APNODE
African Parliamentarians’ Network on Development Evaluation
Réseau des Parlementaires africains pour l’évaluation du développement
WHO WE ARE

The African Parliamentarians’ Network on Development Evaluation (APNODE) is a network of African parliamentarians and development partners promoting the use of evaluation in national decision making to support development effectiveness and inclusive growth.

Launched in March 2014, it was initiated by African parliamentarians based on their recognition of the important function of evaluation in national decision-making and the crucial role of parliamentarians in ensuring that evaluation evidence is used for strengthening oversight. In addition, it focuses on how evaluation can support parliamentarians in their roles of legislation, budgeting and representation. Independent Development Evaluation (IDEV) at the African Development Bank (AfDB) is a founding member and has hosted the APNODE Secretariat since its inception.

VISION

APNODE’s vision is to promote development effectiveness and inclusive growth on the African continent through an effective use of development evaluation by policy and decision makers.

OBJECTIVES

- To sensitize national parliaments and parliamentarians about the importance of evaluation for oversight, policy and decision making;
- To enhance the capacity of parliamentarians to demand and utilize evaluation evidence in their parliamentary duties;
- To encourage parliamentarians to institutionalize evaluation to inform decision and policy-making;
To this end, the Network serves as a platform via which members of parliament (MPs) share information, knowledge and experiences on evidence use. APNODE also facilitates trainings, dialogue forums, learning events and networking opportunities for parliamentarians; enables the participation of African MPs in international evaluation forums; provides technical support; and actively encourages knowledge capture for wider dissemination amongst its stakeholders.

Recognizing that parliamentarians are but one among many players in national evaluation systems, APNODE strongly focuses on collaboration and partnerships.

**WHAT WE DO**

APNODE’s mandate is to strengthen the capacity of African parliamentarians for quality oversight, policymaking, and national decision-making by ensuring appreciation, demand, and utilization of evaluations in their daily work.

- **To share experiences** across Africa and beyond;
- **To support parliamentarians** to ensure that country-level evaluations are responsive to the concerns of **gender equality, vulnerable groups, and equitable development results**;
- **To assist MPs to embrace a culture of evaluation** and evidence-based decision-making at all levels of government;
- **To bridge the gap** between parliamentarians (as users of evaluation evidence) and evaluators (as purveyors of impartial evidence).

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Hon. Elise Pokossy-Doumbe, APNODE Executive Committee Member and Chairperson of the APNODE Cameroon National Chapter
GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

• **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is APNODE’s highest decision-making body and convenes annually to consider pertinent issues/decisions of the year-in-review. The mandatory yearly gathering is required by the Network’s constitution and serves as a meeting of the general membership of the Network to both reaffirm their commitment to APNODE, as well as to help steer the ship with policy consensus.

The first AGM of the Network, hosted by the AfDB in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire on 23 July 2015, resulted in the adoption of the APNODE Constitution. Subsequent AGMs in Harare, Zimbabwe (2016), Khartoum, Sudan (2017), Libreville, Gabon (2018) and once again in Abidjan (2019), have contributed in no small measure to enhancing the Network’s visibility and institutionalizing its systems and processes.

• **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

APNODE is led by an Executive Committee (EC), which is elected every other year at the AGM. Members serve a two-year term (renewable once). The EC oversees the strategic focus of APNODE and provides oversight of the day-to-day management of the APNODE Network and Secretariat. The EC meets virtually on a bimonthly basis, and in person at least once a year. The EC is comprised of sitting members of parliament, APNODE founding members, and three representatives from APNODE partner institutions – IDEV/AfDB, CLEAR-AA (Centers for Learning on Evaluation and Results - Anglophone Africa), and AfrEA (African Evaluation Association).
## 2019-2021 Executive Committee Members

