

EVALUATION DEPARTMENT

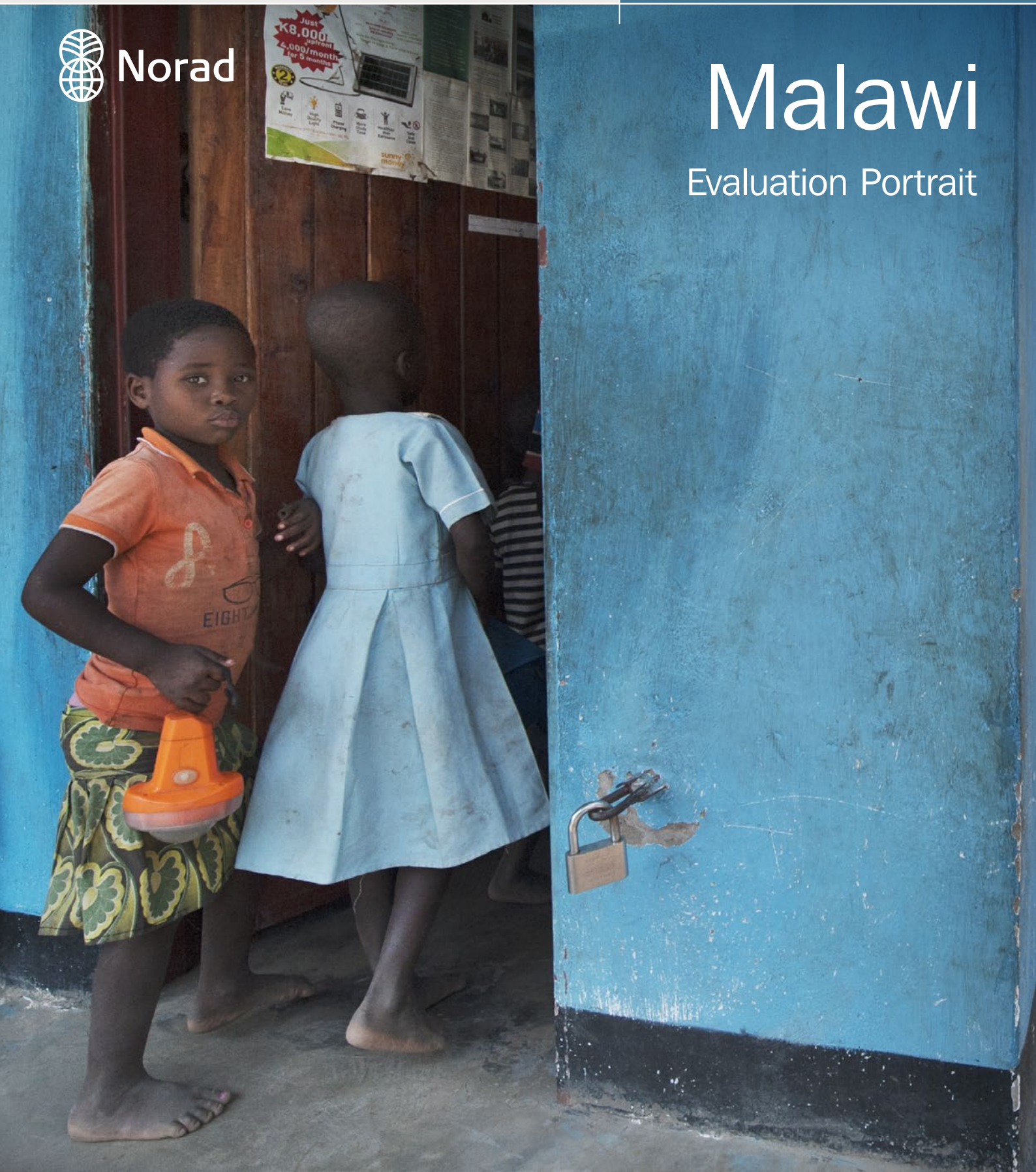
REPORT 4/2017 COUNTRY EVALUATION BRIEF



Norad

Malawi

Evaluation Portrait



Commissioned by
The Evaluation Department

Carried out by
Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI)

Written by
Inge Amundsen

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This report is the product of its author, and responsibility for the accuracy of data included in this report rests with the author alone. The findings, interpretations, and conclusions presented in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Evaluation Department.

Norad
Norwegian Agency for
Development Cooperation
www.norad.no
post-eval@norad.no

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2016

Title	<i>Accessing, staying and succeeding in basic education – UK aid’s support to marginalised girls</i>
Published	December 2016
Agency/author	The Independent Commission for Aid Impact (ICAI)
Commissioned by	UK aid
Type of evaluation	Formative evaluation (“A performance review”), programme level
Project period	2011 to 2015
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and services/education/bilateral/girls
Abstract	The review contains a literature review, a strategy review of DFID’s approach to supporting basic education for marginalised girls, and an assessment of DFID’s approach and portfolio through assessments of six countries (including six individual projects in Malawi). In Malawi, on the national level, there is gender parity in enrolment at the primary but not at the secondary level, and girls perform worse than boys in both primary and secondary exams. One project in Malawi, the <i>Keeping Girls in School</i> programme, supports a series of interventions to support girls in school, including increasing numbers of female teachers, bursaries and cash transfers, the provision of girls’ sanitation facilities, training Mother Groups to provide pastoral support to girls, and technical assistance to the Malawian government to strengthen its capacity to support girls’ education. Notwithstanding DFID’s long-term commitment to supporting girls’ education and marginalised girls’ education in particular, the evaluation found that DFID does not have a coherent strategy for addressing girls’ marginalisation in education, and that its various activities are not well joined up. Most DFID country education programmes were not pursuing system-wide change in relation to girls’ marginalisation. One notable exception was the Keeping Girls in School programme in Malawi, which planned to strengthen the education ministry’s strategy for girls’ education and effect change at both national and district government levels.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: some, gender: strong, environment and corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://icai.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/ICAI-review-Accessing-staying-and-succeeding-in-basic-education-UK-aids-support-to-marginalised-girls.pdf

