

STAKEHOLDERS' ENGAGEMENT ON MONITORING IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES THROUGH THE USE OF PME



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ACRONYMS

ACPC	Area Civil Protection Committee
CADECOM	Catholic Development Commission
CAP	Climate Advocacy Project
CISONECC	Civil Society Network on Climate Change
CC	Climate Change
COVID-19	Coronavirus
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DCCMS	Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services
DoDMA	Department of Disaster Management Affairs
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
EOC	Emergency Operations Centers
NDRMP	National Disaster Risk Management Policy
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NDPR	National Disaster Preparedness and Relief
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
PME	Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation
RRP	Resource Rights Programme
VCPC	Village Civil Protection Committee
ZA	Zomba

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Climate Change is affecting Malawi which has experienced a greater incidence of dry spells and intense rainfall events over the years. These changes have led to an increase in the frequency of floods, droughts, and pest and disease infestations which have caused severe economic and social distresses. With projected increases in temperatures, more erratic precipitation patterns, and increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, already-distressed economic and social systems in Malawi are likely to become more strained. In recognition of the increasing climate-related challenges, the Government of Malawi initiated processes to determine vulnerability and adaptation priorities, and to integrate this knowledge into development of climate change related policies and strategies.

The Government of Malawi through the Department of Environmental Affairs adopted a National Climate Change Management Policy in 2015. The policy seeks to provide an enabling framework for the establishment of a comprehensive climate and environmental management system for Malawi. The NCCM Policy recognizes various players including the civil society and vulnerable communities as key stakeholders that will take part in the implementation and benefit from the changes brought about by the effective implementation of the policy.

In pursuit of reducing vulnerabilities to climate change risks, the Government of Malawi through the Department of Disaster Management Affairs developed the National Disaster Risk Management Policy that was officially launched in 2015 to run through to 2019. The policy sought to provide an enabling framework for the establishment of a comprehensive disaster risk management system for Malawi to sustainably reduce disaster losses in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets of individuals, communities and the nation. The policy had six key priority areas that were identified towards the achievement of the policy goal and ensuring that Malawi development contributes to creating more resilient communities to the impacts of climate change. The six priority areas include: ***mainstreaming disaster risk management into sustainable development, establishment of a comprehensive system for disaster risk identification, assessment and monitoring, development and strengthening of a people-centered early warning system, promotion of a culture of safety, and adoption of resilience-enhancing interventions, reduction of underlying risks and strengthening preparedness capacity for effective response and recovery.***

The increasing occurrence of disasters and risks in the country necessitated the development of a new Disaster Risk Management legislation to support the implementation of the provisions of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy with a more comprehensive legal framework in addressing all aspects of disaster risk management in Malawi. The proposed Disaster Risk Management Bill envisages to facilitate the paradigm shift from disaster response to disaster risk management which includes preparedness. This will be done through a robust institutional framework (with technical leadership) for integrating disaster risk reduction into sustainable development and provide adequate multi-stakeholder participation in disaster risk management activities in Malawi. Hence, the current DRM Bill formulation process is part of a multi-prolonged response to alleviate the economic and humanitarian costs associated with the impact of Climate Change with a longer-term objective to strengthen the institutional and financial capacity of the Government of Malawi (GoM) for multisector

disaster and climate risk management. According to the proposed Draft DRM Bill, this is a longer-term objective that will be achieved by facilitating the implementation of key policy and institutional reforms that will enable the country to be better prepared for responding to future disaster related emergencies.

Acknowledged by the Government of Malawi, Civil Society Network on Climate Change (CISONECC) was established in 2008 with a mandate to facilitate collaboration and provide policy positions to relevant stakeholders including Government on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in Malawi, and lobby and advocate for effective Climate Change and DRM policies and programmes.

With support from Irish Aid through Trocaire, CISONECC is implementing a Resource Rights Programme (RRP); Climate Advocacy Project (CAP) which aims at ensuring that people living in poverty particularly women and children benefit from the sustainable use of natural resources.

In view of the importance of the multi-stakeholder involvement in the formulation and implementation of various Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management policy frameworks, on 14th June 2019, CISONECC conducted a training aimed at building the capacity of RRP implementing partners, council officials and community representatives from RRP implementation districts in facilitating monitoring of the National Climate Change Management Policy and the National Disaster Risk Management Policy in their areas through Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PME).

