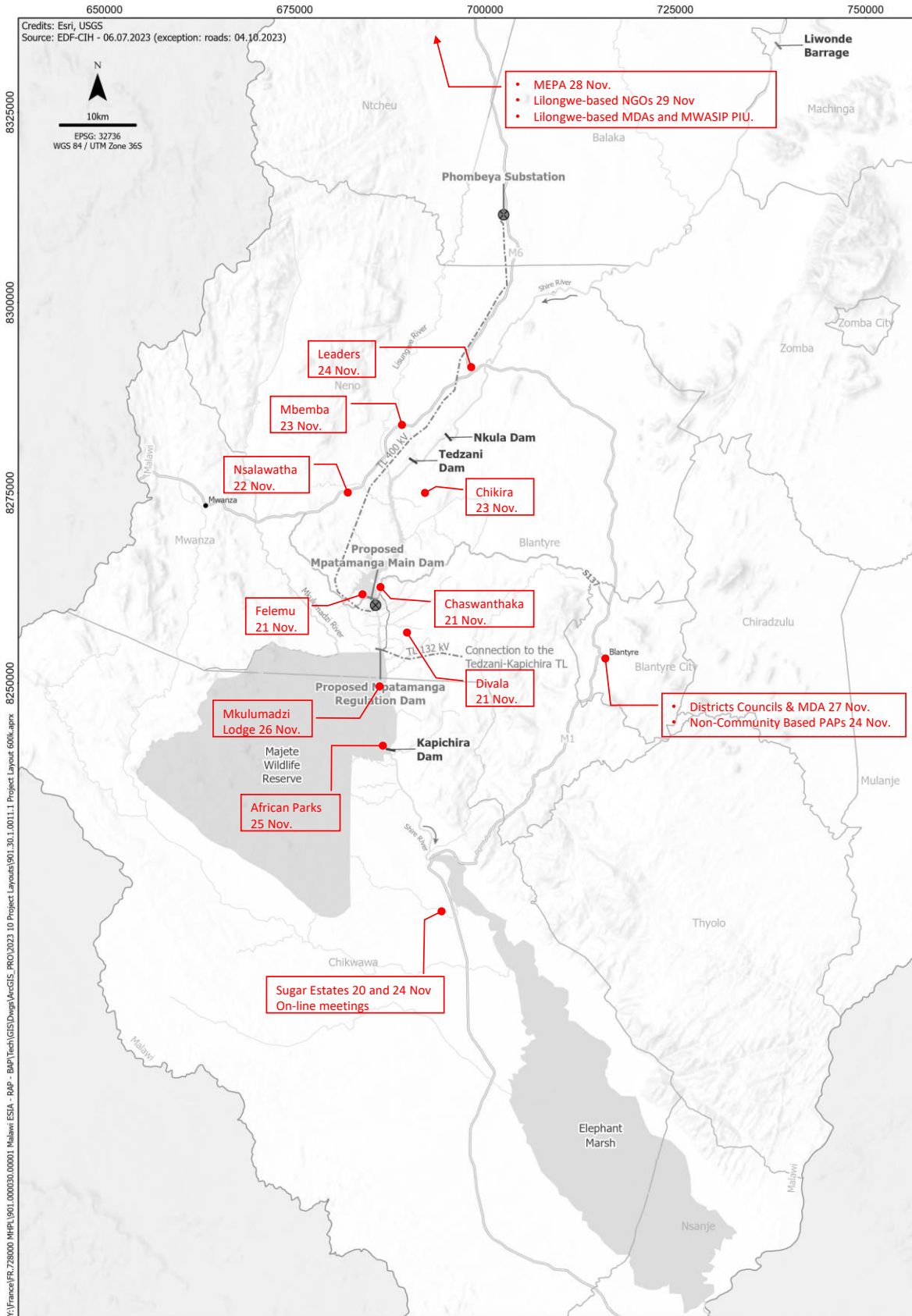


Table 13: Thematic Summary of Feedback Received (Scoping Meetings, November 2023)