Title	<i>Global Fund Grants to the Republic of Malawi</i>
Published	October 2016
Agency/author	Office of the Inspector General, Global Fund, Geneva
Commissioned by	The Global Fund
Type of evaluation	Summative evaluation, audit report
Project period	2014-2015
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and services/health/multilateral/ HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB and Health Systems Strengthening
Abstract	An audit of Global Fund grants in Malawi (with USD 837 million disbursed over 12 years) confirmed that there has been significant progress in the fight against the three diseases, particularly HIV and tuberculosis (TB). However, the malaria program has significant weaknesses related to vector control and case management: for example, a delay in a mass distribution of mosquito nets may have contributed to more malaria cases. The OIG also concluded that the supply chain needs significant improvement especially at the facility level. Poor record-keeping, inadequate facility-level storage, and weak accountability lead to unreliable stock controls and drug theft. An Office of the Inspector General (OIG) anti-corruption campaign called "I Speak Out Now!" was launched recently in partnership with USAID, the Ministry of Health and the Malawi Anti-Corruption Bureau. The campaign encourages Malawians to speak out about drug theft or abuse, particularly regarding malaria drugs. The information received through the hotlines has led to the police action, raids and arrests. The delays in a mass distribution of insecticide-treated nets, delivered during and after the peak malaria transmission season, may have contributed to an increased number of malaria cases. Malaria is still treated without confirmed diagnosis in health facilities and in communities. 60% of patients treated for malaria at health facilities are not tested and suspected malaria cases are reported without a confirmed diagnosis. Effective procurement and supply chain controls are essential for the Malawi portfolio. However, there are gaps in the supply chain system at the facility level which affect the country's ability to effectively store, account for and quality assure health commodities. Malaria medicines financed by international donors can be openly procured in public markets as a result of drug theft. There is also a low absorption rate of the grants and of the funds committed by the GoM. For instance, although the Government has committed funds to strengthen quarterly supportive supervision to monitor compliance with approved standards, they have not been utilised. Another example is the GoM allocation of USD 2.6 million to procure malaria rapid diagnosis tests for health facilities, which at the time of the audit, the Ministry of Health had not procured, leading to treatment without confirmed diagnosis.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty, gender, and environment: no, corruption: some
Link to evaluation	www.theglobalfund.org/documents/oig/reports/OIG_GF-OIG-16-024_Report_en

Title	<i>Evaluation of the Impact of Malaria Control Interventions on All-Cause Mortality in Children under Five Years of Age in Malawi</i>
Published	March 2016
Agency/author	USAID/Malawi Malaria Impact Evaluation Group
Commissioned by	USAID/US President's Malaria Initiative
Type of evaluation	Summative evaluation, project level
Project period	2000–2010
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and services/health/multilateral/malaria
Abstract	In Malawi, malaria is highly endemic with 95% of the country's population at risk of infection. Malaria is estimated to be responsible for 34% of all outpatient visits and for 40% of hospital deaths. It is the major cause for hospital admissions in children under five years of age. During the decade from 2000–2010, the Government of Malawi (GoM) and other international donors invested heavily in malaria control. This report was co-commissioned by the US President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) and Malawi's Ministry of Health (MoH) to report on the impact of these investments during the period 2000–2010. During the evaluation period, Malawi dramatically increased malaria control efforts at the national level, and efforts to improve case management were implemented at a sub-national level. In summary, it is likely that the decline in all-cause mortality among children under five years of age was in part due to a reduction in malaria-specific mortality. Multivariable models support this claim; districts with more ITNs were shown to have fewer deaths in children under five years of age, controlling for other predictors of child mortality. Given all of the evidence, it is plausible that the scale-up of malaria interventions contributed to the reductions in mortality in children under five years from 2000–2010.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: no, gender: some, and environment and corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Malawi%20-%20Malaria%20Impact%20Evaluation%20Report.pdf

Title	<i>Final Evaluation Report of the Tilitonse Fund, Malawi</i>
Published	September 2016
Agency/author	Independent Impact Evaluation Agent (IIEA)
Commissioned by	DFID, Irish Aid and the Royal Norwegian Embassy
Type of evaluation	Formative, project
Project period	2012-2016
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and services/government and civil society/ bilateral and basket/civil society
Abstract	The greatest contribution of Tilitonse has been at the interface between government, CSOs and citizens – instigated by grantees playing an active role in mediation and influencing efforts, leading to increased citizen participation and some examples of better citizen-government engagement. There are, however, far fewer examples of a tangible governance <i>impact</i>, where government (often also the service provider) is responding to citizen priorities and is transparent, inclusive and accountable. Evidence is weaker around grantees conducting routine monitoring that forms the basis of a system of improved accountability – rather than ad hoc monitoring, or activities dependent on continuation of funding. There are examples of Tilitonse grantees contributing to the responsiveness of government, with strongest evidence at the national policy level. However, while successes are to be commended, grantees tended to focus more on policy-level processes, rather than policy implementation through government spending its resources differently to better meet the needs of its citizens. There are also some examples of community-level impacts, although in-depth analysis shows many ad hoc solutions to local problems rather than institutionalised change that will be sustained after funding ceases. Nonetheless, these examples do offer potential, but need to be scaled up, joined together and linked to district and national-level change. For the other impact objectives of the programme, there is generally weaker evidence in relation to improvements in transparency, outreach and inclusion by government. There are some signs that government transparency has improved through increasing citizen pressure, setting up local forums and improving civil society-government relations, but there is weaker evidence of the contribution of Tilitonse to outreach and inclusion by government. Changes are noted, but are as much to do with general shifts such as around the inclusion of women.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: some, gender: some, environment: some, and corruption: some
Link to evaluation	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/576146/Tilitonse-Fund-Malawi.pdf

