



Humanitarian Aid  
and Civil Protection



## EL Niño Response Baseline Report

### Nsanje and Ntcheu

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The baseline survey was conducted under the guidance of Jessica Swart (Emergency Team Leader for CARE Malawi), Clement Bisai (M&E Advisor for CARE Malawi), Andrew Khumalo (Emergency Response Manager) Their contribution throughout the process of developing the tools, refining and data collection cannot be taken for granted.

The survey was successful because of the commitment of enumerators and field supervisors. And special thanks should go to the communities and community leaders where the survey was conducted for granting us the access to interact with them.

The provision of the current food situation by the Agriculture offices in the two districts is also highly appreciated.

## **Affirmation**

CARE Malawi is implementing development programs in Malawi in areas of agriculture and food security, health, water and sanitation, nutrition and education. The designed programs go through various stages, of monitoring and evaluation. This report is the baseline for the ECHO EL Niño Response project being implemented in Ntcheu and Nsanje districts, which describes the level of vulnerability of the targeted communities. This report is based on the primary sources of data as such the owners of the information are those people who fully participated in answering the questionnaires. In some cases comparisons have been made to other reports on specific topics. The ownership of the issues are only limited to the findings of the baseline survey of the EL Niño Response project. The report may be quoted as long as permission is first sought from the management of CARE Malawi on behalf of the target communities.

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## **Acronyms**

<b>FGDs</b>	Focus Group Discussions
<b>ECHO</b>	European Union Civil Protection Committee
<b>VCPC</b>	Village Civil Protection Committees
<b>VDC</b>	Village Development Committees
<b>KIIs</b>	Key Informant Interviews
<b>GVH</b>	Group Village Head
<b>MVAC</b>	Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Program
<b>EPA</b> s	Extension Planning Area
<b>NGO</b> s	Non-Governmental Organizations

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The table below is a summary of findings for the ECHO EL Niño Response Baseline Survey

Indicator	Baseline	Nsanje	Ntcheu
% decrease in the number of months of household food insecurity among targeted households	67%	75%	58.3%
% of targeted households integrating key climate variables when planning their livelihood strategies as a result of community-based adaptation interventions	64 %	65%	63%
% of target households which are able to cover their minimum energetic needs of 2100 Kcals (are not below the survival threshold any more )	48%		
% of target households which are able to maintain/increase their productive assets	26.3%		
% of targeted communities with community assets above baseline level			
% of village development committees with improved capacity for compliance with humanitarian accountability standards	43%	35%	50%

The baseline survey was conducted in Nsanje and Ntcheu districts where CARE is implementing an El Niño response project for a period of one year.

These two are some of the districts in Malawi that have heavily been affected by dry spells caused by the El Niño winds. It is estimated that 52,139 and 51,105 households will have no food of their own in Nsanje and Ntcheu respectively.

The baseline was carried out to establish the basis for measuring the project intervention's achievements.

### Baseline Survey Methodology

The design of the survey was guided by the project design document and project indicators. The survey adopted participatory approaches which combined both qualitative and quantitative study methods. Quantitative data were collected mainly through the household questionnaire, while qualitative data were collected through Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs).

The survey took place in three T/As in Nsanje and two T/As in Ntcheu. It systematically selected 29 GVHs out of 58 representing 50% of the total GVHs. The survey statistically sampled 267 households from the 29\_GVHs.

Data collection commenced on 25th to 29th May 2016 (a period of 5 days). It was preceded by a two (2) day training of Research Assistants that took place at CARE office in Nsanje.

For data analysis, quantitative data collected was entered into CS-Pro computer package by a group of 2 trained data entry clerks to minimize errors and increase accuracy. Then data was imported to SPSS which was used to generate descriptive statistics such as percentages presented in this report.

On the other hand, thematic and content approaches were used to analyze all the qualitative data. This involved use of an analysis grid with themes reflecting the survey objectives to delineate salient comments and explanations.

## Conclusions and recommendations

In general, the survey found out that the project has targeted the right locations and beneficiaries as these are the ones that have heavily been affected by the EL Nino. However, the targeted households are very few in proportion to affected population.

For the project to register greater impact, it would be ideal if the targeting was concentrated in one location ~~other~~ rather than spreading the beneficiaries far and wide.

The project should be vigilant in monitoring the market to ensure that households are able to access food as required.

The project should be prudent on implementation strategies to ensure lasting impact otherwise sustainability issues remain a big challenge.

Accountability is one key issue which is very challenging in the implementation of humanitarian assistance. For the project to successfully implement the project, it should move beyond imparting knowledge and building capacity on accountability to behavior change as fraud and corruption seem to be deep rooted in the minds of many local structures.

## 1. DISTRICT PROFILES

Nsanje is in the southernmost district in Malawi and lies in the Lower Shire River Valley Located 180 km from the commercial city of Blantyre. It straddles the Shire River in the north (the river forms most of Nsanje's eastern boundary) and is surrounded by Mozambique. Nsanje was devastated by a flood in January 2015. A 20-kilometre-long vein of cropland on the east bank of the Shire River was overwhelmed, destroying resources needed to sustain the population for a year.

The district has 81,440 farming families. The major field crops grown are maize, sorghum, millet, rice, cotton, pulses and sweet potatoes. Major fruits grown are mangoes, citrus, paw paws, bananas and guavas while major vegetables are tomatoes and leafy vegetables.

Livestock species reared in the district are cattle, goats, sheep, pigs, chicken, guinea pigs, rabbits, ducks, doves, and turkeys. Fishing is another livelihood activity taking place in the district with major species caught being Mphende/Makakana, Chikano, Mlamba, Njole, Mphuta, Nkhonokono, nyesi. The irrigated crops include: maize, sweet potatoes, phaseolus beans and vegetables.

Ntcheu is a district in the Central Region of Malawi. It borders with the country of Mozambique. The district covers an area of 3,424 km.<sup>2</sup> and has a population of 158,314 of which 82,190 are females and 76,124 are males. The district has 175,098 ha of land of which 155,475 ha is cultivatable. It lies half way between Malawi's major cities of Blantyre and Lilongwe the capital city. Major crops grown in the district include maize, finger millet, sorghum, sweet potatoes, cassava, Irish potatoes, beans, tobacco, cotton, and barley.

Livestock species reared in the district are cattle, goats, sheep, pigs, chicken, guinea pigs, rabbits, ducks, doves, and turkeys.

