

Shire River Basin Management Program — Community Environmental Conservation Fund, Malawi

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Malawi

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Malawi's Phase-I Shire River Basin Management Program (2012–2019) paid roughly 185 communities \$1,500 each through a Community Environmental Conservation Fund to rehabilitate over 35,000 hectares of watershed and 4,000+ km of streambanks, though an independent evaluation flagged

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	0/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	3/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-30

[Malawi Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development, with World Bank financing and Mott MacDonald technical support](#) — accessed 2026-08-30

[World Bank – Harnessing Nature to Boost Sustainable Livelihoods in Malawi](#) — accessed 2026-08-30

[Mott MacDonald – Shire River Basin Management Programme](#) — accessed 2026-08-30

[World Bank – Malawi Shire River Basin Management Program Project Documents](#) — accessed 2026-08-30

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