



OPEN GOV WEEK

2024

Lilongwe, Malawi



OPENGOV
WEEK

Open
Government
Partnership



ANTI-CORRUPTION

Open Contracting and
Beneficial Ownership
Transparency



COMMITMENTS



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.

PROGRESS



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**

PROGRESS



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 e-
government and utilization of
ICT
among Malawians



COMMITMENTS



1

Enhance Government's capacity to utilise ICT in service delivery

2

Align strategies to the National Digitalisation Policy

3

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

4

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

PROGRESS



1

- 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

2

- 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

PROGRESS



3

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

4

- 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**



COMMITMENTS



**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**

PROGRESS



**Briefed
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**

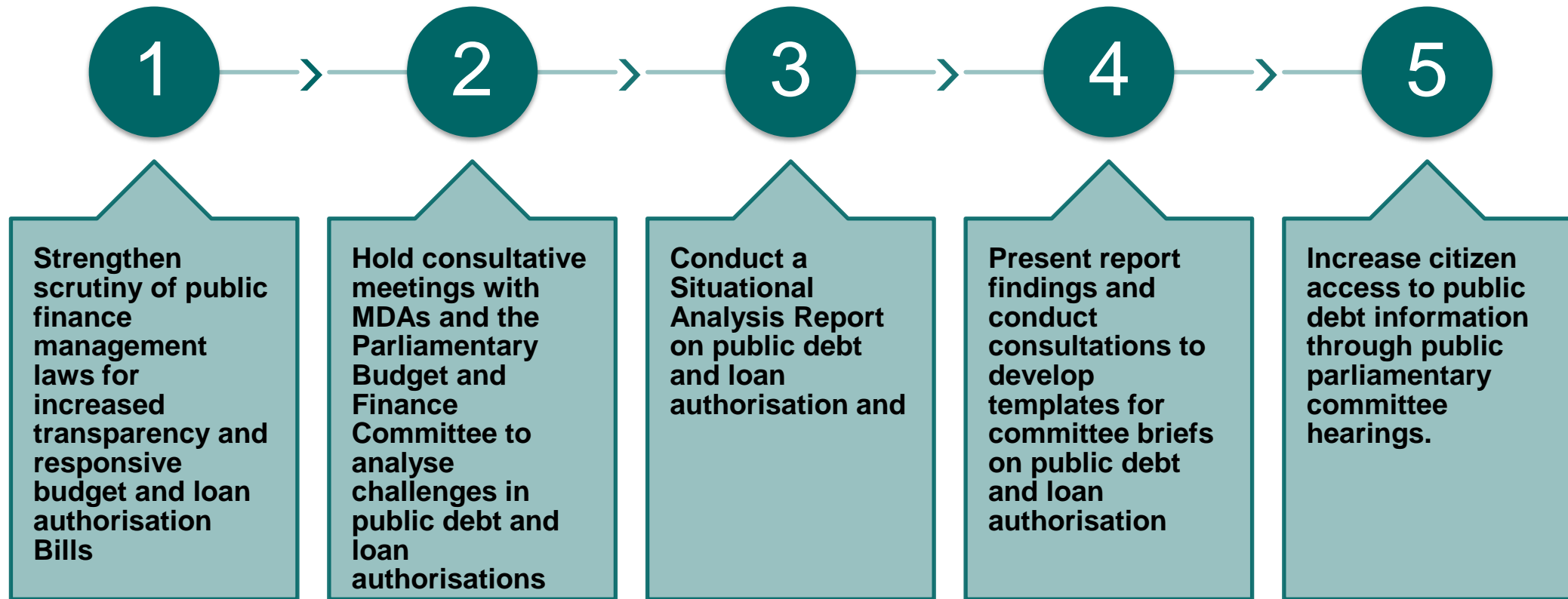
**A consultant,
through MWEITI
and the EU-CCD
Project, has been
engaged to conduct
a BO register study**

OPEN PARLIAMENT

Legislative oversight of public debt.



COMMITMENTS



PROGRESS



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**



COMMITMENTS



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.

PROGRESS