The district is well known for its vegetable production like cabbages, tomatoes and Irish potatoes at Njolomole, Lizulu and Tsangano turn off. Most of the people travelling between the two main cities of Lilongwe and Blantyre always make a stopover to purchase these products. Apart from this main road of M1, Ntcheu district is also well connected with other districts on the Lake shore using Kasinje road (M5) to the Lake shore road going through Golomoti, Chipoka, Nkhota Kota and Nkhata bay districts

## 2. INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Purpose and Scope of the Survey

#### 2.1.1 Survey scope and objectives

Malawi is affected by recurrent weather related hazards with negative impact on vulnerable families' food security both in terms of access (affordability) and reduced yield from subsistence, rain-fed production. During the 2014/15 season, the country already experienced a poor maize harvest (the staple food) due to delayed onset of rains, flooding, prolonged dry spells, and early cessation of rains. These factors contributed to a drop in maize production levels which left 2.83 million food insecure in 2014/2015 growing season.

The trend has worsened in the 2015/16 season as a result of El Niño climatic patterns. Malawi sits geographically between two opposing El Niño spheres of influence, and the phenomenon led to wetter than average conditions in the north and drier than average conditions in the south (WFP Seasonal Monitor).

According to the February 2016 National Food Security Situation report by the Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWS NET), "it is estimated that for the first time, Malawi may enter the 2016/17 consumption season with Zero (0) carryover stocks." The late start of the season, poorly distributed rains, and prolonged dry conditions led to delayed planting and poor crop development even permanent wilting in central and southern Malawi. This reduced household access to green crops for consumption and significantly reduced the 2016 harvests. By mid-January 40% of the 1.5 million farmers had not accessed subsidized seeds and fertilizer through this year's Farm Input Subsidy Program (FISP). Uptake through other sources was also at their lowest. Since this was mid-way into the cropping season, farmers without access to the inputs had planted recycled seeds with little to no access to fertilizer.

Nsanje and Ntcheu are some of the most affected districts in Malawi. According to food assessment report by the Nsanje District Agriculture Office, the number of farming families without food of their own was 52,139 out of 81,440 representing 64% as at 30th May, 2016 while during the same period last year there were 7,263 farm families without food from own production out of 65,745 representing 11%. All 5 EPAs are worst hit by food shortages in the district. Refer to **table I** for the food situation in Nsanje.

**Table 1: Food Situation as of 30<sup>th</sup> May 2016.**

EPA / DISTRICT	2015 – 2016 SEASON			2014– 2015 SEASON		
	TOTAL FF	FF WITHOUT FOOD	%WITHOUT FOOD	TOTAL FF	FF WITHOUT FOOD	% WITHOUT FOOD
Makhanga	18840	11790	63	15898	2536	16
Magoti	15965	12211	76	13949	829	6
Mpatsa	10450	6793	65	8844	442	5
Zunde	19255	11360	59	13954	1884	14
Nyachilenda	16930	9985	59	13100	1572	12
<b>NSANJE</b>	<b>81,440</b>	<b>52139</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>65,745</b>	<b>7263</b>	<b>11</b>

Ntcheu district has 158,314 farming households and out of these farming households 51,105 were reported as having no own food representing 32% compared to 21% (33,614 HHs) of total farming households having no own food same time last year. The situation has worsened due to decreased production in food crops resulted from the dry spells and floods experienced in 2014/2015 season. Refer to **table 2** for food situation in Ntcheu.

**Table 2: Food situation as at 07<sup>th</sup> May, 2016**

EPA	2015-2016 Season				2014-2015 Season		
	March				March		
	Total Farming Households	HH without food	% without food		FH without food	% without food	
Njolomole	15,399	1,261	8		1,914	12	
Kandeu	24,385	2,228	9		2,780	11	
Bilira	16,800	8,057	48		6,978	42	
Nsipe	30,545	2,870	9		7,918	26	
Sharpevale	30,399	11,552	38		8,400	28	
Tsangano	18,084	1,266	7		82	0	
Manjawira	22,702	10,229	45		4,208	19	
<b>Total</b>	<b>158,314</b>	<b>37,463</b>	<b>24</b>		<b>32,280</b>	<b>20</b>	

NB: the highlighted EPAs are the falling within the target areas for EL Nino Response Project

### 3. CARE MALAWI INTERVENTION

CARE Malawi has since been prompted to respond to the situation through the following interventions:

1. To respond to the food insecurity crisis and improve the adaptive capacity of populations vulnerable to El Niño impacts in Malawi. This will be achieved by providing direct food security and resilience building support to 5,440 vulnerable households in 5 Traditional Authorities (TAs) in the 2 districts.

Food security support will include the provision of unconditional cash transfers to 2,720 of the most vulnerable households over a period ranging from 4 to 6 months depending on the prevailing conditions in targeted communities.

Flood-affected families that have settled in safer, upland relocation sites with support from ECHO are also targeted; 200 of them will participate in a cash-for-asset in their communities.

2. Resilience building interventions which will focus on enhancing households' and communities' adaptive capacity using CARE's Community-Based Adaptation approach to climate change. All 5,440 households and the broader community will benefit from the capacity building support to relevant local structures and district councils.

Specific interventions to increase the adoption of climate-resilient livelihoods at household level will target 3,180 households, helping them to increase agricultural production, improve dietary diversity and rebuild productive assets, while linking them to ongoing development programs in the targeted areas.

### 4. AIM OF THE BASELINE SURVEY

The survey aimed at determining the level of vulnerability by the communities and to establish the basis through which the impact of the intervention will be measured.

Specifically, the survey focused on finding out:

- Number of months the households expect to be food insecure
- % of the target household members who are able to meet the minimum requirement of 2100 Kilo Calories per day
- % of the target households who are able to integrate climatic variables in their livelihood Strategies
- %of households with productive assets in the target communities
- % of the local structures with the capacity to comply to Humanitarian standards and Accountability

## 5. BASELINE SURVEY METHODOLOGY

### Survey approach and methods

The design of the survey was guided by the project design document and project indicators. The survey adopted participatory approaches which combined both qualitative and quantitative study methods. Quantitative data were collected mainly through the household questionnaire, while qualitative data were collected through Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs).

#### 5.1 Sample and sampling frame

The survey took place in three T/As in Nsanje and two T/As in Ntcheu. It systematically selected 29 GVHs out of 58 representing 50% of the total GVHs. In Ntcheu the sample frame initially divided each T/A into blocks and randomly select villages from each block. This was to ensure that each part of the TAs is well represented and minimize bias. While for Nsanje, all the target GVH were reached for the survey.