Title	<i>Project Performance Assessment Report. Malawi. Financial Management, Transparency, and Accountability Project</i>
Published	March 2016
Agency/author	Independent Evaluation Group (IEG)
Commissioned by	IDA/WBG
Type of evaluation	Summative, project
Project period	2003-2008
Keywords	Government and civil society/public finance management
Abstract	Sound economic management and the effective and accountable use of public resources is paramount to improve economic and social conditions. This World Bank project aimed to achieve this through investing in <i>Financial Management Information Systems</i> (FMIS), strengthening public financial management processes and accountability institutions, and developing the capacity of the civil service. During the lifecycle of the project considerable progress was made. An FMIS was successfully set up and rolled out, and now covers the majority of the budget. Spending units are able to produce detailed budget execution reports on request. A large number of staff were trained under the project including on accountability and transparency, public finance, auditing, procurement, and local government financial management. However, the underlying supporting public finance environment was not conducive, leading to disappointing results. Processes were frequently ignored or bypassed. There is evidence that spending units generated local purchase orders and payment vouchers simultaneously, using pro-forma invoices. Commitments were regularly processed outside the system. Over time this resulted in the accumulation of large payment arrears, which were estimated at 9.2 percent of GDP in 2014. Limited compliance with the PFM legal framework and internal controls posed a high risk to the development objectives at project end. An example of risks materializing is the embezzlement of about USD 32 million known as the cashgate scandal. Regarding civil service reform, the number of public servants has increased rapidly over the evaluation period raising questions about the sustainability of the overall public wage bill. Little progress has been made with regards to strengthened accountability. The government did not sufficiently recognize the weak internal control environment, which has resulted in the breakdown of the accountability chain.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: some, gender: some, environment: no, and corruption: yes
Link to evaluation	https://ieg.worldbankgroup.org/Data/reports/ppar-malawi.pdf

Title	<i>Mwayi wa Moyo (“A Chance to Live”), Blantyre District, Malawi, Final Evaluation Report</i>
Published	August 2016
Agency/author	Save the Children/John Murray et al.
Commissioned by	USAID
Type of evaluation	Summative evaluation/Project evaluation
Project period	2011-2016
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and Services/NGOs and Civil Society/Children’s health
Abstract	USAID’s Child Survival and Health Grant Program funded Mwayi wa Mayo, with matching funding from Save the Children, Towers Watson, and the Pfizer Foundation. The project targeted hard-to-reach communities in Blantyre District with limited access to health care services. Malaria, pneumonia, diarrhea and under-nutrition are the primary contributors to morbidity and mortality of children 1-59 months old globally and in Malawi. The project's strategic objective was increased use of key maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) and Postpartum Family Planning (PPFP) services and practices. The evaluation sought to determine whether the project increased the use of evidence-based, life-saving interventions by women, caregivers and children. Some of the principal conclusions of the evaluations were: 1. Improved coverage of several high impact interventions, although not all targets were met. 2. Some improvement in management of diarrhea 3. Health Surveillance Assistance (HSA) in project areas are able to provide integrated community case-management for sick children at reasonable standards for most interventions — referral remains a challenge. 4. Integrated training, supervision and service delivery resulted in limited improvements in quality of care by HSAs. The evaluation recommends providing continued support to the district to strengthen District Health Management Team’s capacity to manage and oversee Integrated Community Case Management, Community-Based Maternal and Newborn Care and Family Planning activities. Further, it recommends to continue to integrate approaches to training, supervision and service delivery for women, mothers and children.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: some, gender: some, environment: no, and corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00M8DM.pdf

Title	<i>Solutions for African Food Enterprises (SAFE) Final Evaluation Report</i>
Published	June 2016
Agency/author	Social Impact Inc., Gary Woller, David Rinck, and Emily Miller
Commissioned by	USAID
Type of evaluation	Summative evaluation / Programme evaluation
Project period	10/2012 – 09/2017
Keywords	Production Sector/basic nutrition/food production
Abstract	SAFE is a <i>Feed the Future</i> (FtF) activity funded by USAID, Bureau of Food Security (BFS) and implemented by TechnoServe (TNS) and Partners in Food Solutions (PFS). The components that make up the SAFE Theory of Change (ToC) are expected to contribute jointly at the outcome level to strengthen capacity among assisted food processors to produce and market quality, safe, and nutritious foods. This in turn is expected to lead at the goal level to an increase in the availability of nutritious foods and a more competitive processing sector. The high-level goal, which is the theoretical culmination of SAFE outputs, outcomes, and goals, is reduced poverty and improved nutritional status among poor and vulnerable households in SAFE program countries. This performance evaluation examines the extent to which the SAFE program has achieved the outputs, outcomes, and goals in its ToC. Among the 10 evaluations questions were: ✓ Does participation in safe improve the performance of safe-assisted food-processing firms? SAFE appears to have generated increases in production/productivity, volume, sales, profits, investment, and employment although there are variations between countries. ✓ Have SAFE interventions contributed directly and/or indirectly to changes in knowledge and practices of stakeholders within the food-processing sector? SAFE technical assistance has been effective in improving the knowledge and practices among assisted SGBs.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: yes, gender: some, environment: no, and corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00M9SX.pdf

