ESTABLISHMENT OF A MULTIPLE BENEFIT PLANTATION IN MALAWI

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Email: rndakibanda@yahoo.com
Location: South East of Africa
Total land size: 46K mi² (1/2 of Oregon)
Population: 17 million (4 times Oregon)

Major physical features
- Lake Malawi (9th world largest fresh water lake)
- Mulanje Mountain (10K ft)

Total forest area 33% in 2015 heavily declining
90% of population rely on forests for firewood and construction.

Realizing the pressure on natural forests, government plantations were established.

Most natural forests became reserves for conservation and tourism purposes.

Largest plantation was Viphya (*Pinus* and *Eucalyptus*) for timber production.
Construction timber and utility poles

Firewood

Revenues for government

Employment

Plantations Benefits

Non timber products

Eco tourism

Government Revenues

Benefits

Employment

Eco tourism
Most plantations harvested and not replanted

Pressure now back on natural forests

Government released the land to private investors without much positive response

Environmental degradation
How can we improve our silvicultural practices to make forestry more profitable and attractive to investors?

World Forestry Center International Fellowship
How can I draft an investment proposal that is attractive to investors?

Sustainable forest management

Economic returns, environmental and socio-economic benefits
Lessons Learned

1. Think in framework!!

2. Build Partnerships!!

3. Types of investors:
   - Private Investor
   - Developmental Banks
Other Lessons Learned

**Study Tours**
- Forests and nursery management
- Wood utilization and mechanization
- Water and soil conservation

**Meetings with Stakeholders**
- Investment analysis
- Investment proposal development
- Urban forestry
Implementation in Malawi

- A forest plantation management team (foresters and economists) has been identified
- A company has been legally registered
- An application for a 5K hectares land concession has been submitted to the Malawian Government
- Conduct forestry investment research in Malawi
- Finalize reforestation project proposal
- Identify potential investors
- Partner with stakeholders (woodland owners, sawmills and government agencies)
Impact

- Employment
- Firewood
- Revenue through exports and taxation
- Reduce environmental degradation
- Eco-tourism
I invite you

As a tourist and/or an investor
• Harley Merlo Junior
• Steve Gretzinger
• Dave Rumker
• Ian Sinks
• Jim Cathcart

For your support