

OPENGOV WEEK

2024 Lilongwe, Malawi





ANTI-CORRUPTION

Open Contracting and Beneficial Ownership
Transparency





Implement the Companies (Beneficial Ownership) Regulations, 2022

Issue a public notice reiterating the compliance requirement

Assess and verify companies' compliance with the Beneficial Ownership Regulations, 2022

Publish a bi-annual list of compliant companies

Map legal provisions to develop public service announcement materials

Review whistleblowing and corrupt practices reporting mechanisms

Develop and revise Public Procurement Guidelines.





The Ombudsman (Amendment) Act passed by National Assembly in Dec 2023. Sections 12A and 12B provide for the protection of whistleblowers and informers



A Special Law Commission on Whistleblower Protection legislation has been established



Beneficial Ownership Regulations, 2022 and Beneficial Ownership Form 1 gazetted.

The form is reflected in the MBRS and companies are being re-registered





Reviewed PPDA public procurement processes and associated forms to inform status reports



A vendor for the e-Government Procurement system (which incl. Open Contracting principles) was identified, and the contract signed in June 2023. Training rooms have been set up.

DIGITAL GOVERNANCE

Accelerating the adoption of egovernment and utilization of ICT among Malawians





Enhance
Government's
capacity to utilise
ICT in service
delivery

Align strategies to the National Digitalisation Policy

Lobby Cabinet to review, approve and operationalise the National Digitalisation Policy

Promote citizen use of ICT in accessing information for improved service delivery

7



- Enterprise Service Bus established and piloted in 11 MDAs
- Fast tracking the completion of Lilongwe Data Centre expected June 2024
- Technical Public Service Digital Skills Training 69 officers trained under the Digital
 Malawi Project and 112 officers trained under the DigiSMART training
- Deployed 14 Government applications and systems across 10 MDAs
- Establishment of Internet Exchange Point in Lilongwe and Mzuzu is underway expected June 2024
- Digital Economy Strategy approved by cabinet and will be launched together with the National Digitalization Policy
- Data Protection Bill, 2023 passed into law and assented to
- Completed training for lawyers and stakeholders on "Emerging Digital Technologies and Cyber Laws"
- Developed draft regulations for Electronic Transactions and Cyber Security





- National Digitalization Masterplan has been drafted
- Establishment of Government Computer Emergency Response Team in the Department of E-Government.



- Provision of free public WiFi to institutions 32 sites connected (including secondary schools and district hospitals)
- Provision of last mile connectivity in underserved areas 30 operational towers active across the 3 regions

NATURAL RESOURCES

Enhanced transparency in natural resource governance





Implement the Mines and Minerals Act, 2023

Publish the list of registered, licensed, and operational mining companies

Analyse transparency challenges in mining contracts

Develop templates for committee briefs on mining contracts

Create a
Situational
Analysis
Report on
mining
contracts



Parliamentary
Committee on
Natural Resources
and Climate Change
on the Mines and
Minerals Act, 2023

Identifying new
Mining Cadastre
system developer
to align the system
data points to the
new legal
framework

Interim Mining
Regulatory
Authority
Secretariat Office
has been
established

Consulted MoFEA,
Open Ownership,
World Bank and
RGD for technical
support on
Beneficial
Ownership

A consultant, through MWEITI and the EU-CCD Project, has been engaged to conduct a BO register study

OPEN PARLIAMENT

Legislative oversight of public debt.





Strengthen **Hold consultative** Conduct a **Present report** Increase citizen scrutiny of public meetings with **Situational** findings and access to public finance MDAs and the **Analysis Report** conduct debt information consultations to **Parliamentary** management on public debt through public laws for **Budget and** and loan develop parliamentary **Finance** authorisation and templates for increased committee Committee to transparency and committee briefs hearings. responsive analyse on public debt budget and loan challenges in and loan authorisation public debt and authorisation Bills loan authorisations





Lobbying the Legal Affairs Committee to include specific procedural requirements for loan authorization bills within the Parliamentary Standing Orders.



Increased citizen access to public Parliamentary hearings via Parliament TV.



With support from National Democratic Institute, a consultant was engaged and is currently conducting the Situational Analysis.



Held sensitization meetings with the Committee of Chairpersons and Heads of Sections on the OGP and loan authorization bills.

RIGHT TO INFORMATION

Increasing public access to information on political party financing





Ensure recruitment of staff for the Office of Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP)

Carry out situational analysis and report on funding sources of registered political parties

Consult and develop fundraising guidelines on political party financing (i.e. procedures and report templates)

Develop guidelines and templates for political party financing information submission

Ensure ORPP requests a list of registered political parties for orientation on fundraising and disclosure guidelines

Implement orientation for guidelines on political party financing for registered parties.



2023

Consultations
between
DHRMD and the
Registrar
General

2023

Establishment warrant issued to Ministry of Justice

Jan 2024

Applicants shortlisted and interviewed

May 2024

Public
Appointments
Committee
confirms Dr. Kizito
Tenthani as RPP

<u>2022</u>

Establishment and structure of the ORPP is proposed

<u>2023</u>

Report on the structure of the ORPP is approved by OPC

Aug 2023

Post of the Registrar of Political Parties is advertised

Apr 2024

A successful candidate is appointed by the President