



APNODE

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

Annual Report 2019 - 2020

August 2020

Table of Contents

ACRONYMS	ii
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	iii
I. INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. Background on APNODE	1
II. KEY ACTIVITIES IN 2019-2020.....	2
2.1. Meetings of the Executive Committee	2
2.2. APNODE Strategic Plan 2017-2020 and Costed-Work Plan 2018-2020	3
2.3. Expanding the Network.....	4
2.4. Cementing the Network: APNODE National Chapters	4
2.5. Knowledge Sharing & Peer Learning	5
2.6. Communication	7
2.7. Capacity Development	8
2.8 Resource Mobilization.....	8
III. FINANCIAL SUMMARY	9

ACRONYMS

AfDB	African Development Bank
AfrEA	African Evaluation Association
AGM	Annual General Meeting
APNODE	African Parliamentarians' Network on Development Evaluation
APNODE-CI	Ivorian APNODE National Chapter
CLEAR-AA	Center for Learning on Evaluation and Results-Anglophone Africa
EC	APNODE Executive Committee
GPFE	Global Parliamentarians Forum on Evaluation
IDEV	Independent Development Evaluation
RFE	Réseau Francophone pour l'Evaluation
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
VNRs	Voluntary National Reviews

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Annual Report reviews the APNODE operational year 2019-2020, from the 5th Annual General Meeting (AGM) which took place from 28-30 August 2019 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire through July 2020. The report highlights all the activities the Network undertook throughout the year. It also summarizes the main issues and challenges it faced while applying its mandate.

APNODE currently has members from 29 countries, and has acquired a new partner in Eval4Action. APNODE partners are of great support to the Network and assist in the accomplishment of its vision and mission.

APNODE held its 5th Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in August 2019. The event attracted over 60 African parliamentarians from 16 countries across the continent, including four Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Parliament. The AGM concluded that APNODE is playing an instrumental role in increasing an evaluation culture on the African continent and that more Speakers of Parliament should be encouraged to join the Network. During the 5th AGM a new Executive Committee (EC) was elected with a two-year mandate.

Over the year, APNODE undertook a number of key activities including EC meetings, capacity development, and knowledge sharing activities. Both the approved APNODE Costed-Work Plan and Strategic Plan expired in 2020, and required renewing. However, EC members decided to extend the use of the Strategic Plan and recommended that similar be done for the Costed-Work Plan by focusing on activities not yet done.

Central to the knowledge sharing activities undertaken during the year was a webinar organized by the APNODE Secretariat and CLEAR-AA titled 'Implementing the UN 2030 Agenda & its SDGs: What are African Parliaments Doing?' in June 2020. The Independent Development Evaluation (IDEV) hosted the webinar.

Efforts were undertaken to expand the Network's partners. One such effort saw Hon. Evelyn Mpagi-Kaabule, the Chairperson of APNODE, participating in the Eval4Action Global Marathon of Engagement in June 2020, following which Eval4Action and APNODE formalized a partnership.

A key challenge in 2020 was the COVID-19 pandemic. To support efforts to combat this pandemic, APNODE National Chapters, through their members, contributed to the fight by providing their communities with necessary sanitary and related supplies. The pandemic disrupted all face-to-face activities, causing all planned activities and meetings to be cancelled or to be delivered virtually. Accordingly, for the first time in the Network's history, its scheduled Annual General Meeting had to be postponed (to 2021).

During the pandemic lockdown, the APNODE Secretariat continued to engage and interact with the members and EC members using communication channels at their disposal such as emails, social media and news bulletins. This kept the members informed on the evolution of the pandemic and alternative possibilities and tools they can use to keep on applying evaluation. Online webinars, trainings and workshops were communicated for them to continue to develop their capacities.

I. INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report covers the period August 2019-July 2020. The Report is structured into three main sections – Introduction, Key Activities, and the Financial Summary.

1.1. Background on APNODE

Launched in March 2014 by African parliamentarians at the AfrEA Conference held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, the African Parliamentarians' Network on Development Evaluation (APNODE) was established based on the recognition of the important function of evaluation in national decision-making. The Network was also founded based on the crucial role of parliamentarians in ensuring that evaluation evidence is used for strengthening oversight, budgeting, legislation and policy-making, with a view to greater development effectiveness and inclusive growth. APNODE was formalized and operationalized at the first Annual General Meeting (AGM) held at the headquarters of the African Development Bank in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in July 2015.