Theme	Description
Community Stakeholders	
Influx affecting marriages in the local community	Influx may cause social disruption by increasing the likelihood of relationships, including transactional relationships between workers on the Project and local women, which may lead to an increase in pregnancies and divorces. The risk of family upheaval due to women or men leaving their families having received cash compensation or increased earnings from jobs offered by the Project, women leaving husbands as they would no longer be financially dependent, and the risk of men using compensation or earning to marry additional wives.
Influx leading to increase in human trafficking	Influx or Project-induced in-migration may result in an increase in human trafficking, particularly for children.
Agricultural practices	The Project may impact agricultural practices in the area. People could lose access to the fertile land plots located close to the Shire River, which would be flooded by the reservoirs, where they can currently farm without fertiliser. They may also lose the land on which they currently graze livestock. Fishermen may lose their livelihood because of access restrictions to the future reservoirs.
Employment/working conditions	Concerns included a lack of skilled labour within communities limiting job opportunities, the risk of low wages for unskilled employment being insufficient to buy food, the risk of favouritism and corruption in job placement, and the potential for delays in payments by contractors/the Project.
Loss of status/chieftaincies	Community leaders were particularly concerned about displacement and resettlement leading to their loss of chieftaincy, explaining that there may be challenges in retaining their positions if they are resettled in another chief's area of control. Chiefs also mentioned the risk of people using their compensation to emigrate or move very far away, thus reducing their number of subjects below the requirement for chieftaincy (30 households).
Increased human-wildlife conflict	The favourable conditions created by the reservoirs could increase the population of crocodiles and hippos, causing an increased risk of human-wildlife conflict, including in areas like the Lisungwe branch of the Main Reservoir, where few human-wildlife conflicts are reported at present.
Impact on cultural heritage	There is concern about the preservation of cultural customs such as <i>Gule Wamkulu</i> , initiation rites, and shifting graveyards.
Impacts on education	Relocation may affect children's access to schools as well as educational interruption due to the transition process into the new schools.
Institutional Stakeholders	
Dam integrity	Various institutions raised concerns about the risk of dam break, asking if the Mpatamanga dams would resist an exceptional flood event such as the Ana cyclone. The need to evaluate downstream damages that may occur in the unlikely event of a dam break was also emphasised.
Influx	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A large number of job seekers will almost certainly lead to an increase in illegal activity such as crime, theft on construction sites, child labour, sexual harassment, poaching, and tree cutting.

Theme	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased access and influx leading to increased deforestation: The new access road between the Main Dam and the Regulating Dam, in particular, could increase poaching and the sale of charcoal and add pressure on the Majete Wildlife Reserve, necessitating the installation of new checkpoints and community development initiatives.
Poverty	The risk of PAPs who receive compensation being left worse off. Stakeholders discussed the need to ensure financial stability, such as introducing banking agents into the area, particularly when compensation payments are distributed.
Light and Noise Pollution	Mkulumadzi Lodge was especially concerned about light and noise pollution, as well as sediment flushing, if any, from the Main Dam. They promote nature as a product, and their customers come searching for natural lighting, a peaceful environment, and a glimpse of wildlife.
Investment opportunities	Farmers are concerned about the Project's uncertainty, which has led them to postpone certain investments.
Gender equality and mental health services	Appropriate steps should be taken to ensure gender equality and the mental health of those impacted. There is an urgent need to create an environment where women have equal access to jobs. A deliberate assessment of impacted persons' psychological preparedness may ensure a healthy transition to new settlements.
Biodiversity	To preserve biodiversity, ecologically friendly measures during building and power generation must be considered. If borrow pits are built, suitable measures should be taken to cover them up after construction. Solid and liquid waste such as carbon and methane should be reduced to protect the environment.
Downstream water users	The time it will take to fill the dam needs to be clarified, as this will impact individuals who use the water downstream.

4. Qualitative Social Surveys

Between October 2023 and December 2023, qualitative socio-economic surveys were undertaken in the study area. The objectives of these surveys were to collect baseline information to inform the ESIA. Unlike the scoping or disclosure meetings, these engagement activities were not recorded through formal minutes of meetings, but attendance registers were taken. The Project activities were presented as an introduction to each meeting. The discussion was then guided by an interview grid that allowed for an informal discussion. Therefore, while these surveys aimed to provide a high-level overview of the Project to inform the engagement, its outcomes differ from a stakeholder engagement process.

The distribution of these surveys (village-level, GVH-level, TA-level and District-level) and more details on the methodology and feedback received from stakeholders are given in Section. However, the following serve as a short summary of engagements:

- FGDs:
 - A total of 58 FGDs were held with 565 participants as part of the social surveys.
 - A total of 11 FGDs were held as part of the community health surveys.
 - Key Informant Interviews:
 - A total of 41 individuals participated in 31 key informant interviews as part of the social surveys.
 - Seven key informant interviews were held with a total of 43 individuals as part of the health surveys.
- Institutional Meetings:
 - A total of 19 meetings were held, with 52 respondents.
 - Ad-hoc Informal Interviews
 - A total of 15 ad-hoc informal interviews were held as part of the social surveys, with 20 persons.
- Fisher Surveys:
 - A total of 64 interviews were conducted with fishers in the lower and middle Shire River.