Title	<i>Performance Evaluation of the USAID/Malawi Feed the Future Mobile Money Project</i>
Published	August 2016
Agency/author	Mendez England & Associates, Lee H. Babcock et al.
Commissioned by	USAID
Type of evaluation	Summative evaluation / Project evaluation
Project period	2012-2016
Keywords	Economic Infrastructure and Services / NGOs and Civil Society / Financial inclusion
Abstract	Family Health International 360 (FHI360) implemented this project known as the <i>Mobile Money Accelerator Project</i> (MMAP). The project received USD 3 million. The purpose of MMAP was to accelerate the development of the mobile money ecosystem in Malawi in order to deepen financial inclusion. MMAP's interventions focused on achieving the three intermediate results (IR): - IR 1 focuses on providing technical assistance to various program entities to support the establishment and deployment of an m-money public awareness campaign. - IR 2 supports and advances the growth of digital payments in Malawi through coordinated interventions that include strategic pilots as well as targeted technical assistance to key public and private sector stakeholders. - Under IR 3, MMAP initiates and supports studies to analyze the digital payments regulatory environment, and advocate for policies and legislation that will strengthen the MM legal and regulatory environment. MMAP achieved its IR1 objective but did not achieve its IR2 and IR3. That said MMAP was highly flexible and responsive to current events, project management challenges, as well as technical and other issues related to the extremely nascent MM industry/sector. In spite of these robust challenges, MMAP positioned USAID positively within the government of Malawi as a MM and financial inclusion leader. It should also be recognized that there has been limited to no progress on the legal and regulatory framework largely due to Parliament. While MMCG was successful in bringing together government, private sector and donors, it was not a forum for providing input to the legislative process. In addition, MMAP was not resourced to champion legislation and therefore played no role in influencing the design of legislative content or pushing legislation through Parliament. During the lifespan of MMAP, Parliament has not debated or passed any bill (see Table 3, below) nor amended any of the bills that would have the highest impact on mobile and digital finance growth.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: some, gender: no, environment: no, and corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00M8QJ.pdf

Title	<i>Southern Africa Trade Hub: Final Performance Evaluation</i>
Published	June 2016
Agency/author	Management Systems International, Ali Hayat (Team Leader), Cynthia Chikura, Rajan Kapoor, Jessica Gajarsa
Commissioned by	USAID
Type of evaluation	Summative evaluation / Project evaluation
Project period	2010-2016
Keywords	Production sectors / Trade policy / Trade hub
Abstract	The project was designed to take an integrated approach to the <i>Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative</i> (which became the Feed the Future -- FTF) and the <i>African Growth and Competitiveness Initiative</i> (AGCI). The project was also designed to act as one of three United States Government trade Hubs in sub-Saharan Africa to increase exports to the U.S. and to provide "Aid-for-Trade" assistance. The evaluation examined the project's relevance, management, promising practices and sustainability. Regarding relevance, the evaluations asks in what ways has the project been successful or not in achieving results towards its objectives. The objective is divided into five Intermediate results (IRs). IR 1.1: Improved Trade Facilitation IR 1.2: Greater Competitiveness in Agricultural Value Chains IR 1.3: Increased Trade and Investment in the Textile and Apparel Sector IR 1.4: Strengthened Regulatory Capacity for the Clean Energy Sector IR 1.5: A Better Enabling Environment The Trade Hub demonstrated significant improvements in performance and results of IR 1.1. The interviewed endorsed the IR 1.2 activities as having delivered positive results. Despite the small budget for IR 1.3 activities, the project managed to achieve several concrete results. However, there are sustainability concerns for manufacturers to respond to repeat orders and maintain established business relationships. The final evaluation focused on the major IR 1.4 activities performed in Zambia, which have concretely strengthende the regulatory capacity of the clean energy sector. During the final evaluation period, the Trade Hub implemented a range of activities under IR 1.5.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: no, gender: some, environment: no, and corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00MDQJ.pdf

Title	<i>SSDI-Communications Activity Performance Evaluation</i>
Published	September 2016
Agency/author	DevTech System Inc. Dr. Carol S. Shepherd, Mr. Iain Mclellan and Mr. Willie Kachaka.
Commissioned by	USAID
Type of evaluation	Summative evaluation / Project evaluation
Project period	2011-2016
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and Services / Health policy and administrative management / Health care administration
Abstract	In 2011, at the inception of the <i>Support for Service Delivery Integration</i> (SSDI) project, Malawi suffered from poor health indicators, inefficient and understaffed service delivery systems, gender inequalities and widespread use of harmful traditional practices. USAID/Malawi sought to address these issues through the interrelated SSDI projects: (1) Services, (2) Communication and (3) Systems. The purpose of this evaluation was to determine the effectiveness of the SSDI-Communications multilevel approach to promote normative behaviour change and health-seeking practices. One of the evaluation's conclusions is that the Moyo ndi Mpamba (Life is precious) platform, has high value and denotes quality, and its use should be continued. Radio and posters were the most effective channels for SBCC messaging. Exposure to Moyo ndi Mpamba messages and materials was roughly the same for men and women (media content study). To what extent did SSDI-Communication improve the capacity of the Health Education Section (HES) and local institutions to develop, coordinate, implement and provide oversight for health sector integrated SBCC? Health Education Section feels more like an observer than an actor. Challenges such as staffing, low budget and vertical programs handicapped its evolution. The HES continues to need leadership, coordination and advocacy skills for the future.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: no, gender: some, environment: no, and corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00MCMH.pdf

