The data content of this paper is related to the original research article entitled "Vegetation Structure and Effects of Human Use of the Dambo Ecosystem in Northern Mozambique" that was published in the Global Ecology and Conservation. Woody and grass vegetation was inventoried in the dambos wetlands of the Niassa National Reserve (NNR), the largest Protected Area (PA) in Mozambique and the third largest in Africa. The six dambos assessed were selected through Google Earth, MODIS satellite images and exploratory field visits. The selected dambos were surveyed using a two-stage systematic sampling procedure in which woody vegetation was inventoried by means of transects, and the grass was inventoried using quadratic sub-plots laid down within the transects. The woody vegetation survey included the identification of all species.
individuals to the species level, measurement of total height and diameter at breast height (DBH). The grass vegetation survey consisted of measurement of the total height and species identification within sub-plots. Woody vegetation data in this article includes also estimation of total richness, absolute and relative abundance, dominance, frequency, species volume and successional stage of each species in the vertical structure. Estimation of richness and absolute dominance is also presented for the grass vegetation.

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1. Data

Information of the grass species, that includes species richness and absolute (Ab) dominance in each dambo and the whole ecosystem of dambos assessed, is provided in the Table 1. Table 2 presents detailed information related to the species and families of woody vegetation. Woody vegetation data, includes estimation of absolute and relative abundance (Ab and Ar), dominance (Da and Dr), frequency
Table 1
Species richness and absolute dominance of the grass vegetation in the dambos. Species richness that is the total number of species assessed in each dambo is in the last line. The total in the lines, is the number of individuals per species, while in the last column, is the total number of individual grass of each dambo.

| Dambos | No | Species | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Total |
|--------|----|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| 1      | Alloteropsis semialata | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 16 |
| 2      | Andropogon appendiculatus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 15 |
| 3      | Andropogon eucomus | 182 | 139 | 435 | 253 | 347 | 25 | 1381 |
| 4      | Andropogon gayanus | 133 | 99 | 249 | 26 | 49 | 0 | 154 | 710 |
| 5      | Andropogon hailliensis | 0 | 28 | 0 | 44 | 88 | 0 | 0 | 160 |
| 6      | Andropogon schirensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 13 |
| 7      | Anthephora pubescens | 0 | 9 | 0 | 34 | 22 | 0 | 65 |
| 8      | Aristida adscensionis | 98 | 37 | 38 | 141 | 29 | 74 | 417 |
| 9      | Aristida canescens | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 12 |
| 10     | Aristida congesta | 17 | 28 | 51 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 78 | 182 |
| 11     | Aristida diffusa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 8 |
| 12     | Aristida junciformis | 122 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 296 | 418 |
| 13     | Aristida meridionalis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24 | 24 |
| 14     | Aristida stipitata | 0 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 |
| 15     | Cenchrus ciliaris | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 46 | 0 | 156 | 202 |
| 16     | Chrysopogon serratulus | 28 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 71 | 120 |
| 17     | Ctenium concinnum | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| 18     | Cymbopogon excavatus | 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 28 | 47 |
| 19     | Cymbopogon plumosus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 26 |
| 20     | Cymbopogon validus | 0 | 73 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 38 | 125 |
| 21     | Digitaria eriantha | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 65 | 78 |
| 22     | Digitaria monodactyla | 1 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 27 | 83 | 130 |
| 23     | Ehrharta erecta | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| 24     | Elionurus muticus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 12 |
| 25     | Emarthria altissima | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 61 | 61 |
| 26     | Enteropogon macrostachyus | 7 | 7 | 0 | 29 | 13 | 21 | 77 |
| 27     | Eragrostis capensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24 | 0 | 0 | 24 |
| 28     | Eragrostis ciliaris | 44 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 44 |
| 29     | Eragrostis pseudosclerantha | 0 | 7 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 18 |
| 30     | Eragrostis racemosa | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| 31     | Eragrostis rigidior | 48 | 47 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 42 | 148 |
| 32     | Eragrostis teichophora | 16 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 32 |
| 33     | Eragrostis vescosa | 26 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 64 |
| 34     | Erharta erecta | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| 35     | Helictotrichon turgidulum | 178 | 44 | 259 | 132 | 353 | 31 | 997 |
| 36     | Hemarthria altissima | 0 | 0 | 0 | 35 | 0 | 19 | 54 |
| 37     | Heteropogon contortus | 68 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39 | 59 | 166 |
| 38     | Heteropogon macrostachyus | 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 28 |
| 39     | Heteropogon contortu | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| 40     | Hyparrhenia cymbaria | 44 | 93 | 0 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 114 | 285 |
| 41     | Hyparrhenia filipendula | 100 | 274 | 39 | 28 | 19 | 195 | 655 |
| 42     | Hyparrhenia hirta | 132 | 161 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 103 | 396 |
| 43     | Hyparrhenia tamba | 20 | 84 | 0 | 11 | 75 | 50 | 240 |
| 44     | Hyperthelia dissolata | 57 | 261 | 186 | 0 | 241 | 72 | 779 |
| 45     | Imperata cylindrica | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 19 |
| 46     | Koeleria capensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 8 |
| 47     | Monocymbium cerosiforme | 10 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 19 | 60 | 107 |
| 48     | Panicum coloratum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 26 |
| 49     | Panicum maximum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 | 29 |
| 50     | Panicum natalensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 6 | 18 |
| 51     | Panicum schinzi | 4 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 26 |
| 52     | Pennisetum macrostrum | 71 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 80 | 151 |
| 53     | Pennisetum sphacelatum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 14 |
| 54     | Pentaschistis natalensis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| 55     | Pentaschistis pallida | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| 56     | Schizachyrium jeffreysii | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 14 | 50 | 75 |
| 57     | Schizachyrium sanguineum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 45 | 53 |