5. Disclosure of the 2024 ESIA Findings

The presentation of the findings of the 2024 ESIA to the PAPs and the other interested parties was undertaken in July 2024 at various locations as shown in Figure 16 below.

Figure 13: Location of Disclosure Meetings in July 2024

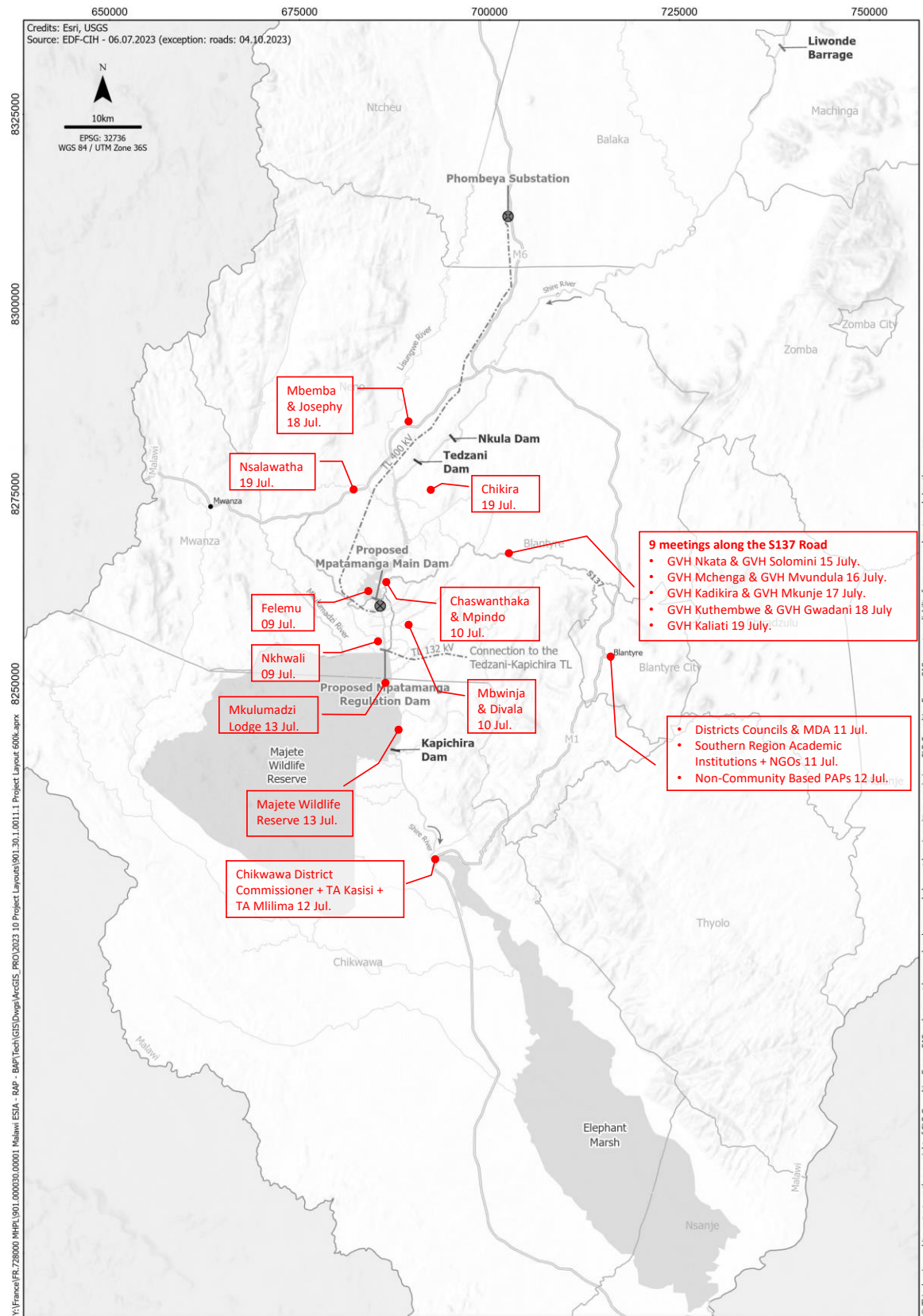


Table 14: Thematic Summary of Feedback Received (ESIA Disclosure Meetings, July 2024)