2015

Title	<i>Performance Evaluation of the USAID/Malawi Early Grade Reading Activity (EGRA)</i>
Published	March 2015
Agency/author	Khulisa Management Services, Pty (Ltd)
Commissioned by	USAID
Type of evaluation	Formative/performance evaluation, project level
Project period	June 2013 to October 2016
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and Services/education/bilateral/
Abstract	The USAID/Malawi Early Grade Reading Activity (EGRA) project was a firm-fixed-price, three-year, four-month project awarded to RTI International in 2013, with a ceiling of USD 23,992,906. It is the flagship education activity for USAID/Malawi. The project is designed to provide technical assistance to the Malawi Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) to improve reading skills of Malawian students in early grades. It emphasizes deepening the capacity to effectively provide reading instruction in Standards 1 to 3 and introduces a community engagement component to support early grade reading. The main activity interventions are grouped into four component areas: 1. Provide Quality Reading Instruction for Early Grade Students 2. Provision of Teaching and Learning Materials for Reading 3. Increasing Parental and Community Engagement to Support Reading 4. Improving Policy Environment to Support Early Grade Reading The EGRA has effectively changed reading instruction in the 11 targeted education districts. In those schools, almost all (95%) teachers stated they have training to teach reading. Evidence that the students are reading, showcased in competitions, was reported to be highly motivating for teachers, parents, and students.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: no, gender: some, environment: no, corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00KBNS.pdf

Title	<i>Improving Capacity of Public Institutions in Malawi to Manage, Allocate and Utilise Resources for Effective Development and Service Delivery</i>
Published	July 2015
Agency/author	PremierConsult Limited, Oliver S. Saasa and Henry Chingaibe
Commissioned by	UNDP Malawi
Type of evaluation	Summative evaluation, mid-term
Project period	2012-2014
Keywords	Government and Civil Society / Public finance management /multilateral
Abstract	This evaluation primarily looked at the relevance and strategic position of UN assistance to Malawi focusing whether the UN has positively contributed towards ensuring that public institutions in the country are better able to manage, allocate and utilize resources for effective development and service delivery. A good number of achievements in the area of public sector capacity enhancement have been recorded during the 2012-2014 implementation period. Several positive accomplishments have also been recorded with respect to UNDAF's target of ensuring that national institutions utilize RBM systems for planning, monitoring and evaluation to enhance ownership and leadership for achievement of development results. The changes of government at frequent intervals and the subsequent Cashgate Scandal, for example, had introduced an element of distrust between DPs and the Government around the country's accountability/oversight systems. The planning tools that Government uses for aligning policies, programmes and budgets with the MGDS are generally inadequate to effectively handle this function. In particular, the credibility of the budget has been found to be undermined by weak links between the planning tools, namely the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) and District Development Plans. Generally, budgetary resource allocations and development work plans are rarely speaking directly to the aspirations expressed in the MDGs and lack of skills in planning for MDGs has contributed to this.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: some, gender: some, environment: no, corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Final-Report-Outcome-4-2-Mid-Term-Evaluation1.pdf

Title	<i>National institutions foster democratic governance and human rights to promote transparency, accountability, participation and access to justice for all especially women and children by 2016</i>
Published	December 2015
Agency/author	Jens Peter Christensen (KL – Local Government Denmark) and Mustafa Kennedy Hussein (University of Malawi)
Commissioned by	UN Malawi and GoM
Type of evaluation	Summative evaluation, mid-term evaluation
Project period	2012-2016
Keywords	Government and Civil Society / Public finance management /multilateral
Abstract	The support to democratic governance targets three reform areas, which in particular have potential to bring democratic transformation to Malawi: 1) Support to a more proportional and fair election system, which takes into account the outdated constituency demarcations and the high urban migration patterns in Malawi, 2) the introduction of a National Peace Architecture, with the aim to establish local dialogue platforms, which can defuse and prevent local conflicts and 3) the support to decentralization and Integrated Rural Development (IRD). Most support projects are showing fair progress towards the outputs they were designed to achieve. However, the constitutional bodies supported are constrained by the inability of the government to sufficiently sustaining their operational capacities. This ultimately has adverse consequences on their roles, functioning and outreach, which to some degree diminish their independence and erode public trust in them. It also affects the absorption capacity of the bodies vis-à-vis the specialized technical assistance (TA) rendered by the DPs.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: some, gender: some, environment: no, corruption: some
Link to evaluation	https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/evaluations/detail/5478

2014

Title	<i>Final Evaluation: CRS Malawi WALA Program 2009-2014, Volume 1 – Main Report</i>
Published	August 2014
Agency/author	TANGO International, Inc. Rene Verduijn (team leader), Jeanne Downen, Tamsin Walters, John Wyeth
Commissioned by	USAID, Office of Food for Peace
Type of evaluation	Summative evaluation / Programme evaluation
Project period	2009 – 2014
Keywords	Social infrastructure and services / Basic nutrition / Food aid
Abstract	<i>Wellness and Agriculture for Life Advancement</i> (WALA) is a five-year program funded by USAID to prevent and mitigate food insecurity in southern Malawi. WALA targets the most vulnerable communities and households, ensuring holistic provision of services to the selected groups. In the original design, targeted groups comprise households that have the following attributes: small and marginal farms, female-headed, host chronically ill persons (tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS), food insecure, and/or host orphans. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Malawi implemented the WALA in the eight most food insecure districts in the south of Malawi. The primary purpose of the final evaluation is to assess the program's overall performance under each of its specific Strategic Objectives (SOs). - SO1: Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) Target: 170,724 vulnerable households have improved MCHN status. - SO2: Agriculture, Natural Resource Management (AgNRM), Irrigation, and Economic Activity. Target: 147,500 smallholder farming households have improved livelihood status. - SO3: Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Target: 273 targeted communities have improved capacity to withstand shocks and stresses. Some conclusions: - SO1 was effective in offering a preventative approach to under nutrition while including responsive components for children whose nutritional status is deteriorating. - SO2: The package of WALA interventions, is relevant and appropriate, while there is a clear limitation to its expansion based on shortage of feeder and mulching material. - SO3: The program has built community capacity in disaster preparedness and response, strengthened linkages among GoM DRR mechanisms, provided reliable safety nets to the most vulnerable households, and has facilitated the construction of infrastructure that has positive economic and environmental impacts.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: no, gender: yes, environment: no, corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00K2WJ.pdf