The PME Strategy briefing aimed at providing clear technical and practical aspects of the PME Strategy and also to enhance the capacity of the participants to effectively plan for and implement the PME. The participants were enlightened on the PME implementation process and tools. As a way of ensuring the participants have a clear picture of how to carry out the PME, they finally developed action plans on the same.

It is against this background that CISONECC organized a meeting to monitor the implementation of the National Climate Change Management Policy, National Disaster Risk Management Policy and any relevant policies using Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation.

Meeting Objectives

Specifically, the meeting met the following objectives:

- To share with RRP partners and other stakeholders the status of implementation of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy and the Draft Disaster Risk Management Bill
- To monitor the progress made in implementing RRP partners' action plans
- To monitor the progress made in the implementation of the DRM policy through PME

2. WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

2.1 Welcoming Remarks

The workshop started with an opening prayer which was offered by Christopher Milinyu from CADECOM Mangochi. Following which the facilitator, Mrs. Ruth Maganga, CISONECC Programmes Coordinator, welcomed all the participants present. Mrs. Maganga also commended the

participants for availing themselves to the workshop in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. She then requested participants to introduce themselves. She went further to disclosed that the workshop is meant to seek feedback on the use of Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PME) in the implementation of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy (NDRMP).

2.2 Remarks by CISONECC National Coordinator

Julius Ng'oma, CISONECC National Coordinator welcomed the participants to the meeting and thanked them for adhering to CISONECC's call to the important meeting regardless of the COVID-19 pandemic that the country and the world at large is facing. He added that the meeting was built upon understanding of the Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PME) training. “As stakeholders, in order to make a notable difference in the climate change and disaster risk management (DRM) sector through advocacy and implementation of interventions requires effective monitoring of these interventions; especially with support from the beneficiaries of the interventions”, said Mr. Ng'oma in his remarks.

Mr. Ng'oma also highlighted that the meeting would mainly focus on the National Disaster Risk Management Policy (NDRMP).

Finally, the National Coordinator briefed the participants on the objectives of the workshop which centered upon following up on stakeholders' in using the PME in the various activities that they are implementing. He urged them to feel free to contribute, ask questions and wished them all great deliberations.

2.3 Presentation on the National DRM Policy and Draft DRM Bill

2.3.1 Key Provisions of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy (NDRMP)

Daniel Mandala, Disaster Risk Management Officer from the Department of Disaster Management Affairs delivered a presentation which focused on the National Disaster Risk Management Policy's (NDRMP) outcomes, priority areas as well as the current status of the policy. Mr. Mandala began by highlighting that the NDRMP was finalized and approved in 2015 and like any other policy with a timeline, it was to run up until 2019. The main aim of the NDRMP was to ensure that DRM is mainstreamed in all sectors of developments and planning so as to ensure sustainability of the development. As the NDRMP aimed to attain a nation that is resilient to disasters it focused on sustainably reducing loss and damage in all its forms thus social, economic and environmental assets.

Mr. Mandala further provided a brief explanation of the policy's outcomes. He shared that the policy has three outcomes; Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) mainstreamed in development frameworks and budgets at all levels, increased resilience of communities to disasters and improved preparedness for, response to and recovery from disasters. He lamented that proper response to disasters sometimes fails due to poor planning and this is at times manifested in the quality of our infrastructures.

The officer further enlightened on the six priority areas of the NDRMP as mainstreaming disaster risk management into sustainable development; establishment of a comprehensive system for disaster risk identification, assessment and monitoring; development & strengthening of a people-centred Early Warning System (EWS); promotion of a culture of safety, and adoption of resilience-enhancing interventions; reduction of underlying risks; and strengthening preparedness capacity for effective response and recovery.

In closing, he disclosed that since the policy has expired in 2019, DoDMA has been working on reviewing the policy and has finalized the Terms of References (TORs) for the consultant whose call will be advertised soon.