#### 5.2 Household sampling

The survey statistically sampled 267 households from the 29 GVHs (see annex 8-a, for the formula used for sample calculation). The sample was also based on intervention with the highest target as there are several interventions with varied number of beneficiaries. Data were collected using pre-coded questionnaires and before administration, verbal consent was obtained from the respondents.

#### 5.3 Qualitative methods

In order to broaden the understanding of the prevailing situation in the implementation sites, and to triangulate results of the household survey, a range of qualitative methods were used to collect the necessary information from the various stakeholders and households in target communities.

Data was collected from:

- Key Informants: KIIs were conducted to gain an in depth knowledge of key issues. Key Informants provided necessary backup knowledge on the districts and national situations. The responses were also used to explain some household survey findings. These interviews were conducted with Government Agriculture officers and Local structure Focal persons.
- Focused Group Discussions (FGDs): The FGDs were necessary to validate and explain some household survey findings. FGDs were held with the VCPCs, and community members.
- Secondary data was also collected through literature review. The desk review involved reviewing the project documents, MVAC assessment reports for the 2014/15 and the 2015/16 growing seasons. The District Food Assessments Reports and documents from the ECHO recovery project.

#### 5.4 Data collection and analysis

##### 5.4.1 Data Collection

Data collection commenced on 25th to 29th May 2016 (a period of 5 days). It was preceded by a two (2) day training of Research Assistants that took place at CARE office in Nsanje. On the last day of training a pre-testing of the questionnaires was conducted to orient the RAs on the actual field work and for them to get acquainted with the tool itself. After pre-testing, the questionnaire was modified in line with the feedback from the field. Areas that the enumerators needed improvement were identified

and rectified. Such areas include the way they ask the question, probe, observe skip patterns, and recording of the responses.

#### 5.4.45.4.2 Data analysis

All completed questionnaires were checked for accuracy and consistency of recorded responses before entry into the computer. The quantitative data collected was entered into CS-Pro computer package by a group of 2 trained data entry clerks to minimize errors and increase accuracy. Then data was imported to SPSS which was used to generate descriptive statistics such as percentages presented in this report. Data analysis process was guided by the indicators in the logical framework.

On the other hand, thematic and content approaches were used to analyze all the qualitative data. This involved use of an analysis grid with themes reflecting the survey objectives to delineate salient comments and explanations. All data sources have been triangulated to produce this baseline report.

### 5.5 Limitations

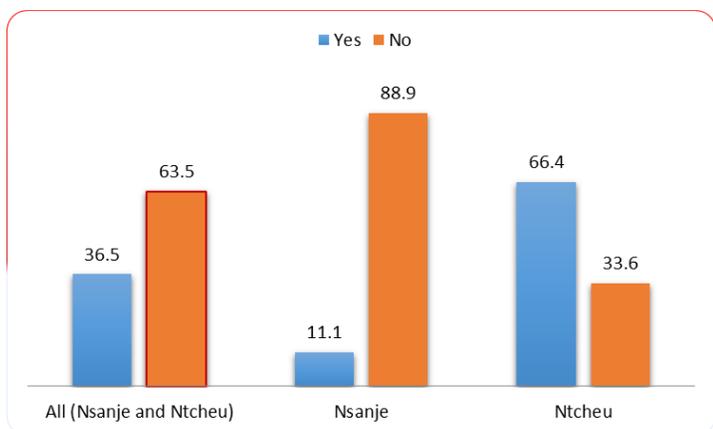
One major challenge during the survey was how to estimate energy intake per individual in a household considering that people weigh the food using local units. To reduce the errors emanating from this challenge, enumerators provided with Food conversion tables which they were using in the field. See the attached conversion table in annex 8.1.

## 6 BASELINE SURVEY RESULTS

### 6.1 2015/16 growing season harvest

This aimed at establishing if the target community has already harvested their main staple crops. At the time of the survey, the community indicated they had already harvested their main staple crops. The results show that some households did not harvest anything from their fields as **figure 1** below indicates:

**Figure 1: Have you already harvested your crops you grew in 2015/16 season?**



The results in figure 1 show that in Nsanje only 36.5% managed to harvest certain quantities of the main staples from their fields in the two districts. Thus 63.5% of the population did not harvest anything from their fields.

It should be noted that the target areas are the most affected communities in the two districts. As For Nsanje the communities were hit by floods in 2014/15 growing season and relocated to totally new locations where their life has not fully recovered. Thus the dry spells in the 2015/16 growing season has just worsened the situation.

#### 6.2 Availability of energy food at household

The respondents were asked to mention energy giving foods that was available in their houses at the time of the survey. **Table 3** is an analysis of the responses.

**Table 3: How much energy food does your Household have right now?**

Food stuff	PERCENTAGE		
	All	Nsanje	Ntcheu
Maize grain	44	16.7	76.2
Maize flour	72.9	60.4	87.7
Cassava	0.4	0	0.8
Banana	0.4	0	0.8
Rice	1.1	1.4	0.8
Millet	8.3	8.3	8.2
Lukuniphala	1.1	1.4	0.8

Sweet Potato	4.9	1.4	9
Irish Potato	1.5	0.7	2.5

Out of the sampled Households, 44% indicated had some maize grains in their homes while 72.9% had some flour. Other households had some quantities of millet and sweet potatoes; 8.3% and 4.9% respectively.

Quantities for the staples varied from households with some houses (23%) reporting having 5 Kg of maize grain while others had up to 500kg. During the survey, some households reported having one meal a day or going to bed without eating anything.

The situation was evident in Nsanje where most households indicated they are depending on water lilies (locally known as Nyika) for survival. It was noted during focus group discussions that water lilies are bitter and harmful. “Ukadya Nyika umakahala masiku atatu osapita kuchimbuzi komanso zimawawa moti ana amakana kudya komabe timawakakamiza nanga tiwaptsa chani?” “When you eat the water lilies you can stay three days without visiting the toilet; it’s bitter and harmful and children shun it but we still give them because we have nothing to give them.” Narrated one community member from Nsanje.