Title	<i>USAID/Malawi Support for Service Delivery – Integration Performance Evaluation</i>
Published	October 2014
Agency/author	International Business and Technical Consultants, Inc. (IBTCI), Pinar Senlet, Chifundo Kachiza, Jennifer Katekaine, and Jennifer Peters.
Commissioned by	USAID
Type of evaluation	Summative evaluation / Project evaluation
Project period	2011 – 2016
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and Services / Health
Abstract	Malawi scores very low on major health indicators such as maternal mortality, under five mortality and infant mortality. In close collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MOH), SSD-I activities support the increased availability, quality and utilization of Essential Healthcare Package (EHP) services; reinforce health promotion and disease prevention among households; and strengthen elements of the health system to sustain effective EHP delivery. This evaluation determine the extent to which SSD-I activities have contributed to the: ✓ Increased availability and utilization of EHP services (Sector 1); ✓ Improved health promotion and adoption of normative health behaviors (Sector 2); and, ✓ Improved functionality of the health system to support delivery of integrated health services (Sector 3). Of the team analysed 10 SSDI-Services outcome indicators. The activity has achieved or exceeded five and is very close to achieving the other five. The SSDI-Services is likely to achieve all 10 in Years 4 and 5. SSDI-Communications is on target for the majority of its performance monitoring plan indicators. The development of various policies, strategies, toolkits and campaign materials has been strategic and is likely to result in increased capacity within the MOH for future social and behavioral change. SSDI-Systems tracks 54 routine output and outcome indicators of which the evaluation team selected six outcome indicators. One has been achieved, four are partially achieved and one is unlikely to be achieved at the end of the project.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: some, gender: some, environment: no, corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00K66W.pdf

2013

Title	<i>DFID's Empowerment and Accountability Programming in Ghana and Malawi</i>
Published	October 2013
Agency/author	DFID/Independent Commission for Aid Impact (ICAI)
Commissioned by	DFID
Type of evaluation	Formative evaluation, project level
Project period	2011-2015
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and services/government and civil society/ bilateral and basket/civil society, community monitoring
Abstract	This is an examination of two projects that supports community monitoring of local services and a grant-making funds for civil society organisations (CSOs) in Malawi. The aim is to improve voice and influence for citizens and CSOs: 'citizen voice in achieving more inclusive, accountable and responsive governance'. The Tilitonse (2011-15) is a GBP 14 million project co-funded by DFID, Ireland and Norway, and Kalondolondo (2011-2014) is a direct grant of GBP 2.5 million to a group of Malawian CSOs to run a programme promoting citizen monitoring of public services through the use of community scorecards. Given that in Malawi, civil society is fragmented, the CSOs are encouraged to forge alliances with more powerful groups, such as business interests or professional associations, but in practice, we did not find any successful examples of this. Overall, we found that Tilitonse lacked a realistic assessment of the current strengths and limitations of CSOs and how they might feasibly develop over the life of the programme. In the absence of such analysis, we found that the expectations of CSO grantees and the extent to which they would be able to influence government were often unrealistic. The Kalondolondo delivery model suggests that better value for money options are available for local interventions. We observed that, even though Kalondolondo's activities are similar to those of many of the Tilitonse grantees, it is able to deliver them at a fraction of the cost.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: no, gender: some, environment: no, corruption: some
Link to evaluation	https://icai.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/Empowerment-and-Accountability-081013-FINAL.pdf

Title	CASCR Review
Published	January 2013
Agency/author	Independent Evaluation Group (IEG)
Commissioned by	IDA/WBG
Type of evaluation	Formative evaluation, programme level
Project period	2007-2012
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and services/health/HIV AIDS Social Infrastructure and services/government and civil society/expenditure management, budget, civil service Production sectors/agriculture, energy, transport Multilateral
Abstract	The overall objective of the WBG/IDA <i>Malawi Country Assistance Strategy</i> (CAS) was to support broad-based economic growth to reduce poverty in Malawi, organized under four pillars: 1 Improving small-holder agricultural productivity 2 Longer-term economic growth through improved infrastructure (energy and transport) and investment climate 3 Decreasing vulnerability at the household level to HIV/AIDS and malnutrition by increasing HIV/AIDS awareness and access to drugs 4 Improvements in expenditure management and budget execution through improvements in accountability and transparency. Under 1, assistance helped increase the irrigated area and enabled more farmers to adopt various technologies. However, with the state marketing board continuing to play a key role in input/output markets under directed prices and interventionist policies, agricultural incentives remain distorted; there is limited private sector involvement and little agricultural diversification; agricultural storage facilities have not improved. Under 2, although some progress was achieved in the transport sector with the improving road network and there are some steps taken to improve access to credit, the business environment has worsened. More importantly, little was achieved to address the critical energy issue. Under 3, sustained IDA support contributed to the rapid expansion of HIV/AIDS treatment, although more efforts are required to reduce the rate of new infection and to expand treatment coverage. With the introduction of the social cash transfer program, IDA support helped improve targeting of the poorest. Under 4, although some aspects of public finance management (PFM) have been strengthened, including at the local government level, there continues to be a dearth of effective public oversight over government spending decisions, and there is no evidence that audit or expenditure tracking data is being used to improve budget performance. Little has been achieved in putting in place an intergovernmental fiscal architecture.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: yes, gender: no, environment: no, corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/502111468084536587/pdf/NonAsciiFileName0.pdf