2.3.2 Key Provisions of the Draft DRM Bill and status of implementation

Daniel Mandala proceeded to deliver a related presentation which provided the background, rationale and the overview of the DRM Bill. He explained that while having a policy on DRM, there is also a need for a DRM Act. He disclosed that Malawi has been using the 1991 National Disaster Preparedness and Relief (NDPR) Act which is not only outdated but also focused much on response



Figure 1: Daniel Mandala; Disaster Risk Management Officer from DoDMA captured making presentations on DRM policy and Draft DRM Bill

than preparedness as well as mitigation. The Act was considered reactive, archaic and inadequate by stakeholders hence a need for a more comprehensive legal framework addressing all aspects of DRM. He emphasised on the need for a Paradigm shift from disaster preparedness/relief to disaster risk management.

Mr. Mandala further explained that the proposition of the DRM Bill was based on premises of gaps that existed in the 1991 NDPR Act. Among other gaps, the 1991 NDPR Act is not aligned with international DRM frameworks such as the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and the Sendai Framework. The Act also fails to provide for the allocation of

adequate and appropriate resources to implement disaster risk management plans at all administrative levels of government.

With all the identified gaps, DoDMA has made strides in making sure the proposed DRM Bill addresses these gaps and adds all the necessary DRM principles as alluded in the Hyogo Framework for Action and the Sendai Framework. Mr. Mandala revealed that consultation meetings were done with relevant stakeholders such as District Councils, Government departments and ministries as well as Development Partners. National stakeholder consultative workshops were also conducted as a way of getting views from various distinguished stakeholders.

On the status of the DRM Bill, he explained that the Bill was approved at Cabinet level with the recommendation to revert to existing institutional arrangement and not the Commission. The Bill was on 10th May, 2019 gazetted pending presentation to Parliament.

Mr. Mandala went further to enlighten the participants on the provisions of the DRM Bill. These included principles highlighting roles of various stakeholders in DRM, institutional arrangements with specifications on DRM committees; thus, the National Disaster Preparedness and Relief Committee (NDPRC) and the National Preparedness Committee (NPC); together with their functions and the role of DoDMA as a secretariat. He highlighted that the NDPRC provides the technical direction of DoDMA while the NPC gives the policy direction. The Officer also highlighted that the DRM Bill provides for determinants of vulnerable areas as well as resettlement procedure which contribute to DRM plans and funding mechanisms.

In closing, Mr. Mandala emphasized that DoDMA advocates for the development of DRM plans for each and every district to ensure that there is swift preparedness and response from the councils even when Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) come in.

2.4 Plenary

- ❖ **Maynard Nyirenda** from **Sustainable Development Initiative (SDI)** stressed on the need for the review of the 2015-2019 DRM policy to find out whether or not it has achieved its goal. He then posed as food for thought, whether as stakeholders in DRM sector they are still going to push for the DRM Bill when so many gaps have been discovered based on the countries response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❖ **Jolamu Nkhokwe** from the **Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services (DCCMS)** commented that issues of DRM are very crucial to the country hence the Bill is required to ensure that DRM issues are implemented accordingly. However, he wanted to know if chiefs (local leaders) were engaged in the consultations and also whether their roles are strong and clearly stipulated in the DRM Bill considering that they work closely with the people. He also enquired about how the provisions of the Bill will be communicated to the local leaders highlighting that most of the communications are done in workshops and in English. He recommended improvement of the country's policies and their translation to vernacular language.

- **Response:** The community leaders were consulted during the National Stakeholders Consultative workshop together with other stakeholders and their views were incorporated. On the roles of community leaders, the proposed DRM Bill had recommended that Group Village Heads (GVH) be made members of the Area Civil Protection Committee (ACPC) but it was declined by Parliament highlighting that they tend to be politically affiliated at times. Furthermore, for effective communication, the policy can be translated and its dissemination will go

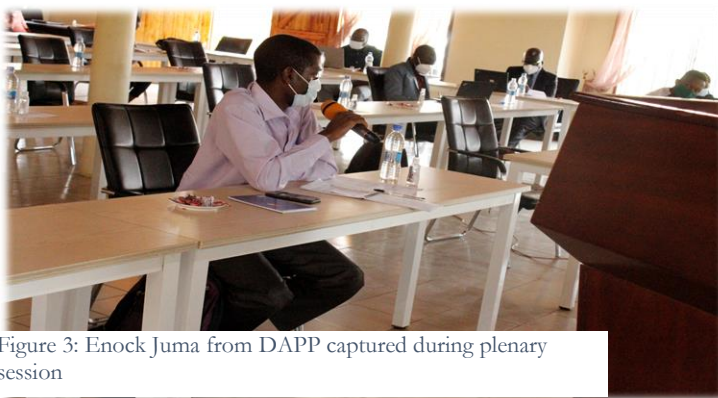


Figure 2: Daniel Mandala responding to the questions during the workshop

through to the committees.