(continued on next page)
Table 1 (continued)

| Dambos | Species                      | No 1 | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | Total |
|--------|------------------------------|------|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| 58     | *Setaria pallide-fusca*     | 0    | 0  | 89 | 19 | 70 | 31 | 209   |
| 59     | *Setaria sphacelata*        | 0    | 18 | 0  | 26 | 0  | 6  | 50    |
| 60     | *Setaria verticillata*      | 0    | 0  | 0  | 0  | 4  | 4  |       |
| 61     | *Sorghum bicolor*           | 0    | 0  | 0  | 0  | 7  | 6  |       |
| 62     | *Sorghum versicolor*        | 0    | 0  | 0  | 0  | 9  | 7  |       |
| 63     | *Sporobolus africanus*      | 0    | 0  | 0  | 24 | 35 | 23 | 82    |
| 64     | *Sporobolus festivus*       | 0    | 0  | 0  | 0  | 5  | 5  |       |
| 65     | *Sporobolus fimbriatus*     | 0    | 0  | 0  | 24 | 0  | 12 | 36    |
| 66     | *Sporobolus panicoides*     | 0    | 0  | 0  | 0  | 2  | 7  |       |
| 67     | *Sporobolus firmiatus*      | 0    | 0  | 0  | 0  | 5  | 5  |       |
| 68     | *Stenotaphrum secundatum*   | 0    | 16 | 0  | 19 | 187| 41 | 311   |
| 69     | *Themeda triandra*          | 0    | 0  | 0  | 0  | 84 | 84 |       |
| 70     | *Trachypogon spicatus*      | 64   | 0  | 0  | 19 | 23 | 70 | 464   |
| 71     | *Tragus berteronianus*      | 6    | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 6     |
| 72     | *Tristachya leucothrix*     | 0    | 0  | 0  | 0  | 13 | 28 |       |
| 73     | *Urelytrum agropyroide*     | 32   | 10 | 34 | 23 | 55 | 73 |       |

Species richness: 32 24 10 34 23 55 73
Total: 1592 1653 1364 1283 1743 2606 10203

