

JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY (JICA)

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

**FINAL REPORT
FOR
THE MASTER PLAN STUDY
ON
WATERSHED REHABILITATION
IN
MIDDLE SHIRE
IN
MALAWI**

JANUARY 2001

SANYU CONSULTANTS INC.

NIPPON KOEI CO., LTD.

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PREFACE

In response to the request from the Government of Malawi, the Government of Japan decided to conduct the Master Plan Study on Watershed Rehabilitation in Middle Shire and entrusted the study to Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

JICA sent to Malawi The Study Team headed by Mr. Toshihide SHIBATA, Sanyu Consultants Inc., three times between August 1999 and December 2000.

The team held discussions with the officials concerned of the Government of Malawi, and conducted field surveys at the study area. After the team returned to Japan, further studies were made and the present report was prepared.

I hope that this report will contribute to the promotion of the project and to the enhancement of friendly relations between two countries.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the officials concerned of the Government of Malawi for their close cooperation extended to the team.

January, 2001



Mr. Kunihiko Saito
The President of
Japan International Cooperation
Agency

January 2001

Mr. Kunihiko Saito
President
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Tokyo, Japan

Letter of Transmittal

Dear Sir,

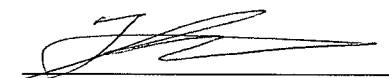
We are pleased to submit the Final Report for the Master Plan Study on Watershed Rehabilitation in Middle Shire, in Malawi. The Report, describing the fundamental framework for watershed conservation and rural development in the study area, is compiled reflecting the advices and suggestions for the formulation of the development plan by the authorities concerned, such as the Government of Japan and your Agency as well as the comments made by the Project Steering Committee concerned. It is also based on the works achieved by the staff of regional administration authorities concerned and formulated rural development proposal in which opinions of local population are taken account of.

In the course of the study, mulch-discipline technical transfer to the counterparts was performed as a component. In the meantime, a proposal for technical cooperation from Japan on watershed rehabilitation for the said area was submitted from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation through JICA Malawi Office. This may imply the recognition of the Government of Malawi on the importance of environmental conservation to which the country currently encounters and needs to determine how to cope with. The study team has identified that a host of difficult issues to solve on techniques, communal organization, livelihood improving measures, extension services and so on as key measures so as to retrieve the nature and living environment severely and seriously deteriorated through the explosive demographic growth.

Besides, the study team has proposed a new development approach where the selected model area will be intensively developed, the result and experiences of which will be transferred and extended to the adjacent area. While the new approach would require participation of beneficiaries as well as capacity building of concerned staff in the governmental agencies, it is believed that the approach would greatly contribute to achieve sustainable environmental conservation with reforestation and application of agro-forestry as well rural development of the study area through effective and efficient utilization of limited resources available internally and externally.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs of Malawi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Government of Japan, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency, especially the Advisory Committee which gave valuable and useful advice and suggestions as well as close cooperation to the study team.

Respectfully yours,



Toshihide Shibata
Leader of the Study Team