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hon. Evelyn Mpagi-Kaabule</td>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
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<td>Hon. Abbas Embassou Ouattara</td>
<td>Vice-Chairperson</td>
<td>Côte d’Ivoire</td>
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<td>Hon. Felix Mhona</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
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<td>Sen. André Moussounda Mikala</td>
<td>Returning Member</td>
<td>Gabon</td>
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<td>Hon. Jérémie Adomahou</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Benin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hon. Langton Chikukwa</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
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<td>Hon. Rahhal El Makkaoui</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
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<td>Hon. Paurina Mpariwa</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
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<td>Hon. Elie Pokossy-Doumbe</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Cameroon</td>
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<td>Hon. Omega Sibanda</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hon. Noel Rossan Goakûn Toé</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
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### Representatives from partner organizations

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<th>Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Rot-Münstermann</td>
<td>Independent Development Evaluation (IDEV), African Development Bank (AfDB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Khumalo / Hermine Engels</td>
<td>Centre for Learning on Evaluation and Results - Anglophone Africa (CLEAR-AA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samuel Kouakou</td>
<td>African Evaluation Association (AfrEA)</td>
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**SECRETARIAT**

The Secretariat is the administrative and operational arm of APNODE and executes the day-to-day operations of the Network under the guidance of the EC. In addition, the Secretariat administers the network, ensures communication with the members, organizes the APNODE Annual General Meetings and coordinates the bimonthly virtual meetings of the APNODE Executive Committee. IDEV at the AfDB, in line with its mandate to nurture an evaluation culture across the Bank’s Regional Member Countries, and as part of its evaluation capacity development work program, has hosted the Secretariat of APNODE since its inception.

**NATIONAL CHAPTERS**

Chapters are semi-autonomous, member-driven bodies aimed at furthering APNODE’s primary objective of advancing and enhancing the uptake and utilization of evaluation in national decision-making to support development effectiveness and inclusive growth. APNODE chapters can be either national or regional and must be opened in a country where there is already at least one active APNODE member. The establishment of a national or regional chapter must be approved by the APNODE Executive Committee. Presently, there are four functional APNODE Chapters (Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Zambia, Zimbabwe), with others gradually emerging in Benin, Morocco, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda.

**MEMBERSHIP**

The Network is open to current and former parliamentarians from Africa and beyond, African national and regional parliaments, non-state actors (i.e. civil society, private sector, research/policy institutes, national and regional evaluation associations) as well as other individuals and organizations interested in APNODE’s work and vision. There are five categories of membership, as defined in its constitution:

1. Founding members;
2. Full members;
3. Associate members
4. Affiliate members; and
5. Partners.

From an initial core of 25 founding members from 7 countries, APNODE’s reach today spans 29 African countries, notably: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Côte d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
WHY JOIN APNODE

APNODE offers a host of benefits to its members. Access to a shared knowledge base through contact with like-minded professionals is a key pull factor that attracts many to APNODE. Other key benefits include:

- **Networking:** Members leverage the platform to discuss and exchange on issues pertaining to evaluation, parliaments, parliamentary oversight, governance, etc., be it virtually on the APNODE LinkedIn group, via the APNODE WhatsApp platform, in person during the APNODE AGMs, National Chapter events, and/or at APNODE partners’ knowledge forums and learning events.

- **Knowledge-sharing:** Members automatically subscribe to, and receive APNODE’s electronic Weekly What’s New flyer, as well as the Quarterly Newsletter, both of which offer them invaluable knowledge and access to learning events, dialogue forums, and news. Aside from these, members’ participation in APNODE facilitated trainings, workshops, and conferences further encourages knowledge-sharing and peer learning.

- **Capacity Development:** Membership status makes available an extensive array of capacity development opportunities and possibilities, notably webinars, resource handbooks, databases, and digital applications. Members can also attend and participate in regional and global forums, trainings and learning events, as well as represent the Network in meetings, workshops, and conferences both across the African continent and beyond. Additionally, members have access to APNODE partners’ knowledge and learning resources and technical expertise.