Table 2

Description of the vertical and horizontal structure of the six dambos assessed in the Niassa National Reserve. Variables describe the vertical structure, including the percentage of trees in the lower, middle and upper. While in the horizontal structure are abundance, dominance, frequency and Importance Value Index (IVI).

| Family          | No Specie | Abundance | Dominance | Frequency | % of Tree/Strata | Volume |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|--------|
|                |           | (n)       | Da (m²/ha) | Dr (%)    | Fa (%)           | IVI    |
|                |           |           |           |           | Lower Middle Upper | m³/ha  |

Anacardiaceae
1. *Ozoroa concolor* 19 0.35 0.01 0.10 6.90 0.63 0.00 84.21 15.79 0.05 1.08
2. *Ozoroa paniculosa* 7 0.13 0.00 0.00 5.17 0.47 28.57 71.43 0.00 0.00 0.60
3. *Ozoroa sphaerocarpa* 2 0.04 0.00 0.00 1.72 0.16 0.00 100.00 0.00 0.00 0.20

Annonaceae
4. *Annona senegalensis* 514 9.42 0.16 1.84 79.31 7.28 0.97 97.86 1.17 1.18 18.54
5. *Antidesma venosum* 69 1.27 0.01 0.07 12.07 1.11 1.45 98.55 0.00 0.03 2.44
6. *Artabotrys monteiroae* 12 0.22 0.03 0.29 5.17 0.47 0.00 83.33 16.67 0.24 0.98
7. *Cleistochlamys kirkii* 1 0.02 0.00 0.02 1.72 0.16 0.00 100.00 0.02 0.20
8. *Friesodielsia obovata* 1 0.02 0.00 0.01 1.72 0.16 0.00 100.00 0.00 0.01 0.19
9. *Xylopia parvi flora* 2 0.04 0.00 0.00 1.72 0.16 0.00 100.00 0.00 0.00 0.20

Apocynaceae
10. *Diplorhynchus condylocarpon* 272 4.99 0.10 0.12 37.93 3.45 3.31 93.75 2.94 0.63 9.59

Asteraceae
11. *Vernonia colorata* 2 0.04 0.00 0.00 1.72 0.16 0.00 100.00 0.00 0.00 0.20

Burséraceae
12. *Albizia forbesii* 9 0.17 0.06 0.66 6.90 0.63 33.33 66.67 0.82 1.46
13. *Albizia tanganyicensis* 7 0.13 0.03 0.40 1.72 0.16 0.00 71.43 28.57 0.47 0.69
14. *Bauhinia petersiana* 9 0.17 0.00 0.04 1.72 0.16 0.00 100.00 0.00 0.00 0.36
15. *Brachystegia boehmii* 4 0.07 0.09 1.07 5.17 0.47 0.00 25.00 75.00 1.32 1.62
16. *Brachystegia utilis* 97 1.78 0.21 2.46 27.59 2.53 7.22 75.26 17.53 2.61 6.77

Caesalpinaceae
17. *Dalbergia melanoxylon* 5 0.09 0.04 0.01 1.72 0.16 0.00 100.00 0.00 0.00 0.20
18. *Julbernardia globiflora* 9 0.17 0.03 0.39 8.62 0.79 11.11 44.44 44.44 0.44 1.35
19. *Pyrostegma toningii* 4 0.07 0.00 0.03 1.72 0.16 0.00 100.00 0.00 0.00 0.27

Capparaceae
20. *Boscia mossambicensis* 20 0.37 0.02 0.25 6.90 0.63 0.00 50.00 50.00 0.67 0.84
21. *Maerua angolensis* 5 0.09 0.00 0.04 1.72 0.16 0.00 100.00 0.00 0.00 0.27
22. *Maerua schinzii* 32 0.59 0.02 0.19 5.17 0.47 0.00 90.63 9.38 0.15 1.26
23. *Gymnoporia mosambicensis* 13 0.24 0.00 0.22 5.17 0.47 0.00 100.00 0.00 0.01 0.74

