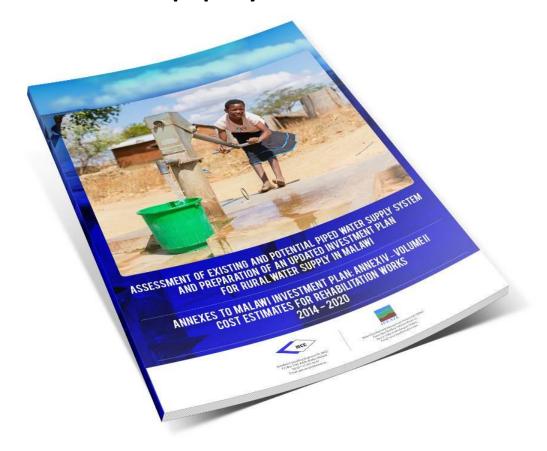


# How knowledge-makers respond to government's data needs: Experiences from the MWAMIS Case Study

Muthi Nhlema, **Team Leader** & **Theme Leader,** RWSN Data For Action Thematic Group

<u>muthi@baseflowmw.org</u>

## Rural Water Supply Investment Plan





#### Previous attempts: why did they fail?

- 1. No money to run it
- 2. Too complicated
- Cost too much to run
- 4. No-one in government knows about it
- 5. No-one around to manage it
- 6. Politicians don't want anyone to know about it
- 7. Data disappears into a black hole
- 8. Too much data/Data overload
- 9. No stationary e.g. no toner in the printer
- 10. NGOs aren't talking to each other
- 11. Consultant disappeared with the system passwords
- 12. Data cannot be updated

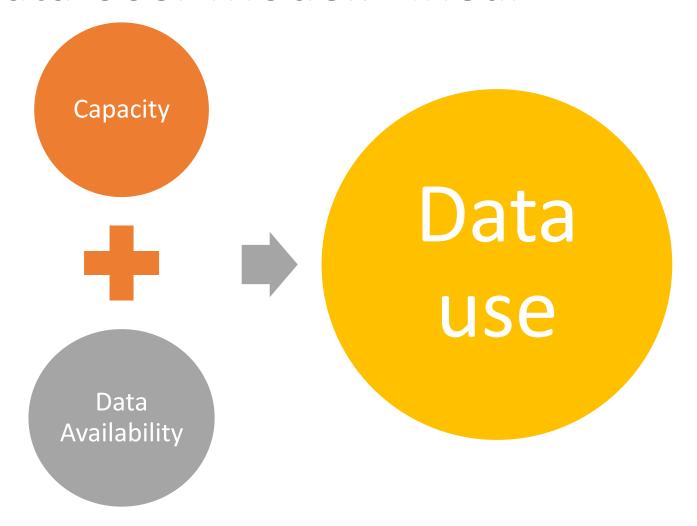


# Climate Justice Fund Water Futures Programme





#### Data User Model: Linear



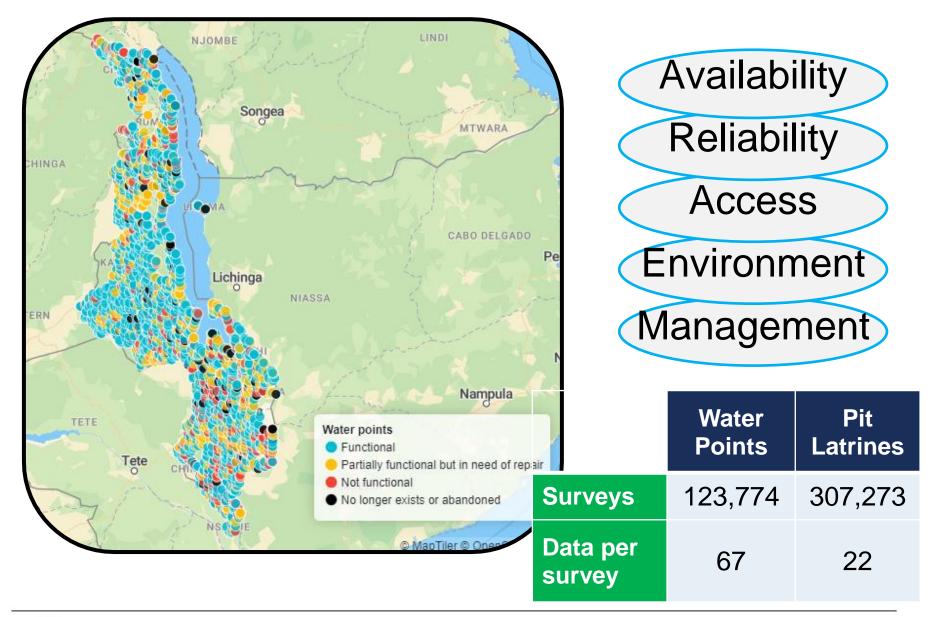


## Our Approach

- CJF *Academic Phase* (SG-funded)
- Phased approach 2017 2020
- Used the data management system, mWater
- Multi-partnership collaboration btwn civil society, government & private sector
- Updated inventory of water assets: Malawi Water Asset Management Information Systems