### 6.3 Months of food insecurity

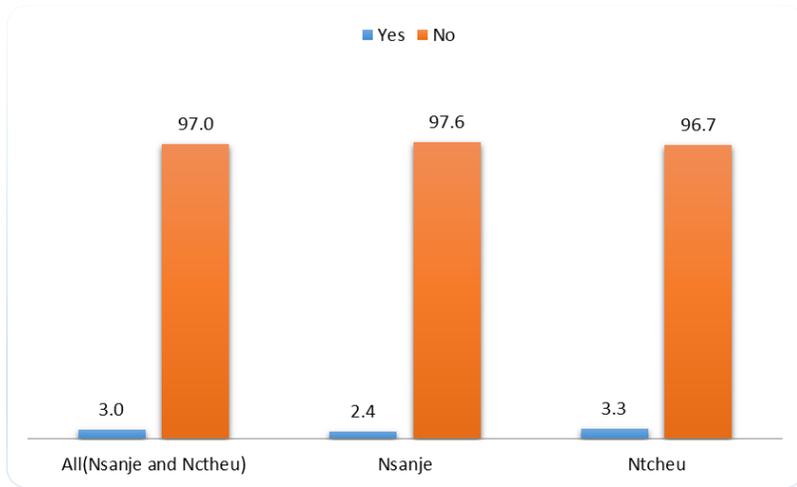
For the households that harvested certain quantities were asked if what they harvested would last them up to the next growing season. Out of all those who manage to harvest, only 3.0% of those who harvested certain quantities indicated their harvests would last them up to the next growing season as indicated in **figure 2**. These few households managed to harvest certain quantities due to various reasons. In both districts, some households have their farms on low lying land and dambos which are able to maintain moisture for longer periods. While others who are wealthier had to rent pieces of land in upland locations which received good amounts of rainfall like the case of Ntheu.

**Figure 2: Will your harvest of the main staple for the year 2015/2016 last for the whole season until next year (2016/2017) harvest?**

**Commented [j1]:** It would have been more useful to see the % of HH that had some minimum amount of cereals on hand. For future reference.

**Commented [j2]:** It would be interesting to do some qualitative research to understand what was it about those HH that allowed them to have this good harvest. For example did they follow any particularly good practices such as conservation agriculture and the use of drought-tolerant varieties? Or was it pure luck? Geography? Their starting level of wealth?

**Commented [j3]:** Differences between male and female-headed households?



**Table 4. Which month do you expect the main staple from the 2015/2016 season's harvest to run out?**

The respondents were also asked which month they expect their harvest to run out. In Nsanje, the majority indicated by July (which is 75%) will have their harvest run out. While in Ntcheu, majority will have their food stocks run out in September (58.3%). However, the results may have been influenced by the upper part of Ntcheu where people harvested significant quantities compared to the lower part of the district which was seriously affected by dry spell which also happens to be the main target of the project.

**Commented [j4]:** For both Nsanje and Ntcheu? This finding makes sense for Nsanje but seems early for Ntcheu, based on the MVAC report.

**Table 4. Months when the majority expect to have their food run out**

Month	Nsanje	Ntcheu
January	2.3	2.2
February	3.1	1.3
March	1.1	2.1
April	5.4	6.5

May	7.2	6.5	
June	12.3	19.6	
July	11.7	17.4	
August	3.1	4.3	
September	0.8	4.3	
October	0.2	2.2	
November	0.4	2.2	
December	0.9	1.3	

The information in **table 4** shows that by July, majority of the households will ~~have their food run out~~ **run out of food**. There was no significant difference between male and female headed households regarding when their stock will run out.

#### 6.4 Energy consumed within 24 hours prior to the survey

To find how much energy has been consumed within the 24 hour prior to the survey, the respondents were asked to mention all the food prepared and how much (in gm) of each was eaten in their homes. All the food and their quantities eaten were listed. The food ~~were-was~~ grouped into carbohydrates, proteins and oils based on the energy each of these supply to the body. The total carbohydrates and proteins eaten were multiplied by 4 as each gram of carbohydrates and protein provides 4 calories while each gram from oils provides 9 calories to the body. Then the total calories were divided by the total population in the survey. The results show that on average, individuals are consuming 1546 kilocalories (KC) which is lower than the recommended 2100 Kilocalories per day. However, 12% of the households interviewed were able to consume up to 2100 Kilocalories per day. **Tables 5 and 6** clarify the findings.

**Table 5. Energy intake for the sampled households**

Food Source	Amount consumed in grams	Energy obtained in Calories	Population	Individual Energy consumption (Kc)
Carbohydrates	471860	1887440	1137	1660.01759
Proteins	35470	141880	1137	124.7845207
oils	5090	45810	1137	40.29023747
<b>Total</b>				<b>1825.</b>

**Table 6. % based on HH caloric intake**

Total population reached	Households with individuals consuming minimum of 2100 kilocalories per day (%)	Households with individuals consuming less than 2100 kilocalories per day (%)	Average caloric intake
267	48	52	1825

It was learnt that majority of the target communities do not have stable sources of income which they would otherwise use to buy food hence the low caloric intake. The most prevalent source of income was casual labor, small scale businesses and fishing for some parts of Nsanje.

*6.5 Community adaptation to climate change*

To determine levels of community adaptation to climate change, the respondents were asked to identify adaptive measure they employ when planning their livelihoods strategies. The results show that significant population (64%) is able to adapt to climate change livelihood strategies. It is encouraging to learn that the majority of the households are growing early maturity crops (80.7%) in both districts. Furthermore, use of manure, is higher in Ntcheu (at 74.6%) than in Nsanje (46.5%) despite the fact that there are more livestock in Nsanje than Ntcheu. **Despite being drought prone areas, water conservation is very low in both districts but much lower in Ntcheu (34.4%) and 54.9 % in Nsanje. During the survey, it was noted that most perennial rivers in Ntcheu had already dried up by May which signaled that water scarcity would hit the areas hard. Rejection of sweet potato vines for some farmers in Ntcheu due to lack of water is evidence to show that water conservation is very crucial for the two districts.**

**Table 7. Do you consider any the following climate variables when planning your livelihood strategies?**

Climate Variables	All (Nsanje and Ntcheu)		Nsanje		Ntcheu	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Use of manure	157	59.5	66	46.5	91	74.6
Growing of early maturity crops	213	80.7	117	82.4	96	78.7
Growing of disease resistant crops	183	69.3	95	66.9	88	72.1
Water conservation	120	46	78	55	42	34
<b>Average</b>		<b>64 %</b>		<b>63%</b>		<b>65%</b>

**Commented [j5]:** Any differences in responses between men and women?

**Commented [j6]:** In the narrative it is useful to highlight differences between different districts. For example Ntcheu has a much higher rate of manure application than Nsanje. Those details are useful for us as implementers, because it means that we may need to do more work in Nsanje whereas we can reinforce/multiply good practices in Ntcheu.