Celastraceae
24. *A.A. Mbanze et al. / Data in brief 26 (2019) 104454*
| Family           | N°  | Specie                  | Ab (n) | Ar (%) | Da (m²/ha) | Dr (%) | Fa (%) | Fr (%) | % of Tree/Strata | Volume VI  |
|------------------|-----|-------------------------|--------|--------|------------|--------|--------|--------|----------------|------------|
| Ebenaceae        | 52  | Diospyros kirkii         | 13.24  | 0.02   | 0.02       | 10.34  | 0.05   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 23.08      |
|                  | 53  | Diospyros lyoides        | 7      | 0.02   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 54  | Diospyros natalensis     | 7      | 0.03   | 0.02       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 55  | Diospyros usambarensis   | 3      | 0.06   | 0.02       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 56  | Diospyros villosa        | 5      | 0.09   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
| Euphorbiaceae    | 57  | Bridelia cathartica      | 7      | 0.13   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 58  | Hymenocardia acida       | 101    | 1.85   | 0.03       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 2.27       |
|                  | 59  | Margaritaria discoidea   | 206    | 3.78   | 0.14       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 60  | Phyllanthus reticulatus  | 35     | 0.64   | 0.01       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 61  | Pseudolachnostylis       | 392    | 7.19   | 0.45       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
| Fabaceae         | 62  | Spirostachys africanus   | 7.01   | 0.03   | 0.03       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 63  | Burkea africana          | 55.1   | 1.08   | 0.28       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 64  | Cassia abbreviata        | 4      | 0.07   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 65  | Dichrostachys cinerea    | 14.26  | 0.26   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 66  | Indigofera jacundu       | 10     | 0.18   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 67  | Indigofera hylli         | 48.88  | 0.88   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 68  | Mombulina sericea        | 8      | 0.15   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 69  | Pericopsis angolensis     | 22.40  | 0.40   | 0.01       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 70  | Pilostigma thompingii    | 45     | 0.83   | 0.01       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 71  | Pterocarpus angolensis   | 11     | 0.20   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 72  | Senna petersiana         | 40.73  | 0.73   | 0.01       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 73  | Sesbania punicea          | 9      | 0.17   | 0.01       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 74  | Swartzia madagascariensis| 111    | 2.04   | 0.04       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
| Flacourtiae      | 75  | Doxylalis zeyheri        | 8      | 0.15   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 76  | Flacourtia indica        | 35     | 0.64   | 0.01       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
| Lamiaceae        | 77  | Vitex doniana            | 121    | 2.22   | 0.06       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 78  | Vitex obovata            | 62.14  | 1.04   | 0.21       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 79  | Vitex payos              | 23.42  | 0.42   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
| Loganiaceae      | 80  | Anthocelesta grandiflora| 6      | 0.10   | 0.09       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 81  | Styrcnhus decussatus     | 3      | 0.06   | 0.04       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 82  | Styrcnhus madagascariensis| 3   | 0.06   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 83  | Styrcnhus pungens        | 1      | 0.02   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
| Meliaceae        | 84  | Ekebergia capensis       | 2      | 0.04   | 0.01       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
| Mimosaceae       | 85  | Acacia xanthophloea      | 1      | 0.02   | 0.00       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 86  | Amblygonocarpus andongensis| 18   | 0.33   | 0.03       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
| Moraceae         | 87  | Ficus nigrescens         | 2      | 0.04   | 0.06       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
|                  | 88  | Ficus sycomorus          | 2      | 0.04   | 0.12       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
| Myrtaceae        | 89  | Syzygium cordatum        | 607    | 11.13  | 3.87       | 1.72   | 0.01   | 0.00   | 100.00         | 1.72       |
The six dambos sampled in this study were selected using Google Earth and MODIS satellite images. After the identification of the dambos, an exploratory field trip was made to verify whether the candidate dambos were appropriate for the establishment of the survey plots. The selection was required to offer a representative sample size and proximity to the Mbatamila Center Office of the Reserve, due to budget constraints and poor road access. A preliminary, basic characterization was conducted in each dambo, which consisted of assessing the occurrence of fire in the last two years, shifting cultivation (Sc), artisanal fishing (Af), soils and vegetation characteristics, seasonal water (Sw) and representativeness of each species in the vertical strata. Importance Value Index (IVI), was also computed in order to have a broader picture of the position of each species in the structure of the dambos [1,2].