- ❖ **Julius Ng’oma** from **CISONECC** expressed concern over the process of reviewing the 2015-2019 NDRMP. Making reference to the 2018 mid-term review for the National DRM policy, he stressed on the need to let Malawians themselves to lead the policy reviews.
- ❖ **Chancy Sibakwe** from **CADECOM Zomba** wanted to know how long it takes for a policy to be reviewed and operationalized. In terms of vulnerable areas as stipulated in the draft DRM Bill, he asked if there will be any compensation for people that have been given land deemed as a vulnerable area illegally.

- **Response:** Policy reviews start in a year or two years prior to the period meant for the policy to expire. This is done to ensure that prior to expiry of the policy, another policy is developed. In terms of vulnerable areas, much as delineation has not been done yet



since it is supposed to be done in agreement with the Ministry of Lands, if the provision of the land was attained illegally, the District Council (DC) will be answerable. However, if the land will be declared prone to disasters and an individual chooses to procure and develop the land, DoDMA will not compensate such a person.

- ❖ **Enock Juma** from **DAPP** wanted to know how the DRM Bill proposes to ensure that funds meant for DRM reach the targeted beneficiaries. He also enquired whether there are plans to build standardized Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). He also wanted clarification on the cut of date of receiving humanitarian aid whether post disaster activities were taken into account.

Response: There are funding guidelines which also bring about a variation in the individual funding that each district gets. Generally, DRM plans are used to determine the funds allocated to each District Council (DC). The DRM plans are derived upon following a comprehensive Participatory Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (PVCA). Therefore, as resources meant for DRM at district level are allocated to the DC, DoDMA only provides basic needs and not cash giveaways. However, when there is a need for cash giveaways, Government utilizes the cash transfer program to ensure efficiency. On the EOCs, standardized centers have been built in the districts of Karonga, Salima and Mangochi and more will be built with districts of Zomba and Phalombe having been earmarked for the same. However, in the districts that have been faced with disasters and DoDMA cannot identify

standardized EOCs the district is mandated to identify a place that has good sanitation issues. In terms of the humanitarian aid cutoff dates, this particularly deals with disasters that have occurred and issues of recovery have been addressed while other organizations still tend to use the same disaster to gain funds from international grants.

- ❖ **Christopher Milinyu** from **CADECOM Mangochi** asked whether there is a specific timeline for when as stakeholders they should expect the resubmission of the Bill to Cabinet so that there is no rejection of the Bill.
- ❖ **Julius Ng'oma** from **CISONECC** building on Mr. Milinyu's question and referring to the COVID-19 response from which gaps in the Bill have been noted expressed concern that this could be cause for rejection to which he also highlighted as a cause for further review.
 - **Response:** The DRM Bill is currently with the Ministry of Justice pending presentation to Parliament. If at all more recommendations are to be made in terms of funding and other technicalities to the Bill, then it will have to be reviewed again, sent to Cabinet for approval then be gazetted pending submission to Parliament which will take some time for the Bill to be enacted. Much as the recommendations are good, it will also affect the operationalization and DRM issues in Malawi.

2.5 Presentation on the PME Strategy

As the workshop aimed at monitoring policies using Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PME), Kondwani Mubisa, Project Coordinator from CISONECC, delivered a brief presentation to enlighten participants on the PME strategy by providing a general overview of the strategy.

Mr. Mubisa began by emphasizing that the aim of the PME was to achieve responsiveness and enhance quality of the interventions that stakeholders are implementing in various communities. This encompasses service delivery as well as inclusiveness in the context of "leaving no one behind". He went further to explain on the differences between conventional monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and PME. He highlighted that unlike in PME, in conventional M&E stakeholders are not empowered to input and separates external evaluators from the beneficiaries and other stakeholders due to its scientific nature. However, PME allows for cross learning, capacity building and most importantly, ensures that projects, policies and programs satisfy the needs of the people to the lowest levels of the community.