- **Experience-sharing and Peer-learning:** Members benefit immensely from the experience-sharing and peer-learning that constantly takes place. Lessons learnt, and innovative, fit-for-purpose solutions to common problems and challenges are regularly exchanged. Going forward, the Network intends to experiment with an APNODE National Chapters exchange program, where members from one or more national Chapters may visit and learn from one another.
TIMELINE & MILESTONES

2014
Launched:
• 7th AfrEA Conference Yaoundé, Cameroon

2015
1st AGM:
• Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire
• Host: IDEV, AfDB
• APNODE Constitution adopted
• 1st Executive Committee elected
• Global EvalYear 2015 Conference Kathmandu, Nepal
• GPFE founded

2016
2nd AGM:
• Harare, Zimbabwe
• Host: Parliament of Zimbabwe
• EvalPartners Global Forum Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
• 8th AfrEA Conference Kampala, Uganda
• High Level Meeting on Evaluation, NY, USA
• What Works Global Summit UK
• Evidence Works 2016: Global forum UK

2017
3rd AGM:
• Khartoum, Sudan
• Host: Parliament of Sudan
• 2nd Executive Committee elected
• 2018-2020 APNODE Strategic Plan approved
• MENA Regional Consultation Jordan
• 6th SAMEA Conference Johannesburg, SA
• 6th Kenyan M&E Week Mombasa

2018
4th AGM:
• Libreville, Gabon
• Host: Parliament of Gabon
• AfDB Development Evaluation Week Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire
• EvalColombo2018 Colombo, Sri Lanka

2019
5th AGM:
• Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire
• Host: IDEV, AfDB
• 3rd Executive Committee elected
• 9th AfrEA Conference Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire
• The CLEAR Initiative’s gLOCAL Evaluation Week
ACHIEVEMENTS
In the past years, APNODE has enhanced its visibility while growing the footprint of Network. It has managed this in part by fostering country ownership and local buy-in. Additionally, the Network has facilitated the development of the capacities of over 500 African MPs. In so doing, APNODE has served as an invaluable platform for peer-learning and experience-sharing amongst parliamentarians. This is a critical achievement that demonstrates the Network’s centrality to Africa’s transformation agenda. The Network has further championed four African countries to explicitly embed evaluation in their constitutions – in accordance with the objectives of Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063.

Beyond Africa, APNODE today, is recognized as a trusted broker of evaluative knowledge, and an evaluation capacity development network of choice. Network members are also being increasingly sought out to share the APNODE experience at global forums.

OUR PARTNERS & SPONSORS
APNODE partners with several institutions including IDEV/AfDB, AfrEA, EvalPartners, Global Parliamentarians Forum on Evaluation (GPFE), Regional Centers for Learning on Evaluation and Results (CLEAR), Reseau Francophone d’Evaluation (RFE), Twende Mbele, United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Funding for APNODE comes from several sources and in various forms. Individual and institutional members pay an annual fee of USD 250 and USD 5000 respectively. The Network has also benefitted from the financial support of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Korean Trust Fund (at the AfDB), while strategic partners, notably IDEV/AfDB, CLEAR-AA, EvalPartners, RFE, Twende Mbele, UNICEF, and UN-Women, have and continue to provide in-kind support.
HOW TO JOIN

Individuals and organizations seeking to join the Network must fill out a membership form available online (http://idev.afdb.org/apnode) or by requesting one from the APNODE Secretariat. All applications will first be reviewed by the APNODE Secretariat and, if needed, the Executive Committee. Following approval of the application and payment of the stipulated membership fee, one’s membership becomes official.

Approval of applications for Partner status is subject to a review and decision by the Executive Committee of APNODE.
Réseau des Parlementaires Africains pour l'Évaluation du Développement

5ème Assemblée générale annuelle (AGA)

Construire l’Afrique que nous recherchons: le rôle vital des parlementaires dans le renforcement des capacités d'évaluation

Banque africaine de développement, Bâtiment CCIA, Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire

28-30 août 2019