Table 3 presented the location and the general characterization of all dambos assessed. While in the Fig. 1, represents the sampling scheme used to collect data on trees, shrub and grass and vegetation in the main transects and subplots respectively.

2. Experimental design, materials and methods

The six dambos sampled in this study were selected using Google Earth and MODIS satellite images. After the identification of the dambos, an exploratory field trip was made to verify whether the candidate dambos were appropriate for the establishment of the survey plots. The selection was required to offer a representative sample size and proximity to the Mbatamila Center Office of the Reserve, due to budget constraints and poor road access. A preliminary, basic characterization was conducted in each dambo, which consisted of assessing the occurrence of fire in the last two years, shifting cultivation (Sc), artisanal fishing (Af), soils and vegetation characteristics, seasonal water (Sw) and

| Family | No. Specie | Abundance | Dominance | Frequency | % of Tree/Strata | Volume | IVI |
|--------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|--------|-----|
| Ab (n) | Ar (%)     | Da (m²/ha)| Dr (%)    | Fa (%)    | Fr (%)          | Lower | Middle | Upper | m³/ha | 107.91 | 300.00 |
| 90     | Syzygium guineense | 171 | 3.14 | 0.37 | 4.24 | 18.97 | 1.74 | 3.51 | 78.95 | 17.54 | 4.92 | 9.12 |
| 91     | Ximenia americana | 4 | 0.07 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 3.45 | 0.32 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.42 |
| 92     | Ximenia caffra | 12 | 0.22 | 0.01 | 0.11 | 5.17 | 0.47 | 0.00 | 91.67 | 8.33 | 0.07 | 0.80 |
| 93     | Pittosporum viridiflorum | 6 | 0.11 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 1.72 | 0.16 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.30 |
| 94     | Protea saligna | 12 | 0.22 | 0.01 | 0.13 | 3.45 | 0.32 | 0.00 | 66.67 | 33.33 | 0.11 | 0.66 |
| 95     | Protea nitida | 604 | 11.07 | 0.05 | 0.62 | 15.52 | 1.42 | 6.29 | 93.71 | 0.00 | 0.22 | 13.12 |
| 96     | Ziziphus mucronata | 3 | 0.06 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 3.45 | 0.32 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.42 |
| 97     | Vangueria cyanescens | 8 | 0.15 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 3.45 | 0.32 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.49 |
| 98     | Burchellia bubalina | 30 | 0.55 | 0.06 | 0.66 | 6.90 | 0.63 | 0.00 | 63.33 | 36.67 | 0.75 | 1.85 |
| 99     | Canthium gillifanii | 10 | 0.18 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 3.45 | 0.32 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.53 |
| 100    | Crossopteryx febrifuga | 207 | 3.80 | 0.12 | 1.43 | 41.38 | 3.80 | 1.93 | 89.37 | 8.70 | 1.03 | 9.02 |
| 101    | Feretia aeruginascens | 3 | 0.06 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 1.72 | 0.16 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.26 |
| 102    | Gardenia ternifolia | 17 | 0.31 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 12.07 | 1.11 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 1.45 |
| 103    | Keetia gueinzii | 35 | 0.64 | 0.04 | 0.48 | 13.79 | 1.27 | 77.14 | 22.86 | 0.46 | 2.39 |
| 104    | Lagynias lasiantha | 2 | 0.04 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 1.72 | 0.16 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.22 |
| 105    | Vangueria infausta | 8 | 0.15 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 6.90 | 0.63 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.80 |
| 106    | Ptaeroxylon obliquum | 11 | 0.20 | 0.01 | 0.16 | 6.90 | 0.63 | 0.00 | 90.91 | 9.09 | 0.17 | 1.00 |
| 107    | Dodonaea angustifolia | 5 | 0.09 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 1.72 | 0.16 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.26 |
| 108    | Manilkara mochisia | 13 | 0.24 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 3.45 | 0.32 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.57 |
| 109    | Rhoicissus tridentata | 6 | 0.11 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.72 | 0.16 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.27 |
| TOTAL  | 5454 | 100.00 | 8.70 | 100.00 | 1089.66 | 100.00 | NA | NA | 107.91 | 300.00 |