In closing, the Project Coordinator explained that there are 4 principles of the PME which are participation, learning, negotiation and flexibility to which he emphasized as attributes of result-based management.

2.6 Presentations on RRP Partners Experiences with PME

2.6.1 CADECOM Zomba Involvement in PME

The presentation was delivered by Chancy Sibakwe, CADECOM Zomba Programmes Coordinator. The presentation focused on the background of CADECOM ZA, the successes and challenges met

in using PME. He started by highlighting that CADECOM ZA is implementing the Resource Rights Programme (RRP) in Machinga District particularly in T/A Nkula with focus on 4 Group Village Heads (GVH); M'dere, Mlelemba, Malajira and Liundi.

Mr. Sibakwe highlighted CADECOM ZA's involvement in PME has been both diverse and broad with focus on the NCCMP, NDRMP as well as the Forest Act as legal frameworks with which they use the PME. He disclosed that they have been working in Zomba Malosa Forest Reserve which has been prone to forest degradation allegedly caused by people from other districts in their quest for charcoal burning. To curb this malpractice, they have engaged the District forestry department, partners working in Nkula, chiefs, local structures to aid in the implementation of the aforementioned legal frameworks.

In terms of successes, Mr Sibakwe disclosed that there has been an improvement which has been evidenced by the decrease in the rate of forest degradation following the support rendered to the communities through the office of the District Forestry Officer supported by other stakeholders in setting up of bylaws for the Zomba Malosa Forest Reserve. Additionally, they have developed 2 irrigation schemes and conducted capacity building of the local structures such as Area Development Committees (ADC) and Village Civil Protection Committee (VCPC) in monitoring of the implementation of DRM plans and other developments in their area. Furthermore, they have assisted in the drafting of the constitution for other local structures on how to operate in their respective areas working with Departments of Agriculture, Environment and Natural resources in monitoring the District Development Plans.

Regardless of the tremendous stride that they are making in using PME, the Programmes Coordinator lamented that they are facing several challenges. One such challenge includes lack of resources within district council departments to monitor District Development Plans. Another challenge is lack of knowledge of the PME by local structures.

In closing, Mr. Sibakwe appealed to CISON ECC to consider involving district council officers in the PME trainings as one way of building their capacity hence enhancing effective monitoring of projects, programmes and policies.

2.6.2 CADECOM Dedza PME Experience

This presentation was delivered by Project Officer for CADECOM Dedza, Mr. Reonard Emiliyo. This centered on the essence of PME, their experience in using PME, challenges faced and the successes to the use of PME. He began by indicating that CADECOM Dedza works in two T/As; Kachere and Kachindamoto. He then acknowledged that PME is a practical approach to engaging stakeholders and the community in monitoring and evaluation of the various initiatives that are being implemented in their communities.

Mr. Emiliyo further explained that their engagement in PME has been in terms of Framing of the Result Framework (RF), joint monitoring of activities based on the RF and orienting staff and beneficiaries on data collection tools. He, however, stated that they have faced a number of challenges in due course of using PME. He indicated illiteracy as a cause for collecting unnecessary data due to the fact that the developed M&E tools are usually in English. Furthermore, time tends to limit testing of the tools hence their effectiveness is not guaranteed.

In closing, the Project Officer shared that regardless of the challenges they face they have been making successes. He indicated that PME has provided a platform for learning (from stakeholders) and through it they have been able to take corrective actions during implementation of interventions. Furthermore, PME has brought about ownership and sustainability of projects.

2.6.3 Plenary



Figure 4: Dr. Mirriam Joshua, a Lecturer at the Chancellor College asking questions during the workshop