APNODE's core objective is to provide a forum for parliamentarians and parliaments in Africa to make use of, and advocate for, development evaluation in order to promote development effectiveness and inclusive growth on the African continent. To this end, the Network's activities revolve around the following specific intents:

- Sensitize national parliaments and parliamentarians about the importance of evaluation for oversight, policy and decision-making,
- Enhance the capacity of parliamentarians to demand and utilize evaluation evidence in their parliamentary duties,
- Encourage parliamentarians to institutionalize evaluation to inform decision and policymaking,
- Share experiences across Africa and beyond,
- Support parliamentarians to ensure that country-level evaluations are responsive to the concerns of gender equality, vulnerable groups, and equitable development results,
- Assist MPs to embrace a culture of evaluation and evidence-based decision-making at all levels of government, and
- Bridge the gap between parliamentarians (as users of evaluation evidence) and evaluators (as purveyors of impartial evidence).

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.

APNODE partners with several institutions including: the [African Evaluation Association](#) (AfrEA), [EvalPartners](#), [International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation](#) (IOCE), [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), [Eval4Action](#) and the [United Nations Development Programme](#) (UNDP).

APNODE is managed by a thirteen-person [Executive Committee](#) (EC) comprised of eleven network members and three development partners. The Executive Committee is elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) for a two-year term, renewable once. The current EC members, elected at the 5th AGM held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in 2019, are:

Box 1: APNODE Executive Committee Members – 2019-2021.

Chairperson:	Hon. Evelyn Mpagi-Kaabule (Uganda)
Vice-Chairperson:	Hon. Abbas Imbassou Ouattara (Côte d'Ivoire)
Treasurer:	Hon. Felix Mhona (Zimbabwe)
Returning member:	Sen. Richard Moussounda Mikala (Gabon)
Other Committee members:	Hon. Jérémie Adomahou (Benin) Sen. Langton Chikukwa (Zimbabwe) Hon. Rahhal El Makkaoui (Morocco) Hon. Paurina Mpariwa (Zimbabwe) Hon. Elise Pokossy-Doumbé (Cameroon) Hon. Omega Sibanda (Zimbabwe) Hon. Noel Rossan Goakûn Toe (Burkina Faso)
<u>Representatives from partner organizations:</u>	
African Development Bank:	Karen Rot-Münstermann
AfrEA:	Samuel Kouakou
CLEAR-AA:	Boikanyo Moloto/ Tefo Mosienyane ¹

The above-listed Executive Committee will serve a two-year mandate (2019 – 2021), following which elections will again be held.

II. KEY ACTIVITIES IN 2019-2020

2.1. Meetings of the Executive Committee

Over the course of the period under review, members of the APNODE Executive Committee held four (4) virtual meetings and one (1) face-to-face meeting. The meetings enable the EC to discuss and take relevant decisions pertaining to the management and growth of the Network. Table 1, overleaf, lists the different meetings with the key focus areas and topics that were discussed.

The meetings further offer an opportunity for EC members to come together, to deliberate on the activities of the Network and ongoing developments, notably the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on travel and related activities, including the 6th AGM, the APNODE Costed-Work Plan, the Strategic Plan and other activities at the level of the National Chapters.

One of the key deliberation topics centered on the need to hire a resource mobilization consultant to assist the Network with fundraising. However, due to financial constraints, the idea could not be implemented.

¹ During the year in review, the CLEAR-AA representative on the APNODE Executive Committee, Ms. Hermine Engel had a career change, leading to a replacement.

