

Assessment of Sustainability of Farmers' Organisations in Malawi

A Case Study of Kasungu and Mchinji District Farmers' Associations

By

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Abstract

The study sought to assess the sustainability of rural producer organisation in Malawi with reference to NASFAM member of Rural Producer Organisations in Kasungu and Mchinji District Central Malawi. A semi-structured questionnaire was used to collect data. A total of six associations were sampled and all officials interviewed. The data were analyzed through Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS). Findings indicated that, Mchinji had higher sustainability potential as it scored 96.55 out of 100 sustainability score compared to Kasungu which scored 94.27. When Kasungu head office and its two associations compared, Kasungu head office had higher sustainability potentials than its associations as it scored 94.27 compared to its associations (Lisasadzi and Chamama) which scored 91.52 and 87.70 respectively. Also, when Mchinji district office and its two chapters (Chiosya and Mkanda) were compared, Mchinji head office had higher sustainability potentials than its chapters as it scored 96.55 out of sustainability score compared to its chapters which scored 58.04 and 60 respectively. The study recommends that all stake holders should be involved in drafting constitution, as people normally support what they help to create. Again, it is recommended that NASFAM head office should provide transport to members.