- ❖ **Dr. Mirriam Joshua** from **Chancellor College** wanted to find out how CADECOM ZA ensured local communities apply what they have been taught during the capacity building sessions. She also wanted to find out how often communities monitor their activities to ensure that there is progress in what they are doing.
 - **Response:** Capacity building is done mainly with regards to a particular project activity such as borehole drilling to which specifications of the same are taught to the people. However, monitoring the work is done by the committees voluntarily. CADECOM ZA field officers tend to conduct monitoring visits weekly.
- **Christopher Milinyu** from **CADECOM Mangochi** added that as CADECOM they have set up Water Point Committees which have been trained to monitor issues to do with water development such as borehole drilling.
- ❖ **Chancy Sibakwe** from **CADECOM ZA** highlighted that there is the District Water Development office which the Water Point Committee reports to in case someone intends to drill a borehole in the community. This is part of their monitoring of the activities in their community.
- ❖ **Maynard Nyirenda** from **SDI** wanted to know whether the PME implementation is a pilot or they had been using it before the training CISON ECC conducted in June, 2019.
- ❖ **Response:** PME is a crosscutting issue. However, post the PME training that CISON ECC conducted it became very essential. Regardless, CADECOM ZA had already been engaging communities in its activities.
- ❖ **Philip Nyasulu** from **Trocaire** commented that as CSOs they must also work towards building the capacity of the communities in order for them to be able to interpret the policies, plans. He recommended coming up with a checklist thus general PME tools to assist them in effective monitoring of activities in their communities.

2.7 Stakeholders' PME Mainstreaming in National Resilience Policies

Stakeholders went into groups (Government and Academia, CSOs and RRP Partners) where they discussed their involvement with the use of PME. In the same groups, stakeholders also reviewed the 2015 – 2019 National Disaster Risk Management Policy mainly focusing on the policy Goal, Outcomes and Priority areas. The table below summarizes the group discussions.

2.7.1 Group Work: Stakeholders' PME Mainstreaming in National Resilience Policies and Review of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy

Table 1: Group Work on Stakeholders' PME Mainstreaming in National Resilience Policies

	Resource Partners	Rights	Civil Organizations	Society	Government & Academia
<i>What resilience policies, plans, strategies, frameworks, interventions etc. (International, national, district and community level) have you been engaged in?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCCMP • Environmental Policy • Agriculture Policy • Forestry Policy • PVCA • DRR plans • PSP • National Adaptation Plan (NAP) • Contingency planning • Sendai Framework 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRM policy • NCCMP • National Resilience Strategy • NAP • District DRM plan • National Response Plan • Disaster Contingency Plan • PSP • Early Warning Systems 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRM policy • Climate Change policy • Meteorological policy • Water policy
<i>To what extent have you been engaged in planning/ development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the above mentioned?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Support • Advocacy and lobbying • Leading facilitation (PVCA) • Capacity building • Documentation • Dissemination of policy provisions 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International observers for the GCF • Planning, implementation and development of DRM • Coordination of inputs from stakeholders • Capacity building of communities • Engaging VCPC on PME 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaged in planning/ development of the Meteorological policy though not yet implemented • Reviewed national water policy 2005
<i>Which of the above-mentioned resilience policies, plans, strategies, frameworks, interventions were you involved in the development processes?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRM policy • NCCMP • PVCA • Contingency plan • Community DRR plans • NAP 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRM policy • NCCMP • NAP • District DRM plan • National Response Plan • Disaster Contingency Plan 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRM policy • Climate Change policy • Meteorological policy • Water policy
<i>What challenges have you encountered with the use of PME?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funding • Lack of well-built M&E system 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low literacy levels of community members 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little work done on quality PME system development

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of enough capacity building • Voluntary hence needs a push 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch financial resources • Donor interests against PME principles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No standardized M&E system – too open
<i>What successes have you registered in relation to the use of the PME?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased sense of ownership • Sustainability of initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased participation and ownership • Provision of feedback over interventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCCMP now has IMEs

Table 2: Group work: Review of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy

