



MZUZU UNIVERSITY
MZUNI



African Centre of Excellence in Neglected and Underutilized Biodiversity (ACENUB)

Dr Mavuto Tembo
Director ACENUB
MALAWI

TICAD 9, Yokohama, Japan - August, 2025

ACE II

Eastern and Southern Africa
Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project

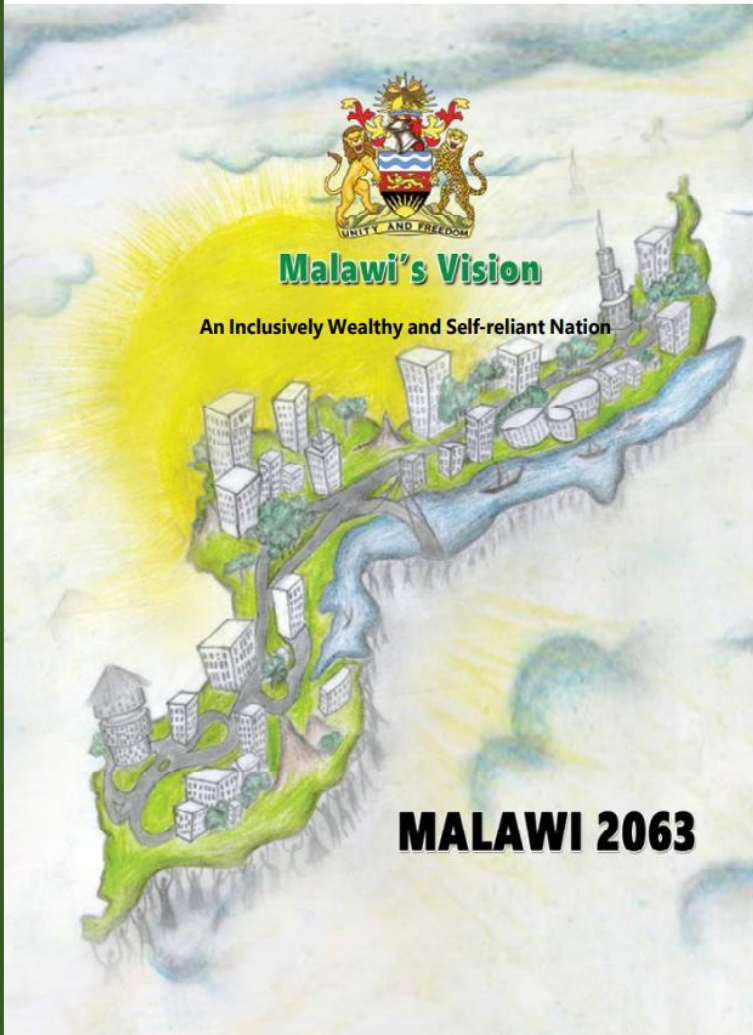


WORLD BANK GROUP



OVERVIEW OF THE ACENUB

Agenda 2063 The Africa we Want



STRATEGIC PLAN 2021 – 2030.

UNLOCKING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF MZUZU UNIVERSITY.

TOWARDS A MORE CREDIBLE, COMPETITIVE, AND RESPONSIVE UNIVERSITY IN THE 21ST CENTURY.



ABOUT ACENUB

Our main objective is to enhance linkages with local, regional, and international institutions, agriculture knowledge hubs, and agro-based industries to drive agri-food system skills development in Africa.

Key Impact Metrics

158+

New Students Enrolled

103+

Faculty & PhD Exchange Visits

24+

Peer-reviewed Papers Published

17+

Partnership MoUs Signed

- Regional students come from:

1. Tanzania
2. Uganda
3. Kenya
4. DRC
5. Togo
6. Benin
7. Senegal
8. Malawi
9. India



ACENUB

Vision: To be a leading centre of excellence in Africa for advancing conservation, innovation, and sustainable use of neglected and underutilised biodiversity to transform agri-food and nutrition systems for resilient livelihoods and ecological health.

Mission: ACENUB is committed to enhancing the conservation and value-addition of neglected and underutilised biodiversity in Malawi by promoting indigenous knowledge, strengthening transdisciplinary research, and advancing skills development in agri-food and nutrition systems.



ACENUB PURPOSE

1. Research and Innovation in Neglected and Underutilised Biodiversities
2. Conservation and Indigenous Knowledge Integration
3. Capacity Building and Postgraduate Training
4. Policy Engagement and Advocacy
5. Partnerships and Knowledge Exchange
6. Sustainable Enterprise Development
7. Resource mobilisation



Exploring Antibacterial and Preservative Properties of Lemongrass Oil >

RESEARCH AREA

- ACENUB promotes postgraduate Training and Research
- Supports MSc and PhD students to strengthen regional research and academic collaboration
 - Agrifood systems
 - Climate resilience
 - Nutrition systems
 - Agroecology
 - Transformative development
 - Value addition
 - Project Management

community



Their excellencies Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera, President of the Republic of Malawi and Mr. Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, President of the Republic of Mozambique



Type of Collaboration: Regional and International



- 1) Short and long-term human resource through training and staff/student mobility
- 2) Research collaboration
 - Biodiversity, climate change, Food systems and Nutrition Systems; Climate resilience, Agroecology, Renewable Energy Systems, ICT and Inter-university partnerships
- 3) Financial mobilisation towards academic support
 - Scholarships for students (including mobility)
 - Laboratory development and joint innovation hub setup
 - Research and Innovation grants and dissemination
 - Co-supervision
- 4) Policy and diplomacy dialogue in food and nutrition systems

Existing Collaboration

MOUs on partnerships for collaboration in applied research and training entered into by ACENUB: 25

NCE





New Collaboration MZUNI –SOKA UNIVERSITY

SERVICE
PERFECTION
SELF RELIANCE



22 AUGUST 2025



Library Infrastructure

New library under construction and after completion



Students' accommodation – approved designs



African Center of Excellence in Neglected and underutilised biodiversity (ACENUB)- after completion in December 2025





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