Title	<i>IMPACT program midterm evaluation summary report</i>
Published	March 2013
Agency/author	Catholic Relief Services
Commissioned by	USAID
Type of evaluation	Formative evaluation / Programme evaluation
Project period	2010-2014
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and Services / Other / Health / HIV-AIDS
Abstract	Integrated (HIV Effect) Mitigation and Positive Action for Community Transformation (IMPACT) is a four-year USAID-supported Global Development Alliance program expected to improve the quality of life for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) and people living with HIV (PLHIV). As lead agency of the IMPACT Program, Catholic Relief Services Malawi brings together the Title II-supported Wellness and Agriculture for Life Advancement (WALA) consortium and faith-based implementing partners with private-sector, technical-assistance and information-technology partners to expand access to services, in partnership with the Government of Malawi (GOM). At midterm, IMPACT had reached 30,177 vulnerable households and provided support to 38,662 eligible children (67% of the life of activity target) and 26,978 of eligible adults with at least one care service, (65% of the life of activity target). The evaluation recommends to: 1. Continue learning from and adopting promising practices across all implementing partners to enhance consistency and impact. 2. Place greater emphasis on community system strengthening to extend the IMPACT Program's results beyond the life of the project. 3. Strengthen the design of Strategic Objective 2 (SO2 -- Access to treatment and care for PLHIV) and the indicators for measuring performance to reflect the strategies and activities IMPACT is employing for SO2.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: no, gender: some, environment: no, corruption: no
Link to evaluation	http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00K1T1.pdf

2012

Title	<i>Evaluation of Public Financial Management Reform in Malawi 2001–2010. Final Country Case Study Report</i>
Published	June 2012
Agency/author	Fiscus Public Finance Consultants and Mokoro Ltd.
Commissioned by	Sida, Danida and AfDB
Type of evaluation	Summative joint evaluation
Project period	2001-2010
Keywords	Government and civil society/public finance management
Abstract	This evaluation looked at two main questions: (i) where and why do Public Finance Management (PFM) reforms deliver results and (ii) where and how does donor support to PFM reform efforts contribute most effectively to results? The findings show that between 2000 and 2010 Malawi has made significant strides in improving its PFM systems and that these improvements can be traced to direct PFM inputs by donors and government. This statement must be qualified in two important ways: firstly there are areas of PFM functionality where significant inputs – particularly donor inputs – did not translate into sustained improvements in PFM functionality; secondly, most improvements occurred between 2004 and 2008. Between 2008 and 2011 few PFM areas showed improvement; many more areas experienced deterioration. In attempting to explain these developments, we have identified three cross-cutting trends, which we believe may be of wider importance in designing and managing PFM reforms and in providing external support to those reforms. Firstly, Malawi has exhibited a PFM reform cycle, closely linked to the political/electoral cycle, which has effectively determined the pattern of progress in PFM reforms. Secondly, the policy space available to Government in selecting reform models and options was often unnecessarily limited and the reform models adopted were often inappropriate. Thus, Donors need to be cognisant of the PFM reform/political cycle and local context in Malawi in order to maximise the effectiveness of their inputs.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: no, gender: no, environment: no, corruption: no
Link to evaluation	https://www.oecd.org/derec/afdb/malawi.pdf

2011

Title	<i>Democracy Support through the United Nations. Malawi Case Report</i>
Published	October 2010
Agency/author	Scanteam, Liv Moberg, Francis Emmanuel Ng'ambi, Vegard Bye
Commissioned by	Norad
Type of evaluation	Formative/performance evaluation, multilateral
Project period	1999-2009
Keywords	Social infrastructure and services / Democratic participation and civil society
Abstract	The report covers the UNDP-led <i>Democracy Consolidation Programme</i> (DCP) in Malawi, with emphasis on support to civil society. The DCP aimed at creating a critical mass at all levels of society that demands good governance and fulfilment of human rights, with a special focus on the right to development. The beneficiaries are provided with knowledge, skills and structures to demand quality basic social services from various public/District Assembly officials and structures in their localities. The Government and UNDP have not succeeded in giving the DCP programme the coordinating role for National Democracy Consolidation that was envisaged in the design phase. The DCP has little visibility among donors and there is little proof of synergies taking place between the Norwegian/UNDP/Government funded DCP and the other large-scale donor funded programmes within Democratic Governance in Malawi. Similarly, there is little evidence that Norwegian funding for other organisations and programmes have had mutually strengthening effects. There are many and complex reasons for this: ✓ Donors come and go with their own agendas/strategies/priorities and want to build their own 'flagship projects'. ✓ There is high turnover in donor staff (as well as down-sizing), including in the Norwegian embassy in later years ✓ UNDP has not been able to keep the central position on the governance agenda it was said to have in the late nineties. UNDP has one of the most dispersed portfolios in the country with programmes in most sectors. ✓ The various constitutional bodies in Malawi do not yet have the necessary independence from government to play their roles as 'watch-dogs' effectively. ✓ In civil society, several network- and umbrella organisations have been established but they have not been able to play the role of independent civil society brokers or for channelling funds in an efficient manner. ✓ 'Leadership issues' is often quoted by respondents in interviews to explain why a certain organisation does not fulfil its autonomous role and contribute to democratisation objectives, but also to explain why donors and authorities do not play a more pro-active and constructive role for joint efforts.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: some, gender: yes, environment: no, corruption: yes
Link to evaluation	https://www.oecd.org/derec/norway/48086752.pdf