	Resource Rights Partners	Civil Society Organizations	Government & Academia
<i>Mainstreaming disaster risk management into sustainable development</i>	Partially it has been mainstreamed into sustainable development because some DRM plans were not implemented or incorporated into DDP	Much has not been done in terms of incorporating DRM plans in sector plans which will ensure that policies speak to each other and move in unison	People wait for the Government to say something about the disasters. People need to be pushed to move out of disaster-prone areas
<i>Establishment of a comprehensive system for disaster risk identification, assessment and monitoring</i>	Partially, risk identification is there but assessment and monitoring is not really implemented since not all stakeholders are using tools like PVCA which could have helped to put systems into function due to poor funding	Monitoring becomes a challenge due to a standardized DRM M&E system. However, there is still room for improvement in light of the new policy.	Before the DRM policy, there was no vulnerability assessment hence does not incorporate important DRM issues. The DRM system needs to be well restructured
<i>Development & strengthening of a people-centered Early Warning System (EWS)</i>	In disaster prone areas, they have people centered EWS because of the support rendered to them by NGOs that are working in these areas in terms of DRM	NGOs and CSOs have taken up the role in ensuring EWS is developed however, a challenge remains in the willingness, capacity and resources to make it a reality.	Communities are not forthcoming to help Government and CSOs in the development due to lack of capacity. Also, the issue of voluntary work comes into play.
<i>Promotion of a culture of safety, and adoption of resilience-enhancing interventions</i>	This is not being practiced because these should have been incorporated into the school curriculum starting from primary school, secondary and tertiary education whereby adoption of resilience and enhancing intervention has been practiced such as irrigation, livestock distribution.	Regardless of NGOs and CSOs interventions rooting for resilience, there is not that channel to train people in adoption of resilience-enhancing culture through schools.	Mostly done by CSOs. Adoption of resilience-enhancing interventions if still a challenge because NGOs bring in project-based interventions that also come in as pilot. It does not come to Government recommending a particular intervention.
<i>Reduction of underlying risks</i>	Several interventions have been done such as building resilience houses, irrigation and dykes.	A number of interventions have been done in various communities which aim at addressing the root cause thus preventing the preventable.	Not much due to lack of coordination as well as harmonized policies. What is an underlying risk for one sector can be an opportunity to another sector
<i>Strengthening preparedness capacity for effective response and recovery</i>	Preparedness capacity remains very weak at the community and district levels. Some stakeholders are also doing something on response and recovery by providing	It is a challenge considering that prepared has proven to be a failure. In turn, the response period tends to take longer	The dissemination of provisions in the policies is limited to workshops such as these and does not trickle down to the community level which

	necessities to the vulnerable groups even though some response comes very late even few months after the disasters have occurred.	regardless of the community structures that are there to assist,	makes it hard to strengthen preparedness capacity
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2.7.2 Plenary

Jolamu Nkhokwe: pleaded with the stakeholders that issues of mainstreaming are very crucial but to involve all sectors seems to be a challenge. In the next DRM cycle, this must be addressed if we are to move forward as a country in Disaster Risk Management (DRM).

2.8 Closing Remarks

2.8.1 Phillip Nyasulu

Philip Nyasulu, Trocaire Climate Justice and Disaster Risk Management Officer, commended all the participants for their active participation throughout the meeting. He acknowledged that although the workshop was for one day, participants managed to cover a lot. While referring to the presentations made during the workshop, he commended all the strides that the RRP partners; CADECOM ZA and Dedza, are making in using the PME.

Finally, Mr. Nyasulu wished all the participants a safe journey as they were returning home.

2.8.2 Jolam Nkhokwe

Jolamu Nkhokwe, Director for the DCCMS, expressed his worry of the fact that promises are very critical and in the case of DRM, they have to be kept. Making reference to all the recommendations made and DoDMA's commitment, he highlighted that policies are there but sharing of the policies is the problem. Communities do not have the policies that are used to guide DRM issues in Malawi. He then appealed to the stakeholders to share these policies with the community members in the next DRM cycle since they are the ones that are greatly affected by the climate change related disasters. Therefore, Mr. Nkhokwe stressed that communication of these policies should be done effectively at community level.

In closing, the Director called on all stakeholders to take the issue of disaster risk management seriously as they are living in towns and in good houses but the people, they claim to want to change lives of, are suffering and living in dilapidated housing

2.8.3 Julius Ng'oma

Julius Ng'oma, CISONNECC National Coordinator, commended the people for attending the meeting. He disclosed that CISONNECC has been organizing such meetings since 2014. It is a routine for CISONNECC to check on the progress made in the use of PME. He indicated that CISONNECC has noted all the progress made; challenges and areas that need improvement. He applauded the participants and appealed to them to continue using the PME.

The National Coordinator explained that as a network, it can only do so much in terms of coordination and capacity building. In response to CADECOM ZA's appeal to engage the directorates in the PME trainings, he explained that CISONNECC relies on the partners to mainstream all this in their programmes and most importantly, to disseminate the knowledge gained to the communities.