Theme	Description
Influx and Project-Induced In-Migration	Stakeholders raised concerns that the Project is expected to cause an influx of people seeking employment and opportunities, leading to increased migration and impacting host communities. Also, concerns were raised about sub-contractors migrating into an area to conduct work and how this affects the community's safety.
Employment Opportunities	Questions were raised about who will be responsible for hiring for the job opportunities—whether it will be the village chiefs or the Project team. There is apprehension that local community members may not be considered for job opportunities, with workers potentially being brought in from other districts. Historically, local communities impacted by projects often get overlooked in favour of hiring from other districts. Given the high unemployment rate in the local community, there is an expectation that the Project will prioritise employing locals, thereby ensuring they benefit from the development.
Women and Employment Opportunities	There is apprehension about whether women will also be considered for the job opportunities. Concerns were raised about protecting women during the recruitment process to ensure they are not asked for sexual favours in exchange for job opportunities.
Psycho-Social Impacts	Stakeholders raised concerns about the psychological impact of the Project and requested to receive psychological support.
Cultural Heritage	The planned graveyard relocation was mentioned to be unclear, particularly regarding handling older graves versus recently buried ones. It was clarified that the DoMM will manage the graveyard relocation according to regulatory frameworks and international standards. Existing graves will be exhumed and reburied at a new site, while new burials will continue until the Resettlement Action Plans are implemented. An inventory of each cemetery will be made, and the exhumation and reburial process will involve community participation and coordination with relevant departments. The relocation will happen in parallel with the overall community relocation, and a detailed strategy is being prepared.
Resettlement and Compensation Time Frame	<p>There is a strong need for transparency about the resettlement schedule to allow the community to understand how the process will be managed. Stakeholders also requested clarity on the timeframe of the resettlement process. Also, stakeholders from Chaswanthaka and Mpindo feel that the phased displacement of houses in Chaswanthaka and Mpindo raises uncertainty, as only 35 houses will be addressed initially. It was said that this delay in the Project hinders the village's development, with primary school construction and new borehole drilling stalled due to the impending displacement. This affects children's education and access to clean water, prompting a call for expedited Project preparations to ensure adequate classrooms and improve the community's future prospects.</p> <p>Stakeholders requested clarification on the compensation process and types that will be offered to PAPs. Commercial farmers not currently living on their land but planning to move there feel unfairly excluded from the compensation plan. They dispute that they are heavily affected and should not wait until 2027 for compensation. Delaying compensation might result in losing viable land within the catchment area to those compensated earlier. Stakeholders are urging simultaneous compensation to ensure fairness and equal opportunity for resettlement. This was clarified by explaining the phased approach that will be undertaken to resettle people. Ranch owners with significant investments in the Project area are facing uncertainty due to delays in resettlement and compensation timelines. They request a review of the compensation schedule, as waiting until 2027 or beyond disrupts their ability to plan and develop their land, leading to financial and logistical challenges. They are committed to relocating but require clear and timely compensation to move forward effectively.</p>
Livelihood Restoration Measures	Stakeholders sought clarity on the kind of livelihood restoration measures are being planned and what to expect.
Shire River Access	Stakeholders raised concerns about limited or no access to the Shire River for their livestock.
Road Surfacing Improvements for the S137 road	The tarmac will extend from Chileka Airport to Nkula Turn-off. Concerns include why the tarmac stops at Nkula Turn-off when the Project extends to Shire, and why the road beyond Nkula Turn-off, which becomes inaccessible during the rainy season, will still use gravel. Additionally, there is a preference for the tarmac to extend from Chileka Airport to Chikuli Trading Centre, with gravel being used only beyond Chikuli. In addition, stakeholders mentioned concern about dust for the sections of the S137 road and the potential health-related impacts.