**Commented [j7]:** This is great. Do we know which ones?

**Table 8. Difference between males and females in adoption of climatic variables**

Intergration of climatic variables		Males			Females		
		Responses		Percent of Cases	Responses		Percent of Cases
Climatic Variable	N	Percent	N		Percent		
Use of manure	107	8.8%	59.8%	50	10.0%	58.8%	
Growing of early maturity crops	147	12.0%	82.1%	66	13.3%	77.6%	
Growing of disease resistant crops	125	10.2%	69.8%	58	11.6%	68.2%	
Irrigation	89	7.3%	49.7%	35	7.0%	41.2%	
Swalleys	42	3.4%	23.5%	13	2.6%	15.3%	
Mixed copping	142	11.6%	79.3%	67	13.5%	78.8%	
Crop diversification	131	10.7%	73.2%	57	11.4%	67.1%	
Use of Vetiva grass	79	6.5%	44.1%	32	6.4%	37.6%	
Agroforestry	121	9.9%	67.6%	50	10.0%	58.8%	
Water conservation	90	7.4%	50.3%	30	6.0%	35.3%	
livestock	77	6.3%	43.0%	15	3.0%	17.6%	
Participation in saving and credit groups	72	5.9%	40.2%	25	5.0%	29.4%	

A comparison between male headed and female headed households in adoption of climatic change variables shows that women are lagging behind in all aspects. One contribution to low adoption of these livelihood strategies was sighted to be the burden that single mothers have in taking care of the home and at the same time putting much efforts into their fields.

*6.6 Household Productive assets*

The objective for this question was to identify productive assets that the target households have. This aims at establishing the basis which the project will use to measure if the project’s intervention will lead to an increase in assets among the target households. The survey found out that the most predominant assets people have are land, and hoes. However, productive assets that may directly increase in value as a result of the project’s intervention are goats and chickens which were found to be 13.9% and 38.7% respectively. Giving an average of 26.3%.

**Table 9. Household Assets**

		All (Nsanje and Ntcheu)		
Type	of	%	Quantity(mean)	Value

**Commented [j8]:** Can you please redo this analysis and focus on PRODUCTIVE ASSETS. That is the indicator. So remove things like television, radio, etc.  
Also were there any differences in productive asset ownership between men and women?

<b>property</b>			
Land	87.2	2	207,794
Solar Panel	4.9	1	12,653
Sprayer	0.8	1	21,000
Hoe	88.3	3	4,366
Bicycle	21.1	1	28,451
Wheelbarrow	0.4	1	45,000
Treadle pump	3.8	1	20,600
Chickens	38.7	3	6,701
Goats	13.9	3	40,797
Cattle	1.9	5	864,000
Pigs	4.5	4	59,750

#### 6.1.6.7 Community Assets

Community asset (or community resource, a very similar term) is anything that can be used to improve the quality of community life. During FGDs with the VCPCs in the two districts, when asked to mention community assets in the target areas, the only community asset mentioned were water schemes and VSL groups which they regard as communal otherwise, the rest of the assets like bicycle, and livestock belong to individuals. However the communities regard the following as assets that can help to uplift their lives; treadle pumps, forests, ambulance bicycles, ox-carts, boats, livestock (pass on).

However, assets that may directly be affected by the project's intervention are treadle pumps and wells/ schemes. As for Ntcheu, there are 11 schemes in existence but most of these are not in good shape as they were constructed some years ago. As for Nsanje, fields are not organized into schemes and there are no established wells within the targeted communities.

<b>Assets</b>	<b>Nsanje</b>	<b>status</b>	<b>Ntcheu</b>	<b>Status</b>
Schemes/ wells	0		11	Need rehabilitation
Treadle pumps	0		0	

#### 6.1.6.8 Accountability Standards

Humanitarian accountability is a mechanisms by which individuals, organizations and States account for their actions and are held responsible for them. The communities were asked how they rate their community leaders on accountability standards and the results showed that most community leaders are not accountable (43%). An FGD with male and female community (men and women) members

revealed that when there is aid, priority goes to local structure members like the ADC and ACPC, VCPC and the like. Accountability was found to be higher in Ntcheu (50%) than in Nsanje (35%). Greed and selfishness were said to be high in Nsanje. “mwachitsanso, akomiti anapatsidwa mana 70 kuti agwire nthito za chitikuko koma ndi maina 30 okha anagwira nawo nthito, maina 40 osalawo anagawana okhaokkha”. “Sometime back, the community was allocated a figure of 70 beneficiaries to do development works but out of this figure, only 30 trickled down to the deserving people the remaining 40 was shared amongst the VCPC”, lamented one villager from Nsanje. When asked about their capacity to uphold humanitarian standards, the committees indicated they have never received proper training on accountability.

**Table 10. Do you think duty bearers in your area observe the following in humanitarian response?**

Accountability Standards	All (Nsanje and Ntcheu)		Nsanje		Ntcheu	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Have concerns for human welfare and respect for the individual during Humanitarian response	112	47.4	54	41.5	58	53.2
Provide Humanitarian Assistance in proportion to needs of the affected HHs	120	51.1	53	40.8	67	61.5
Give priority to the most urgent needs, without discrimination,	98	41.9	41	31.5	57	52.3
Enable crisis-affected people and staff to raise complaints,	88	37.5	39	30.0	49	45.0
Ensure that complaints are responded to with appropriate action	111	46.8	56	43.1	55	50.5
Are honest and open in communications with crisis-affected people and other stakeholders	73	31.0	33	25.4	40	36.7
Average		43		35		50

## 7 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In general, the survey found out that the project has targeted the right locations and beneficiaries as these are the ones that have been heavily affected by the EL Nino. However, the targeted households are very few in proportion to affected households more especially in Ntcheu. For instance, during the survey, the enumerators had to walk long distance to find the next beneficiary. One village head lamented that in his village there is only one beneficiary and in the whole GVH, there are 28 beneficiaries yet there are 32 villages in the same.

For the project to register greater impact, it would be ideal if the targeting was concentrated in one location other than spreading the beneficiaries far and wide.

Prices of staples like maize on the market keep on fluctuating due to high demand of the produce. When asked what the beneficiary would prefer, the majority indicated receiving food would be more ideal than cash because they could foresee a situation where people have money but can't access food. Thus the project should be vigilant in monitoring the market to ensure that households are able to access food as required.

