

IPSI Case Study Summary Sheet

Basic Information

Title of case study	COMDEKS Project: Tukombo-Kande Region		
Submitting IPSI member organization(s)	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)		
Other contributing organization(s)	Ministry of the Environment Japan (MOEJ), SCBD, UNU		
Author(s) and affiliation(s)	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)		
Format of case study	Manuscript	Language	English
Keywords	Mountains, Agriculture, Erosion, Alternate livelihoods, Protected areas		
Date of submission	6 March 2017		
Web link	http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:6011/communities_in_action_comdeks.pdf#page=102		

Geographical Information

Country	Malawi	Location(s)	Nkhata Bay District						
Longitude/latitude or Google Maps link									
https://www.google.com/maps/@-11.963395,33.9745436,10z?hl=en									
Ecosystem(s)									
Forest	x	Grassland		Agricultural	x	In-land water	x	Coastal	
Dryland		Mountain		Urban/peri-urban		Other (Please specify)			
Socioeconomic and environmental characteristics of the area									
<p>The Tukombo-Kande region is a scenic area composed of mountain ranges on the eastern stretch (with swaths of both protected and customary forests), cascading down into customary farmland and settlements areas. Wetland areas along the shores of Lake Malawi are rich in biodiversity, and support a number of fishing activities. The area has two important forest reserves close to Kande (Kuwirwe and Chisasira), as well as a number of Village Forest Areas (VFAs).</p>									
Description of human-nature interactions in the area									
<p>The Tukombo-Kande landscape is very heterogeneous, characterized by mosaics of forest land, agricultural land, beaches, wetlands, and aquatic systems with many fish landing sites. Land use can be classified into five patterns: forest land, arable land, fallow land, grassland and homesteads. The major sources of income and livelihood support are agriculture, fishing, and small businesses. Grasslands found along the lakeshores serve as grazing land for goats.</p>									

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Status	Ongoing	Period	06/2011 – 12/2017
Rationale			
<p>The main environmental challenges confronting the Tukombo-Kande landscape are deforestation due to agricultural expansion, declining biodiversity, shifting cultivation, forest fires, overfishing, and overexploitation of tree resources for fish processing. Population increase has been a major driving force of change in the landscape. Furthermore, inadequate water and sanitation infrastructure pose additional challenges for residents.</p>			
Objectives			
<p>Revitalize and conserve natural woodlands, Village Forest Areas and other habitats such as sacred groves, watersheds, and aquatic habitats; Implement sustainable agricultural practices through adoption of agroforestry, crop diversification, conservation agriculture, value addition and processing of produce; Develop community-based ecotourism to broaden household income base; Put in place community-based institutional governance structures for effective integration of conservation and production; Diversify livelihood resources and improve welfare</p>			
Activities and/or practices employed			

Promoting environmental education for sustainable development; Establishing the infrastructure and skills to support local ecotourism; Increasing the diversity, productivity, and profitability of local agriculture; Establishing local fish-farming as a viable and sustainable alternative to traditional lake fishing; Establishing saving and loan groups to empower local women and youth; Strengthening protection of Village Forest Areas	
Results	
Community workers have constructed three ecotourism chalets; 75 households have received 210 goats in a “100% pass-on” scheme in which these recipient families will in turn distribute goats to other area families as their livestock increases; Rehabilitation and stocking of 15 fish ponds, and the training of 20 fish farmers; At least 56 village saving and loan groups have been formed; Creation of 12 new VFAs, covering 34 ha.	
Lessons learned	
Landscape assessment can have repercussions beyond the immediate target landscape, but must be approached with great sensitivity; The participation of women and girls, and men and boys in the baseline assessment workshops was vital; The use of Village Savings and Loan clubs to fund livelihood activities was very successful	
Key messages	
The portfolio addresses the need to reorient two major sources of livelihood—agricultural income, and fishing income from Lake Malawi—to make them more sustainable and relieve pressure on forests. There is increasing cohesion among landscape communities, evidenced by greater landscape-level interaction. One factor is the project on environmental education for sustainable development (EESD). Another is the financial empowerment initiative that works by creating village savings and loans groups.	
Relationship to other IPSI activities	This case study is part of the COMDEKS Project
Funding	Funding of USD 280,000.00 was provided by the Japan Biodiversity Fund through the GEF Small Grants Programme for COMDEKS Malawi.

Contributions to Global Agendas

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the “direct” or “indirect” contributions to the following global agendas respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (<https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>)

Strategic Goal A				Strategic Goal B					
●	■		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Strategic Goal C			Strategic Goal D			Strategic Goal E			
●	■	●	●				●	●	

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>)

●	●		■	●	●	●	■	
		●			●			