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Interactive comment on “Living with climate change: avoiding conflict through adaptation in Malawi” by H. Jørstad and C. Webersik

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Thank you very much for your invaluable and extensive comments. We have substantially revised and re-written the article with respect to your comments (Please see attached revised article).

General comments:

Aim and research questions: As suggested we have now introduced research questions to better reflect the overall purpose of the article.

Structure and focus: Large sections of the paper have been re-written and edited to improve the structure, in particular to separate results (section 4 and 5) from the discussion (section 6). To do so, we have included also a scientific section on climate

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variability to contrast this with local perceptions of change. Moreover, and as suggested, we have made better use of the empirical material, and included direct quotes from the interview material.

Methodology: This was a weakness, and we added an entire section on methodology that also makes reference to research ethics, and includes some more information about LCBCCAP.

Emphasis on conflict: This particular issue has also been raised by the another anonymous reviewer, and we took this very serious. We now focus the paper on adaptation and its limitations with special reference to the case study, in order to make the paper more coherent and to pay credit to the empirical material. In a nutshell, we discuss what the empirical material offers and what not. This has led to substantial editing throughout the paper, with some of the sections being omitted. Some of this has also been mentioned in the specific comments sections of the review.

Specific comments: Most important, we are extremely grateful for the rigorous and diligent work of the review, addressing the specific and even technical issues of the paper. Overall, we do agree with all of the specific and technical corrections and other comments, and tried to address them to a satisfactory level.

More specifically, we have focused in the conclusions on livelihood diversification as an adaptation strategy, improved the methods section, and better linked the introduction and conclusions with the empirical material. At times, where it became necessary, we added relevant references and one figure. We reduced text (with regard to climate change adaption) where necessary, made most parts more clear, and eliminated whole sections (to improve the focus and structure of the paper).

We hope you find our review satisfactory, and look forward to further additions and comments. Once again, your review is greatly appreciated and has substantially improved the paper.

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Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.earth-syst-dynam-discuss.net/6/C1319/2016/esdd-6-C1319-2016-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Dynam. Discuss., 6, 2417, 2015.

ESDD

6, C1319–C1321, 2016

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