Title	<i>Country Level Evaluation. Republic of Malawi</i>
Published	November 2011
Agency/author	EU, ECO Consult and partners
Commissioned by	Joint Evaluation Unit, Directorate General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid (DEVCO) & Foreign Policy Instruments Service (FPI)
Type of evaluation	Formative/performance evaluation, multilateral
Project period	2003-2010
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and services/health/HIV AIDS Social Infrastructure and services/government and civil society/expenditure management, budget, civil service Production sectors/agriculture, energy, transport Multilateral
Abstract	This is an evaluation of the European Commission's (EC) co-operation with Malawi. It covers co-operation strategies and implementation including a mix of all activities and modalities during the period 2003-2010 (implementation of the European Development Fund (EDF8 & EDF9, and programming of EDF10). The evaluation finds that the Commission's support and targeting of support has responded to nationally expressed needs, although there has been little flexibility in timely adjustment of such support to evolving needs. However this support has been insufficient to address such long terms needs which have to be considered as intractable and enduring, at least for current perspectives in which few exit strategies are emerging. The support of the EU to agriculture-led economic growth has been convincing and comprehensive whilst the Commission's support has contributed to improved food security (especially among vulnerable groups), particularly regarding availability and access. Such support also has been successful in reducing malnutrition of children under 5. The support of the Commission of the EU to the road sector in Malawi has contributed to the management of a main road network that continues to be in relatively good condition and the achievement of a SWAp in this sector is an undoubted achievement.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: strong, gender: some, environment: some, corruption: some
Link to evaluation	https://www.oecd.org/countries/malawi/49446336.pdf

2010

Title	<i>Impact Evaluation of the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp)</i>
Published	June 2010
Agency/author	DFID/Mark Pearson
Commissioned by	UKAid/DFID HDRC (Human Development Resource Centre)
Type of evaluation	Formative sector-wide evaluation
Project period	2004 - 2009
Keywords	Social Infrastructure and Services/health/bilateral/
Abstract	This review assess the impact of DFID's health Sector-Wide Approach (SWAp) in Malawi. Good progress has certainly been made during the SWAp period, although Malawi is unlikely to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) health targets. The SWAp has enabled two broad systems issues – the delivery of a prioritised essential health package and human resources – to be addressed in ways which would almost certainly not have been possible under earlier vertical approaches. Innovative, but to a large degree short-term, approaches have been adopted which appear to have had some effects, but raise questions about long-term sustainability. The period after 2004 has seen the gradual evolution of a SWAp process. This replaced a fragmented vertical disease-based approach, which had disappointing results. The SWAp process has also had serious weaknesses, which largely reflect the low level of national capacity, but also declining commitment which means that the process is less developed than in many other SWAp countries. A lot of additional resources have been made available (in part due to the SWAp). It also seems apparent that resources have not always been put to their best use with continuing regional imbalances in resource allocation and a considerable amount of resources allocated to services which, do not necessarily represent the most cost-effective use of resources. The government is spending far more than was initially expected on health in absolute terms – although recent years have seen some drop-off. This spend has been complemented by significant increases in donor support, which again raises questions of sustainability.
Crosscutting issues	Poverty: some, gender: some, environment: no, corruption: no
Link to evaluation	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/67670/imp-eval-sect-wde-appr-mw.pdf

Title	<i>Annual review of DFID/RNE Malawi's Anticorruption Bureau support programme</i>
Published	March 2010
Agency/author	Hannes Hechler (CMI, Norway) and Bea Parkes (DFID, UK)
Commissioned by	Norad (Royal Norwegian Embassy, Malawi) and DFID
Type of evaluation	Formative evaluation – institutional performance assessment
Project period	2008-2010
Keywords	Government and civil society / Anti-corruption organisations and institutions, multi-donor
Abstract	The Malawian <i>Anti-Corruption Bureau</i> (ACB) is progressing well in developing its institutional capacity. ACB documentation and overall achievement on goals and indicators is satisfactory. The political climate seems conducive to giving the ACB space to manoeuvre. However, unsecure funding calls for more donor engagement, risking ACB's independence, and little is publicly known about its prevention or education work. The implementation of the communication strategy has not progressed well. The number of complaints with corruption relevance remains at a low level. The prosecution database has been developed but is not yet fully operational. A prosecution strategy as proposed by the last review has not been developed and is seen as controversial within the ACB. On the donor side programme documentation needs improvement. Re-organization of DfID's log frame has not been finalized, resulting in inconsistent indicators and baselines. Government (GoM) commitment to fight corruption is visible, but competes with other interests and priorities. The National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) has been launched, but key processes, such as an implementation plan and secretariat, are not yet in place. The ACB's performance is affected by a political context where politics and institutions are highly personalized, and a political culture which tends to discourage impartiality, i.e. actions taken are seen to be influenced by political preferences (towards government or opposition).
Crosscutting issues	Poverty (some), gender (some), environment (no), corruption (no)
Link to evaluation	https://www.norad.no/globalassets/import-2162015-80434-am/www.norad.no-ny/filarkiv/vedlegg-til-publikasjoner/annual-review-of-dfidrne-malawis-anticorruption-bureau-support-programme.pdf