



APNODE

African Parliamentarians' Network on Development Evaluation
Réseau des Parlementaires africains pour l'évaluation du développement

Brochure

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. The Independent Development Evaluation (IDEV) at the African Development Bank (AfDB) is a founding member that has hosted the APNODE Secretariat since its inception.

OBJECTIVES

1. To sensitize national parliaments and parliamentarians about the importance of evaluation for oversight, policy and decision making;
2. To enhance the capacity of parliamentarians to demand and utilize evaluation evidence in their parliamentary duties;
3. To encourage parliamentarians to institutionalize evaluation to inform decision and policy-making;
4. To share experiences across Africa and beyond;
5. To support parliamentarians to ensure that country-level evaluations are responsive to the concerns of gender equality, vulnerable groups, and equitable development results;
6. To assist MPs to embrace a culture of evaluation and evidence-based decision-making at all levels of government;
7. To bridge the gap between parliamentarians (as users of evaluation evidence) and evaluators (as purveyors of impartial evidence).

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 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; 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.

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.



OVER THE YEARS

An overview of APNODE milestones, Annual General Meetings, and events collectively attended by the network members.

Launched March 2014 at the 7th AfrEA Conference, Yaoundé, Cameroon

20
14

2nd AGM in Harare, Zimbabwe
Host: PARLIAMENT OF ZIMBABWE

- High Level Meeting on Evaluation, NY, USA
- What Works Global Summit, UK
- Evidence Works 2016: Global forum, UK
- AfDB Development Evaluation Week Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
- Executive Committee meeting held on the sidelines of the AfDB Development Evaluation Week

20
16

4th AGM in Libreville, Gabon
Host: PARLIAMENT OF GABON

- AfDB Development Evaluation Week Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
- EvalColombo2018, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Official launch of APNODE-Côte d'Ivoire

20
18

- The CLEAR Initiative's gLOCAL Evaluation Week
- APNODE webinars

20
20

1st AGM in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Host: IDEV, AfDB

- APNODE Constitution adopted
- 1st Executive Committee elected
- Global EvalYear 2015 Conference, Kathmandu, Nepal
- Global Parliamentarians Forum on Evaluation founded

20
15

3rd AGM in Khartoum, Sudan

Host: PARLIAMENT OF SUDAN

- 2nd Executive Committee selected
- 2018-2020 APNODE Strategic Plan
- MENA Regional Consultation, Jordan
- 6th SAMEA Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 6th Kenyan M&E Week, Mombasa
- EvalPartners Global Forum, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- 8th AfrEA Conference, Kampala, Uganda

20
17

5th AGM in 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
- FIFE 2019, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

20
19

6th AGM in virtual mode

Host: IDEV, AfDB

- 4th Executive Committee elected
- The CLEAR Initiative's gLOCAL Evaluation Week
- FIFE 2021

20
21

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 on 23 July 2015, resulted in the adoption of an APNODE Constitution. Subsequent AGMs in Harare (2016), Khartoum (2017), Libreville (2018) and once again in Abidjan (2019), have contributed in no small measure to enhancing the Networks' visibility and institutionalizing its systems and processes. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no AGM was held in 2020. In 2021, with COVID waning, the Network and its partners, opted to hold the AGM virtually, which was hosted by the AfDB.

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 on the day-to-day management of 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 – AfDB, CLEAR (Centers for Learning on Evaluation and Results), and AfrEA (African Evaluation Association).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

NAME	FUNCTION	COUNTRY
Hon. Jérémie Adomahou	Chairperson	Benin
Hon. Elise Pokossy-Doumbe	Vice - Chairperson	Cameroon
Sen. Dr. Langton Chikukwa	Treasurer	Zimbabwe
Hon. Paurina Mpariwa	Member	Zimbabwe
Hon. Musa Mbutoh Njingum	Member	Cameroon
Hon. Omega Sibanda	Member	Zimbabwe
Hon. Anastacia Tatenda Mavetera	Member	Zimbabwe

REPRESENTATIVES FROM PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Jayne Musumba	AfDB
Amos Menard	CLEAR FA
Samuel Kouakou	AfrEA

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. The Independent Development Evaluation (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 (Benin, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire and Zimbabwe).



MEMBERSHIP

The Network is open to current and former parliamentarians from Africa and beyond, African national and regional parliaments, non-stake 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 covers all corners of the continent. Its increasing footprint is again highlighted by the regional spread of its Annual General Meeting, starting with the inaugural AGM in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa (2015, then 2019); Harare, Zimbabwe, Southern Africa (2016); Khartoum, Sudan, Horn of Africa (2017), Libreville, Gabon, Central Africa (2018), and virtually (2021).

WHY JOIN APNODE ?

APNODE offers a host of benefits to its members.

1. Access to a shared knowledge base through contact with like-minded professionals is a key pull factor that attracts many to APNODE.
2. 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, Twitter page, via the APNODE WhatsApp platform, in person during the APNODE AGMs, National Chapter events, and/or at APNODE partners' knowledge forums and learning events.
3. 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 encourage knowledge-sharing and peer learning.
4. 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 get access of APNODE strategic partners' knowledge and learning resources and technical expertise.
5. Experience-sharing and peer-learning: Members benefit immensely from the experience-sharing and peer-learning that constantly takes place. Lessons learned, innovative, and 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.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the years, APNODE has enhanced its visibility and increased the footprint of the Network. It has managed this in part by fostering country ownership and local buy-in.

APNODE has served as an invaluable platform for peer-learning and experience-sharing amongst parliamentarians. The Network has facilitated the development of the capacities of over 550 African MPs. 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 the United Nations Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and African Union Agenda 2063.

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

OUR PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

APNODE partners with several institutions including the AfDB, African Evaluation Association (AfrEA), EvalPartners, Global Parliamentarians Forum on Evaluation (GPFE), Centers for Learning on Evaluation and Results (CLEAR) Initiative, Réseau Francophone d'Évaluation, (RFE), Twende Mbele, United National 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 AfDB, CLEAR-AA, CLEAR-FA, 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 at idev.afdb.apnode. Alternatively, requests can be made through the APNODE Secretariat.

The APNODE Secretariat will first review all application requests and, if needed to be approved by the Executive Committee depending on the membership type. Membership becomes official after approval and payment of the stipulated membership fee.

Approvals of applications for Partner status is subject to a review and decision by the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of APNODE.





CONTACT US

APNODE Secretariat
c/o Independent Development Evaluation
African Development Bank Group
Avenue Joseph Anoma
01 BP 1387, Abidjan 01
Côte d'Ivoire
Tel: +225 27 20 26 49 70
Email: apnode@afdb.org
Web: <http://idev.afdb.org/en/page/related-page/african-parliamentarians-network-development-evaluation-apnode>