Lack of bylaws to regulate the selling of staples like maize is also disadvantaging the most vulnerable people. In the course of the survey it was observed that vendors could come from Blantyre and Lilongwe to buy maize in Ntcheu. The result of this action is that in the end, the area will be left without maize which will reduce accessibility of the commodity thereby raising the prices further. It would be ideal if the project deliberately worked with local structure to ensure that the maize produced is being sold to people within the community and selling of maize beyond the borders of the communities should be restricted.

In Ntcheu, the project will be working in areas where CARE has previously worked in areas of food security where the project supported irrigation. However, with the phasing out of the project, the communities are failing to sustain the irrigation schemes that were constructed. This should inform the project on prudent implementation strategies to ensure lasting impact otherwise sustainability issues remain a big challenge.

Similarly, there have been so many NGOs working in the two districts in areas of Climate Change Adaptation strategies but once those NGOs phased out all the interventions' impact remain water under a bridge. For example, Government has been distributing treadle pumps to farmers but once it develops a fault, which could easily be maintained, it is abandoned for good. Thus the project should also explore ways that will make the impact of the interventions sustainable.

Accountability is one key issue which is very challenging in the implementation of humanitarian assistance. For the project to successfully implement the project, it should move beyond imparting knowledge and building capacity on accountability to behavior change as fraud and corruption seem to be deep rooted in the minds of many local structures.

Much effort is required to put the schemes to function. This can be a legacy the project will left behind when it phases out.

238 ANNEX

**Sample size and sampling frame**

a. Sampling procedure

The sampling Methodology used to be provided by Clement Bisai

b. Sample size and Frame

T/A	GVH/LOCATION	CASH TRANSFER	BASED ON HIGHEST TARGET	Sample Size-Based on Cash targets	Sample Size based on intervention with highest target
GANYA	Upper Ganya	96	150	9	13
	Lower Ganya	404	404	39	34
MAKWANGWALA	Upper Makwangwala	100	246	10	21
	Lower Makwangwala	470	470	46	39
MBENJE	Kaleso	250	250	24	21
MLOLO	Mchacha James	450	600	44	50
	Chitseko	210	300	20	25
	Chapinga	210	228	20	19
TENGANI	Kachere	60	60	6	5
	Mgona	220	220	21	18

<b>Total</b>		<b>2470</b>	<b>2928</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>245</b>
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District	T/A	GVH	Sample size	Villages	Sampled Villages	# of respondents
Nsanje	Mbenje	Kaleso	24	Gamba	Gamba	8
				Machado	Machado	10
				Mission	Mission	6
	Tengani	Mgona	21	Mgona	Mgona	15
				Mwasalapa	Mwasalapa	6
				Kachere	Kazingizi	6
	Mlolo	Mchacha James	50	Nkhandwe	Nkhandwe	12
				Mchacha James 1	Mchacha James 1	6
				Mchacha James 2	Mchacha James 2	6
				Sali	Sali	4
				Lintchangwe		
				Genti	Genti	8
				Tsinamkuzi	Tsinamkuzi	6
				Falantcha		
				Jackson	Jackson	
Dowe						
Chizinga				Chizinga	8	
Manthenga				Manthenga		
	Chapinga	20	Batison	Batison	20	
			Chitseko	Yonasi	20	
				Dovu	5	
Ntcheu	Ganya	Upper Ganya	13	Kahowera	Kahowera	5
				Masoalikuka		
				Zande	Zande	4
				Chimpuza	Chimpuza	
				Chiluzi		
				Kamphulusa	Kamphulusa	4
				Tchale		
				Chimwala	Chimwala	
				Lower Ganya		
		39	Mwadzangati	Mwadzangati	8	
			Sanjani	Sanjani	6	
			Chiwiza	Chiwiza	7	

				Piliwiza		
				Chikadya	Chikadya	
				Nkhwani	Nkwani	
				Sande		
				Mphoola	Mphoola	12
				Chawanje		
				Nkhuphira	Nkhuphira	6
				Agabu		
				Chitsulo		
	Makwangwala	Upper Makwangwala	21	Kampheko		
				Salota		
				Kuulanga	Kuulanga	5
				Chigwembere		
				Kasinje	Kasinje	4
				Kasinje1		
				Kambewa		
				Chifwiri		
				Kantandiro	Kantandiro	
				Gwaza		
				Hale		
				Ganya		
				Mafuwa	Mafuwa	5
				Ndalamira	Ndalamira	
				Manjanja		
				Thunga	Thunga	4
				Kachilomo		
				Kamtchinga	Kamtchinga	4
		Lower Makwangwala	46	Gumbi	Gumbi	8
				Msiyaludzu	Msiyaludzu	
				Mmemo	Mmemo	7
				Gwaza	Gwaza	5
				Kuthakwanasi	Kuthakwanasi	5
				Makwangwala		
					Pengapenga	
				Namboya	Namboya	5
				Kambuku	Kambuku	6
				Kalimanjira		
				Mapondera	Mapondera	5
				Austine	Austine	6
				Mkutumula		
<b>Total</b>						<b>267</b>

23-18.1 Conversion table

Item	Local Quantity	Weights in kg	Description/wild foods
Avocado, small	45/10kg basin	40gm	
Bananas	1 finger	80 grams	
Bans/mandazi	1 piece	0.25 grams	
Bean leaves dried	1 bag of 50 kilograms	3.5 Kilograms	
Bonongwe leaves	1 basket full of leaves	400 grams	
Bwemba	5 small fruits	100 grams	
Bambara nuts green	50kg sack	75 kg	check
Bambara nuts dry	50kg sack	60kg	
Dzimhiri		4 fruits 1 kg	Orange fruits
Cabbage leaves	3 leaves	120 grams	
Cabbages	1 meduim size	1.7 kilograms	
Cassava	1 50kg bag	75 kg	
Cassava	50kg fresh	25 kg dried	
Chambo	1 basin	2kg	
Chewe leaves	1 basin	75 gm	
chicken, medium		1.5 kg	
chicken, small		1 kg	
Chidede leaves (Dried)	1 bag of 50 kilograms	0.3kg	
Chigwada( Cassava leaves)		0.25 kg	
Chisoso	1 lichelo	100gm	
Chisoso	1 basin	300gm	
Chisoso/Bonongue/Kampande	1 plate	200gm	
Chiwombera			leaves
Cooking Oil	1 packet	50 millitres	
Cow peas	1 basin	4kg	?
Cow peas	1 pail	25	?
Cow peas	1 50 kg sack	50 kg	check
Dry beans	1 coffee cup	100 grams	
Beans	1 bag 50kg	65kg	
Bambara nuts dry	1 bag 50kg	50kg	
Denge	1 lichelo	Chiwombera	
Denge	1 basin	750gm	
Denge	1 plate	25 gm 0r 100gm	?
Finger millet	1 50kg sack	70-73kg	
Fish	1plate	0.8 kg	
Fish medium (chambo)		400gm	
Fish small dried	5ltrs	1kg =40 heaps	
Fresh fish(meduim)	1 piece	200 grams	
Grasshoppers	1plate	0.5 kg approx	
Ground nuts	1 pail (shelled)	6.5 kg	
Ground nuts	1 pail (unshelled)	4kg	
Ground nuts	1 basin shelled	16 kg	