Table 3 Location and characterization of the dambos assessed in the Niassa National Reserve, northern Mozambique.

| Dambo Location | Latitude S | Longitude E | Elevation (m) | Characteristics |
|----------------|------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Mbatamila center | 12° 10'48.60" | 37° 32'19.00" | 451 | Sc and Sw |
| Kiboko | 12° 25'50.81" | 37° 40'11.97" | 284 | Sc and Sw |
| Kuchiranga | 12° 25'09.52" | 37° 39'57.22" | 290 | Sc and Pw |
| Nyate Junction | 12° 08'26.72" | 37° 34'41.63" | 450 | Pw |
| Matondovela Junction (10 km from Mbatamila) | 12° 08'19.34" | 37° 32'05.31" | 421 | Af and Pw |
| Matondovela Junction (25 km from Mbatamila) | 12° 09'06.53" | 37° 28'13.78" | 482 | Af and Pw |

Characteristics: Sc — shifting cultivation, Sw — seasonal water, Pw — permanent water, Af — artisanal fishing.
Table 3 presents detailed information regarding the location and characteristics of the selected dambos. The occurrence of grass vegetation was dominant in all dambos, which is a defining characteristic of these ecosystems, as described in the literature [3]. Fire also occurred in all dambos in the recent years.

Data were collected using a two-stage systematic sampling procedure. In the first stage, tree and shrub vegetation information was collected in transects of 100 x 10 m (0.1 ha), established perpendicularly to the length of the dambo. The center of the plot was marked after identifying the bottom of the dambo in the middle of the transect, extending 50 m to each side. Because the distance between transects within the dambos was 300 m, the number of transects established in each dambo varied, depending on the dambo’s size. In total, 58 transects were established and surveyed. In a second stage, grass vegetation was counted, height measured and collected for later identification in six square subplots of 0.25m² (50 x 50 cm), established within the main transects, according to Tito et al. (2009) [4]. The distance between each pair of subplots was about 15 m. Thus, a total of 336 subplots were established in all transects (see Fig. 1).

The tree heights were measured with the support of a hypsometric bar and Vertex when necessary, whereas the diameters (dbh and D) were measured with a measuring tape. Subsequently, each stem was identified to species and family and recorded in the field, based on authoritative field guides to trees of southern Africa [5] and the grasses of southern Africa [6]. For the species that were difficult to identify in the field, samples were collected for later identification by a botanist.

The successional stage of each species in the vertical structure was analyzed according to its position, by dividing the forest canopy in three main strata, namely: lower, middle and upper, based on the variable height (h), according to the following equation: lower (us) h_1 < (\bar{h} - S), middle (ms) (\bar{h} - S) ≤ h_j < (\bar{h} + S) and upper (us) h_j ≥ (\bar{h} + S), where \bar{h} is the mean height of all trees in a given sample, S is the standard deviation of h in a given sample and h_j is the total height of j-th individual tree. According to Hosokawa et al. (2008) [1], a given species is well placed in the forest when it is well represented in all forest strata, with a large proportion of trees in the lower stratum. More information regarding the data collection and analysis is provided in Mbanze et al. (2019) [7].
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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could influence the work reported in this paper.

Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2019.104454.

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