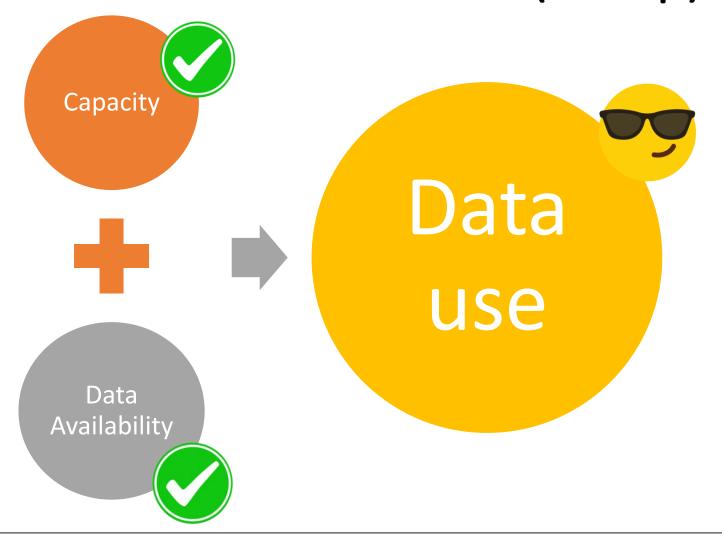








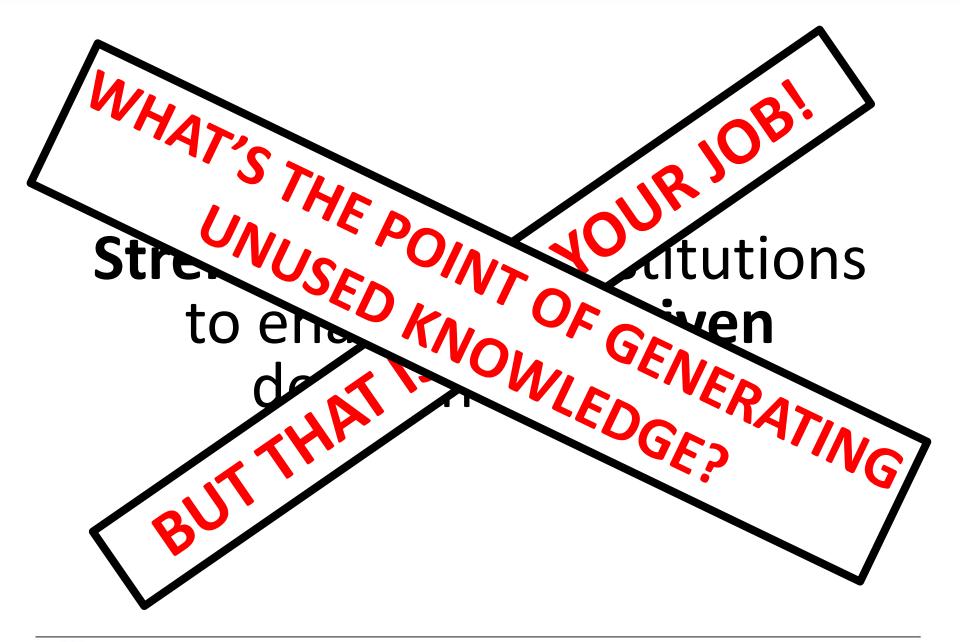
## Data User Model: Linear (Recap)





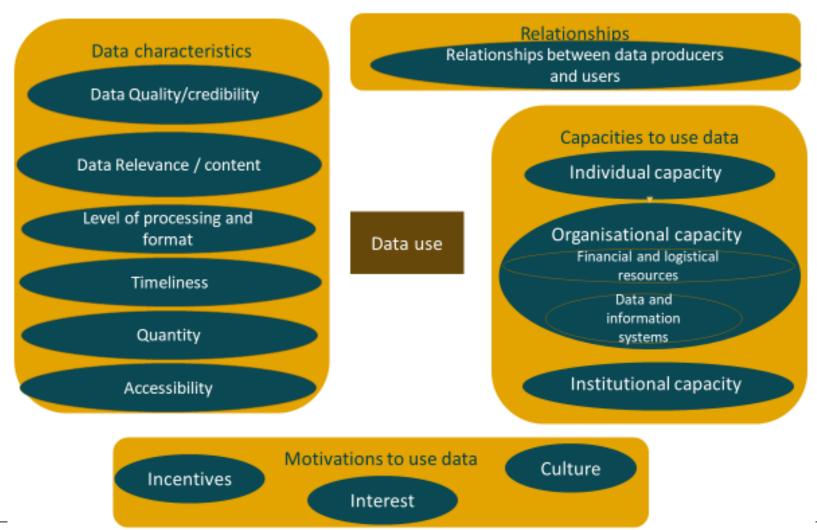
# Enable data-driven decisionmaking to strengthen state institutions







#### Data Use Model: Systems





Source: Adank M, 2019

#### **Lessons** & Realizations

 Data response shaped in our own image (is 'future-proofing' solving problems that haven't happened yet?)

 Mismatch between state and non-state timelines resulted in 'support' being perceived as 'control' –

A conducive data culture was not in place

Flexible and patient finance is crucial

 Different competencies for different stages of institutional strengthening (<u>academia</u> can't do everything!)





Previous attempts: why did they fail?

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   Too complicated
- 3. Cost too mu
- 4. No-one نو
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