Gnuts	50 kg sack unshelled	18 kg shelled	
Gnuts	3 bags unshelled	1 50 kg sack shelled	
Kalongotida	1basin	2kg	
Khobewe/cow peas	1 x5 ltr bucket	5kg	
Kacherere			green leaves
Lemon	1 big fruit	100 grams	
Masau	1 market plate #10	600gm	
Maize	1 meduim pail	12.5 kg	
Maize	1 basin	5.5kg	
Maize	1 Big pail	19 kg	
Maize (hybrid)	1 50kg bag unshelled	25kg shelled	
Maize	1x4 gal tin	8 kg	Zambia
Maize (local)	1 50kg bag unshelled 20kg shelled		
Maize cob	cob	.2kg	
green maize cob	1 50kg bag	75kg wt of cobs	
Maize flour	1 Meduim Tin	10 kg	
Maize Porridge	1 plate	300 grams	
Malambe( Baobab fruit)	1 fruit	200 grams	
Malambe leaves			
Mangoes	1 meduim fruit	100 grams, edible	
Mangoes	1 pail	50 fruits, 7-10kg	
Mangoes	1bag 50kg	75kg wt of mangoes	
Mangoes	1x 50 kg bag	4 pails	
Maye	1 pod fruit	100 grams	
matatani			Fruit
Muposa fruit	1 big fruit	400 grams	
Mushrooms	1 plate	5kg	
Mustard	1 basket	0.25 kg	
Mlozi			
Mpama			tuber
Nthema	1 handful	0.25kg	
Nthema	1 cup	500gm	?
Nthema	1 plate	500gm	
Nkuya	1 basin	200gk	
Nchenga		.5 tin, 7 kg	Very sweet fruits
Ntudza			fruit
Okra leaves(Dried)	1 bag of 50 kilograms	4.5 kilograms	
Okra	1 bucket	4.5 kg	
Okra	1 basin	0.3kg	
Onions	1 bundle(big size)	400 grams	
Onions	1 bundle(small size)	200 grams	
Paw paw fruit	1 meduim size	0.75 kg	
Pig (wild)	1 medium sized	12-15kg	
Pigeon peas	1x50kg bag	60-65kg	
Pigeon peas	1pail	25	1 pail=35kg fresh/ 30kg dry. 50kg bag, 75kg
Pigeon peas	1basin	10kg	
Pigeon peas	1chibigiri	5kg	
Pigeon peas	1 lichelo	1.07 kg	
Pigeon peas	1 bag	60kg	
Pigeon peas	1 50kg bag	60-65 kg	
Pigeon peas, green	1 pail	25 kg	

Pumpkin leaves	1 bunch	400 grams	
Pumpkin leaves	1 pail	2.7kg	
Pumpkin leaves	1 basket	5 kg	
Rice	1 50kg bag unhusked	36 kg husked	
Rice	1 coffee cup	100 grams	
Small fish	1 heap	50 grams	
Mpungulira fruit	1 sugar polythene packet grams	100	
Mankhakaza fruit	1 pod and 20 fruits	200 grams	
Sorghum	1 50kg sack	60-65 kg	
Sugar	1 kilogram	1 kilogram	
Sugar cane-	stick	200 kg	
Sweet potatoes	1 dish	20 kg	
Sweet potatoes	1lichelo	6.7 kg	
Sweet potatoes	1 pail	18 kilograms	
Sweet potatoes	50 kilo sack	75 kilograms	
Telele leaves(Dried)	1 bag of 50 kilograms	2 kilograms	
Terere	1 small bowl	100 grams	
Terere	1 meduim saucepan	400 grams	
Tobacco	1 bale	100kg	
Tomatoes	1 pail	20kg	
Tomatoes	1 basket	8kg or 32 kg	?
Tomatoes	1basin	1.25 kg	
Tomatoes	1 heap(4 tomatoes)	250 grams	
Usesa			Fruit
Wild birds	200 gm/bird		
Mice	120/kg		

Maize on low (Dimba) land	High yields/harvest		6 bags of 50 kk , threshed maize grain
Maize on low (Dimba) land	Low yields/harvest	175 kg	3-4 bags (3.5) of 50 kg, threshed maize grain
Maize on Up land	Average yields	175 kg	
Ground nuts		5 of 50 kg unshelled is equivalent to 2 of 50 kg shelled	
Ground nuts		1 ox - cart (Unshelled) is equivalent to 3 of 50 kg shelled	
Pumpkins		1 ox- cart is equivalent to 150-160 pumpkins	

Rice		1 bag of 50 kg unthreshed is equivalent to 35 kg of threshed rice.	

492kcal per cob

23.28.2

23.28.3 Tools used during the Evaluation  
Household Questionnaire



## EL Nino RESPONSE BASELINE SURVEY HH Tool

### Introduction and Consent

Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from CARE Malawi

I would like to speak to the head of the household; **is this person available?**

May I have your name? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you the head of the household?

YES.....1

NO.....2

I would like to ask you some questions regarding the current situation of your assets, livelihoods strategies, and food situation.

We also have some questions regarding the community activities you are involved in.

This interview will take between.....to.....minutes. All the information that you provide to us will remain confidential and your answers will not be shared with others.

At this time, do you want to ask me anything about the survey?

May I begin the interview now?

