

Our previous projects

Good governance and accountability are critical ingredients that underpin effective development efforts at all levels including national, sub-national and community-level. Governance and accountability are linked to the achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). AFIDEP's work seeks to strengthen all levels of governance structures in efforts to contribute to more effective development efforts.

Some projects that AFIDEP undertook under Governance and Accountability

Malawi Parliament Enhancement Project (MPEP)

The project combined interventions that engaged and shaped the power relations, incentives, and influences within and outside parliament, to enhance Malawi Parliament's performance.

01



Malawi Parliamentary Support Initiative (M-PSI)

The project improved the capacity and performance of the Malawi Parliament in carrying out its oversight, legislative, and representation functions.

02



03

Evidence Leaders in Africa project (ELA)

The project expanded leadership capacity for the use of evidence in policy formulation and implementation by African governments.

04

Evidence for Development Project (EviDev)

This project improved the uptake of research and related evidence in decision-making processes in government ministries and parliaments in Africa.



05

Malawi Priorities Project (MPP)

The project helped the government of Malawi to determine policy priorities so as to do more with funds that the country spends.



About AFIDEP

AFIDEP is an African-led, pan-African non-profit research and policy institute, established in 2010 to institutionalise a culture of evidence use in the public sector and to bridge the gaps between research, policy and practice in development efforts in Africa. AFIDEP is registered as a Non-Governmental Organisation in Kenya and Malawi and as a non-profit institution in the USA, with 501(c)3 status.

AFIDEP contributes to the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other development strategies by enabling the use of evidence in the formulation and implementation of development policies and programmes.

What we do:

- ▶ Strengthen capacity in evidence-informed decision-making (EIDM)
- ▶ Generate, synthesize and translate demand-driven evidence on SDGs 3,4,5,13, and 16
- ▶ Conduct advocacy to stimulate evidence uptake
- ▶ Elevate African voices in national and global discourses

AFIDEP implements work in following six thematic areas:

- ▶ Population dynamics and demographic dividend
- ▶ Health and well-being
- ▶ Transformative education and skills development
- ▶ Environment and climate change
- ▶ Governance and accountability
- ▶ Gender equality

“Africa's growth will largely depend on the increased use of evidence in ensuring that critical development sectors receive requisite resources to address challenges and steer meaningful development.”

Eliya Zulu Ph.D
Executive Director,
AFIDEP

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GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Our Approach

AFIDEP work on governance and accountability has primarily been with African parliaments to institutionalise strategies that enable them to improve their oversight, representative and legislative functions. We now seek to step up this work by strengthening capacity for evidence-informed decision-making as a mechanism for enhancing better governance and accountability in service delivery and use of public resources.

Our governance and accountability programme acknowledges the importance of the intersecting gender equality issues in governance. We do this by:



Optimising the effectiveness of African parliaments in enhancing democratic governance and accountability, through their legislative, oversight and representation roles.



Improving the capacity and functionality of sub-national and national governments for better decision-making.



Enhancing the role of non-state actors (media, NGOs, CSOs, the private sector and FBOs) in ensuring good governance and accountability.

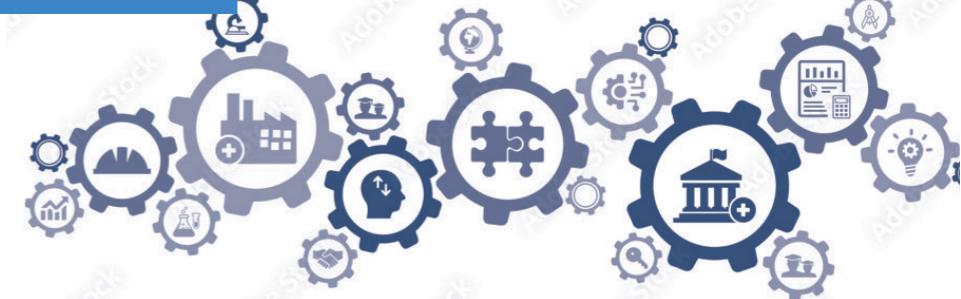


Women in decision-making positions to increase women presentation in political spheres and accountability to regional and national commitments to gender equality.

Implementation of our work

Our work in governance and has seen us:

1. Improve the capacity and performance of the Parliament of Malawi in carrying out its oversight, legislative, and representation functions. We developed parliament staff's capacity through training and mentorship in budget analysis and financial scrutiny, and legislative research. We then worked with staff to develop manuals for bill drafting and legislative research to strengthen support systems and institutionalise a culture of evidence-informed budget analysis, financial scrutiny, and policymaking in parliament.
2. Provide support to parliament to inspire positive political behaviour and reforms, and strengthen capacity, to improve the performance of the Malawi Parliament. As a result we:
 - 3. Strengthened parliamentary committee systems following the adoption of the use of annual work plans and monitoring and evaluation framework to track committee performance.



3. Supported the establishment of the Parliament's budget office.
3. Support Parliament to draft wide-ranging autonomy reform bills (financial, administrative, and legislative autonomy). In 2018, Parliament adopted the report that proposed the reform bills. In 2021, the Parliament passed the Constitutional and Parliamentary Service amendment bills that will enhance the Parliament's independence in discharging its core functions of oversight, legislation, and representation. The President assented the bills.

3. Supported the Government of Malawi to determine priority policy options to maximise social and economic benefits of all investments based on economic, social and environmental cost-benefit analyses. Twenty three cost-benefit analyses were conducted and published.

AFIDEP supported the conceptualisation, evidence review, packaging and stakeholder engagement which led to changes made in policy implementation. The project was implemented in partnership with the Copenhagen Consensus Center and the Malawi National Planning Commission (NPC).



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