

UMFULA intends to generate higher quality, more useful information about the future climate and its impacts, and to make climate information more tailored and accessible to planners. In April 2016 a team visited Malawi to meet key stakeholders in government, private sector, donor agencies and NGOs to discuss how climate information could inform their planning, and opportunities for future engagement.

#### ACTIVITIES TO DATE

1. Developed understanding of donor and NGO-supported initiatives in Malawi and where UMFULA can play a complementary role (e.g. ECRP, EU support to sugar outgrowers, LDCF- and GEF-funded projects on climate information and early warning systems, Shire River Basin Management Program, NGOs working on DRR in the Lower Shire)
2. Identified entry points for climate information to inform forthcoming/existing plans, policies and infrastructure projects
  - District Development Plans and District Socioeconomic Profiles, with particular focus on agriculture-related planning decisions
  - Water resource decisions, e.g. for irrigation (sugar in the Lower Shire) and energy (including the forthcoming Shire Valley Irrigation Project)
  - Implementation of the (draft) National Climate Change Policy and Disaster Management Policy (and National Disaster Risk Management and Resilience Framework)
3. Scoped data availability to inform water models (that are driven by new, high resolution, climate projections)

#### PLANNED ACTIVITIES

1. Work with partners at national and local level to determine the agriculture and water-related decisions on which they would like to work to better integrate climate information
2. Decide on appropriate decision-making theory and how best to use this in an interactive user-driven process to generate scenarios that, in turn, can be evaluated to inform climate-resilient planning decisions
3. Present the project and planned approach at the National Climate Change Technical Committee, and investigate opportunities to provide inputs to the development of national scenarios (as foreseen in the National Adaptation Plan process)
4. Produce a briefing note on how agriculture and climate services can be gender-sensitive and empowering to women (as requested by the Department of Agricultural Extension)
5. Assessment of the water resources in the Shire River basin, including the role of Lake Malawi in sustaining river flow and downstream water availability

#### ON-GOING CLIMATE SCIENCE

1. Producing briefing notes on central African climate, southern African climate, and key research questions
2. Investigating factors that affect rainfall variability and temperature in southern Africa (such as the Congo basin and large scale global air flow patterns)
3. Determining how well climate models simulate key factors that affect southern African climate to find out which global models are most robust for the region

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#### Team Malawi - April 2016



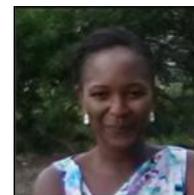
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