Theme	Description
Biodiversity	A number of biodiversity concerns were raised by the stakeholders. Detailed actions to mitigate impacts on biodiversity in Majete Wildlife Reserve were presented, including proposed biodiversity offsets such as establishing buffer zones and conservancies. Initiatives to support conservation efforts, like tree nurseries and community engagement, were also discussed. Concerns about sediment accumulation at the confluence of the Shire and Mkulumadzi rivers and its impact on hippos and crocodiles were addressed with assurances of the adaptability of these animals. Regarding sand accumulation in the reservoir, it was noted that sand will accumulate in the upper part, with no immediate need for removal. Erosion concerns between Kapichira and the bridge after 30 years will be monitored, and interventions will be implemented to mitigate consequences. The importance of engaging the District Environmental Sub-Committee (DESC) for additional input was emphasised.
Invasive alien species	The management of invasive alien species, particularly water hyacinths, is a significant issue in Malawi, impacting many people and creating problems for the energy sector and is recognised as an impact of the Project.
Poaching	Concerns about the protection of animals against poaching and specifically the protection of pangolins
Hydrology	The Project will impact water systems through reservoir sediment trapping and downstream erosion, raising concerns about changes in river flow. To address these issues, sedimentation modelling has been conducted to predict sediment loads and transport, with measures discussed for managing sedimentation and erosion, including integrating various water uses and tributaries in the models. Monitoring and interventions are planned to manage erosion and maintain access to water.
Noise Pollution	Concerns about the Project's noise levels affecting wildlife and local communities, particularly at night, which could impact the ability to see animals and the overall experience at lodges.
Start date of the Project	Concerns that the lack of precise dates and times for the Project's start in 2026 may be hindering people from planning other activities
Benefits from The Project	Concern that the local communities will not benefit from the Project. Concerns were raised that in previous electricity projects, such as the Nkula Project, only people living in towns and cities have benefited from electricity connections. While the improved road is appreciated, there is a need for clarity on how the Project will address electricity access for the local communities.
Lifespan of the Project	Concerns about the lifespan of the machinery installed after the concession period. Specifically, there is worry that the machinery might reach the end of its operational life just as the Project transitions, leaving the GoM with non-functional equipment.

6. S137 Road Community Sensitisation Meetings

The Project intends to upgrade the road from Chileka Airport to the Mpatamanga Main Dam. Therefore, nine community sensitisation meetings were conducted from the 15th to the 19th of July 2024. The meetings were conducted in 9 Group Village Heads (GVH), namely GVH Nkata, GVH Solomoni, GVH Mchenga, GVH Mvundula, GVH Kadikira, GVH Mkunje, GVH Kuthembwe, GVH Gwadani, and GVH Kaliati. The nine meetings took place in two Traditional Authorities (TAs), namely Kuntaja and Kunthembwe and in areas likely to be impacted by the proposed road upgrade along the S137 road. The community sensitisation meetings aimed to share information about the Project's intended work to upgrade the S137 road with the relevant communities.

7. Full Council Meeting

Meeting was held with the Full Council Members of the Blantyre Council on 4th August 2024. The objective of the meeting was to inform the Blantyre District Full Council about the Mpatamanga Hydropower Project (MHPP) in general and the potential upgrade of the S137 (Chileka) road.

The following information was presented (i) Project Update: S137 Road Upgrade (ii) Potential Impacts of Project (iii) Resettlement and Livelihood Restoration Action Plan (RLRAP) Phases (iv) Early Works RLRAP: S137 (v) MHPP Grievance Redress Mechanism and (vi) MHPP Resettlement Working Groups. A 3D map was used to describe the project design.

