

# Malawi Parliament Enhancement Project



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Parliament has an important role in any country's development efforts because of its central function in enabling democratic governance through oversight, legislation, and representation of people's interests. Recent assessments of the performance of the Parliament of Malawi have revealed various challenges that undermine the performance of Parliament in fulfilling these functions.

The Malawi Parliament Enhancement Project (MPEP) seeks to **stimulate reforms to improve the effectiveness and impact of Parliament in steering democratic and accountable governance and socioeconomic development in Malawi**. The project will stimulate supportive partnership between Parliament and the other two arms of government (the Executive and the Judiciary), and strengthen the capacity of parliamentarians, parliamentary committees, and the Parliament Secretariat in discharging their functions.

The Parliament of Malawi will steer the implementation of the project, drawing on local and international experiences and expertise in governance and evidence-informed development. The project will run for three years, from December 2017 to November 2020.

## Expected Outcomes

### 1. Improved functionality of the Parliament of Malawi

The project will work primarily with top leadership organs in the Parliament of Malawi including the Business Committee, the Parliamentary Service Commission, political party leaders, Members of Parliament, and leaders outside Parliament. The focus will be to facilitate dialogue and reforms to cultivate supportive partnership between Parliament, the Executive, and the Judiciary; foster effective leadership; and enhance Parliament's operational capacity.

### 2. Enhanced technical capacity and operational efficiency of the Parliament of Malawi in fulfilling its core functions

The project will design and implement various interventions aimed at strengthening the capacity of parliamentarians and the Secretariat and its staff in supporting parliamentarians and parliamentary committees in fulfilling their oversight, legislative and representation functions.

## Partners

The Malawi Parliament Enhancement Project is funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Malawi. The project is implemented through a partnership involving the Parliament of Malawi and the African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP).



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