SIGNATURE OF INTERVIEWER: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_/05/16

RESPONDENT AGREES TO BE INTERVIEWED.....1. RESPONDENT DOES NOT AGREE TO BE INTERVIEWED.....2



(End here; discuss this result with your supervisor)

GO TO RECORD THE START TIME AND BEGIN INTERVIEW

RECORD THE TIME

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### 1. Demographic and Control Panel Identification

Name of the Respondent		Date of the interview	
Sex of Respondents		Name of Village Headman	
Name of GVH		TA	Respondent's Marital Status
Gender of Head of HH		M < 10yrs	F < 10yrs
# of members in HH		M 10-14yrs	F 10-14yrs
Name of the Interviewer		M 15-50yrs	F 15-50yrs
District		M > 50yrs	F > 50yrs

### 2. Household Food Security

- a. Have you already harvested your crops your grew in 2015/16 season: 1  
2
- b. How much energy food does your household have right now (If some of the staple food have not been harvested, the respondent should include expected yield when indicated the food available?)

Type of food in store	Local units	Estimated weight per unit	Total Kg
Maize grain			
Maize flour			
Cassava			

Banana			
Rice			
Millet			
Lukuniphala			
Sweet Potato			
Irish Potato			

c. Will your harvest of the main staple for the year 2015/2016 last for the whole season until next year (2016/2017) harvest?	1 Skip to e	2
d. Which month do you expect the main staple from the 2015/2016 season's harvest to run out?		
e. Did your household harvest of the main staple for the year 2014/2015 last for the whole season until this year (2015/2016) harvest?	1 Skip to 3	2
f. Which month did the household harvest of the main staple for the year 2014/2015 run out?		

### 3. Household Caloric intake (24 hour food intake recall)

What food stuff has each of the members of your household eaten in the past 24 hours? And how much of each food stuff was eaten? (First check if the respondent was responsible for household preparation the day before)

Food consumed	Quantity consumed	No. of HH members

### 4. Integration of climate variables in livelihood strategies

a. What are your main Household livelihood strategies (Respondent should include livelihood strategies for all members of their household, you may probe from the list below)?

b. Do you consider any of the following climate variables when planning your livelihood strategies?

	1	2
Use of manure		
Growing of early maturity crops		
Growing of disease resistant crops		
Irrigation		
Swalleys		
Mixed copping		
Crop diversification		
Use of Vetiva grass		
Agroforestry		
Water conservation		
livestock diversification that adaptable to climate variability		
Participation in saving and credit groups		

## 5. Productive resources

a. Does your household have any of the following assets? If yes how many of each do you have?

Type of property owned	Quantity for 2015/16 season	Estimated current value. (If you were to sell, how much would you earn from ...)
Pieces of land		
Solar panel		
House/s		
Sprayer		
Hoe		
Axe		
Bicycle		
Radio		
Television/VCR		
Wheelbarrow		
Treadle pump		

Ox-cart		
Furniture		
Cell phone		
Chickens		
Goats		
Cattle		
Pigs		
Bed/mattress		
Other Assets		

## 6. Transparent and accountability standards

In the design and implementation of Humanitarian Response Staff, Local committees (VDC, ADC, VCPC, ACPC) and community leaders are supposed to be accountable and transparent? Do you think these duty bearers in your area observe the following in Humanitarian Response?

Accountability Standard	Response 1=yes 2=No	
<b>i.</b> Have concerns for human welfare and respect for the individual during Humanitarian response		
<b>ii.</b> Provide Humanitarian Assistance in proportion to needs of the affected HHs		

iii. Give priority to the most urgent needs, without discrimination,		
iv. Enable crisis-affected people and staff to raise complaints,		
v. Ensure that complaints are responded to with appropriate action		
vi. Are honest and open in communications with crisis-affected people and other stakeholders		

**FGD tool**




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## EL Nino RESPONSE BASELINE SURVE

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### 1. Demographic and Control Panel Identification

Number of participants		Date of the interview	
Number of Women		Name of Village Headman	
Name of GVH		TA	# of couples in the FGD
# of Men		End time of interview	
Start time of interview		Name of Note taker	
Name of the Interviewer			
District			

### 2. Crop Production

<p>a. What crops did you grow in the 2015/2016 growing season?</p> <p>b. How much of these crops do you plan to sell? To eat?</p> <p>c. In which month did, your own grown staple food for last growing season came to an end?</p> <p>d. Why did the food came to an end that month</p> <p>e. What do you think needs must be done so that this does not occur again in future?</p> <p>f. Do people grow a winter crop in this area? If so, is it grown using residual moisture, irrigation, or both? What is most commonly grown?</p> <p>g. What are the major limitations to increasing production of a winter crop?</p> <p>h. Do you grow any vegetables in your homestead? If yes, what do you grow? If no, what are the reasons for not growing vegetables?</p>	
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**3. Livestock**

a) What types of livestock are most commonly owned in this village?	
b) What types of people are most likely to have livestock? Probe for differences in sex (e.g. female-headed households vs male), wealth groups, livelihoods, etc.	
c) What are the most common diseases affecting livestock? Are vaccinations/drugs for these diseases available nearby? Where? Can you access veterinary/paravet support?	

#### 4. Integration of climate variables in livelihood strategies

a. What do you understand by the term “climate change?”	
b. What are the effects of climate change?	
c. Who is most affected by climate change? Probe for men, women, boys, girls, elderly, people with a disability, etc.	

d. How can the impact of climate change be mitigated/reduced?	
e. Which of the ways you have mentioned do you apply in your everyday undertakings? Probe for specific actions such as manure making, planting of drought-tolerant varieties, etc.	

**For committees (VCPCs, ACPC, VDCs CRM/FDP committees)**

**5. Accountability standards**

a. What do you understand by the term accountability?

b. In the design and implementation of Humanitarian Response Staff, Local committees (VDC, ADC, VCPC, ACPC) and community leaders are supposed to be accountable and transparent? Are you aware of the following standards and to what extent have these accountability and transparency elements been demonstrated by these structure in your community?

6.

Accountability standard	Knowledge of the standard	How accountable are they?	Give examples for each scenario
<b>Humanity:</b> concern for human welfare and respect for the			

individual			
<b>Neutrality:</b> aiming only to meet human needs and refraining from taking sides			
<b>Offer redress:</b> enabling crisis-affected people and staff to raise complaints, and responding with appropriate action			
<b>Offer redress:</b> enabling crisis-affected people and staff to raise complaints, and responding with appropriate action			
<b>Transparency:</b> being honest and open in communications and sharing relevant information, in an appropriate form, with crisis-affected people and other			