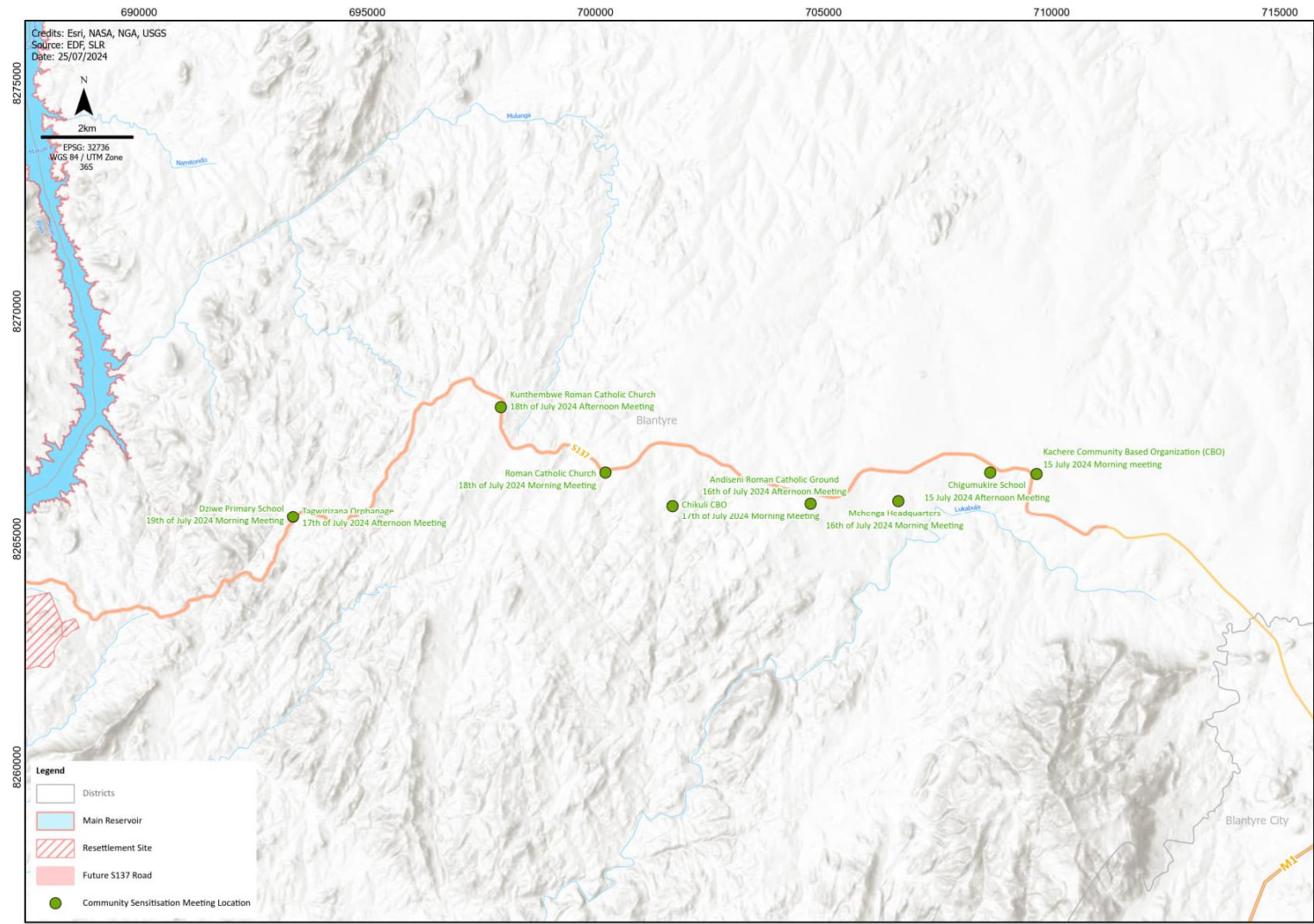
8. District Environmental Sub-Committee Meetings

Meetings were held with the District Environmental Sub-Committees of the Chikwawa, Neno, Balaka and Blantyre Districts on 23 July, 16, 17 and 18 September, respectively. The purpose of the meetings was to present the project components and to discuss the potential impacts and proposed mitigation.

The environmental and social impacts that were described, as well as the proposed mitigation measures for each, included

- Physical displacement, Loss of Land and Access to Land,
- Influx: Project-Induced In-Migration
- Hydrology (including primary reserve)
- Reservoir Sediment Trapping and Downstream Erosion,
- Noise, Light and Visual Issues
- Community Health and Safety
- Climate Change
- Biodiversity
- Proposed Biodiversity Offsets.

Figure 14: Location of the community sensitization meetings



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9. Consultation on the ESIA Disclosure Document

The ESIA documents have been made widely available to the community and other stakeholders.

A copy of the MHPP International Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) document and Environmental and Social Management and Monitoring Plan (ESMMP) have been published online the 19th September 2024 on the MHPL and MoE websites: www.mpatamangahydro.com and www.energy.gov.mw.

A disclosure notice was placed on a newspaper, the Nation Business on Thursday, 19th September 2024 - see extract below.

The disclosure notice provided contact details to provide feedback on the ESIA and ESMMP for the Project. There was no ESIA feedback collected through the MHPL phones and Email address.

Further, the ESIA Non-Technical Summary (English version) was distributed to the District Councils during the Full District Council Meeting (for Blantyre District) and District Environmental Sub-Committee Meetings for the three districts of Neno, Blantyre, Chikwawa. The RPF Disclosure presentations (Chichewa version) were also distributed to the respective communities during the RPF Disclosure meetings.

The ESIA and RPF Non-Technical Summary - Chichewa versions are planned to be distributed in October 2024.