In terms of the DRM Bill, he shared that they will be meeting the Parliamentarians the next day as one way of orienting them on where they are coming from since there has been a change in the committees due to the change in Government. He assured the RRP partners that they will share whatever recommendations have been made with the Parliamentarians.

Finally, he thanked all the participants for their contributions during the meeting and wished all of them a nice journey as they were returning home.

3. CHALLENGES

Although the workshop was generally a success, a number of challenges were met in the course of organizing and conducting the workshop. Some of the challenges include:

- The unavailability of officers from the Environmental Affairs Department as the administration body of the National Climate Change Management Policy, resulted in failure to incorporate the policy into the program.
- The workshop started at 9AM, thus half an hour later than the scheduled time as most participants showed up late. This affected time allocated for other sessions.
- Communication breakdown on delegated people thus from LUANAR and Polytechnic led to their not attending the meeting which somewhat affected representation from the Academia
- Service delivery from the hotel such as the Wi-Fi service was not given which affected the visibility of the workshop deliberations on CISONNECC media platforms. This affected the engagement of other stakeholders who were not part pf the meeting to join the conversation.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

With the Challenges outlined, it is recommended that;

- Emphasizing on time to the participants probably a day prior to the meeting as a reminder.
- Diligently follow up with delegated participants to ensure that correct information has been disseminated hence curb their being absent to the meetings.
- Allocate airtime for communication during the workshop so that CISONNECC members that are also dealing in DRM issues are kept updated during the workshop regardless of their not being physical invited.
- Prior engagements with stakeholders that would be needed in the workshops should be a priority. This means that stakeholders such as the Environmental Affairs Department and the Department of Disaster Management Affairs should be involved in the planning process.

5. CONCLUSION

Taking into account all the challenges faced in course of organizing and even conducting the workshop, it is right to conclude that the workshop was help successfully as all of the objectives of the meeting were achieved. CISONNECC was able to follow up with the RRP partners on the progress made in using the PME following the June, 2019 training. This covered the status of implementation of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy and the Draft Disaster Risk Management Bill. Availability of Government representatives from the DoDMA and DCCMS helped to enrich the discussions that centered on DRM and climate change management. Most importantly, the diversity in the participants assisted CISONNECC to get more insights which will feed into recommendations for the DRM Bill that is yet to be enacted.

6. APPENDICES

6.1 Program for the stakeholder engagement on monitoring the implementation of policies using PME

DATE: 17th September, 2020

TIME (hrs.)	ACTIVITY	FACILITATOR
08:00 – 8:30	Registration	CISONECC Secretariat
08:30 – 08:45	Opening Prayer and Introductions	Ruth Maganga- Programme Coordinator
08:45 – 09:00	Workshop Objectives	Julius Ng’oma- National Coordinator
09:15 – 09:30	Remarks	Jolam Nkhokwe- Director DCCMS
09:30 – 10:30	Presentation on Key provisions of the DRM Policy and Draft DRM Bill and status of implementation	Daniel Mandala – DRM officer- DoDMA
10:30 – 11:00	HEALTH BREAK and GROUP PHOTO	
11:00 – 11:30	Plenary	Maynard Nyirenda
11:30 – 11:45	Presentation on PME strategy	Kondwani Mubisa
11:45 – 12:10	Presentations on RRP partners experiences with PME	CADECOM Zomba CADECOM Dedza
12:10 – 12:30	Plenary	Maynard Nyirenda
12:30 – 14:00	LUNCH	
14:00 – 14:45	Stakeholders’ PME mainstreaming in national resilience policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government officials • CSOs • Academia
14:45 – 15:30	Presentations from group feedback sessions	Phillip Nyasulu
15:30 – 15:45	HEALTH BREAK	
15:45 – 16:15	Logistics	Lumbani Nyangulu
END OF WORKSHOP		

6.2 List of Participants

Name of Participant	Organization	Phone Number	Email Address
Maynard Nyirenda	SDI	0888749928	menzonyirenda@yahoo.com
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Mr. Majawa	Chancellor College	0995446335	
Ganizani Makina	DCCMS	0999372428	
Lyford Chipukunya	DoDMA	0994743194	

6.3 Photos



Figure 5: RRP partners captured during the group discussions



Figure 6: Representatives of CSOs during the group discussion session



Figure 7: Government Officer and Academia captured during the discussions