Table 1: APNODE Executive Committee Meetings (Aug. 2019 – July 2020)

DATE	TYPE OF MEETING	KEY FOCUS AREAS
28 Aug. 2019	Face to face	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of the 19th EC VC Meeting • Review of 5th AGM Program /Roles and Responsibilities of EC members in program • Update on Election Process
4 Nov. 2019	VC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the 5th AGM Report. • Approval of the 5th face to face EC meeting report • Action Plan 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Reach out to more speakers of parliament o Heightened resource mobilization efforts o Urgent hire of a resource mobilization consultant/ strategist
28 Jan. 2020	VC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of minutes of 20th EC VC meeting of 4th November 2019 • Selection of location and date for the 6th APNODE AGM • Update on APNODE Financial status • EC Members' Participation in Conferences & Workshops • Update on Zambian National Chapter Launch • Work Plan activities: resource mobilization, recruitment of members especially associate members (parliaments) and Chapters
6 April 2020	VC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of 21st EC VC meeting of 28th January 2020 • Update on the 6th APNODE AGM • Tentative budget and guidance on EC Sensitization Visits • Update on Zambian National Chapter Launch
29 May 2020	VC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of 22nd EC VC meeting of 6th April 2020 • Update on the 6th APNODE AGM • Planning of the working session at the AGM on the Work Plan and Strategic Plan • Tentative budget for EC sensitization visits • Proposed themes for AfrEA-APNODE Webinars

2.2. APNODE Strategic Plan 2017-2020 and Costed-Work Plan 2018-2020

The Executive Committee and Secretariat use the existing Work Plan and Strategic Plan as guidance for the development of the Network. These two documents shape planned activities that the Network engages in during the year. Examples include the ongoing development of APNODE's standalone website, the organization of webinars, and engagements with Strategic Partners and associated stakeholders both on the continent and beyond.

Given that both the APNODE Strategic Plan and Costed Work Plan were set to expire in the year 2020, a series of deliberations were held by the Executive Committee on the issue, culminating in a decision to continue using the Strategic Plan for another year, and focusing on activities in the Work Plan not yet undertaken. To this end, the Secretariat continued to work on the dummy website developed with the support of CLEAR-AA, drafting web texts and identifying documents and related materials that would be used to populate the site when ready.

The Secretariat also continued to work with CLEAR-AA on its upcoming publication “Systems of Evidence Use in African Parliaments”, participating in the publication virtual write-shop, and contributing to a joint chapter as well as facilitating an endorsement of the publication by the APNODE Chairperson. Relatedly, a revised and updated version of the Network’s Brochure was published and disseminated to members.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent global lockdown, starting in March 2020, resulted in all planned in-person activities being cancelled or undertaken in a virtual mode – restraining the activities of the Network, including a much-anticipated official launch of the Zambian APNODE National Chapter. Despite this unprecedented challenge, APNODE EC members and the wider Network managed to participate in a number of “new normal” virtual events.

2.3. Expanding the Network

During the year in review, the Network continued earnestly to expand and grow its visibility. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the Network managed to establish a new partnership aimed at deepening its collaboration and learning. To this end, APNODE not only became one of Eval4Action’s partners, but also endorsed Eval4Action’s campaign, which calls upon all actors to accelerate the delivery of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), by advocating for stronger evaluation capacities and evidence-based policies.

Hon. Evelyn Mpagi-Kaabule, the Chairperson of APNODE participated in the Eval4Action Global Marathon of Engagement held on 10 June 2020, where she delivered a motivational statement aimed at bringing widespread recognition to evaluation and the SDGs, especially during the COVID-19 crisis.

The [6th Annual General Meeting](#) was supposed to take place from 13-15 July 2020 in Rabat, Morocco, hosted by the House of Councillors, Kingdom of Morocco. In the thought of expanding the Network and upgrading its visibility, invitations letters were sent to most of the National Assemblies and Senates on the African continent. However, the AGM could not take place and had to be postponed to the year 2021 due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

On the continent, efforts continued the work to formalize collaborations with the Parliamentary Caucus on Evidence-Informed Oversight and Decision-Making (PC-EIDM) in Kenya. Following up on conversations commenced at EvalColombo2018, securing this partnership will not only expand the membership of the Network, but also strengthen peer learning and experience sharing between APNODE and the Kenyan Parliament.

2.4. Cementing the Network: APNODE National Chapters

During the year in review, and despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the three most active APNODE National Chapters worked toward enhancing and deepening their relationship with in-country stakeholders and citizens.

In Zimbabwe, the APNODE National Chapter was reconstituted following the elections. The National Chapter has identified specific stakeholders including the Parliament of Zimbabwe that will support the Chapter. The National Chapter also drafted a Strategic Plan that will be a guide for its coming activities.

In Cote d'Ivoire, the National Chapter (APNODE-CI) contributed to the fight against the Coronavirus. To this end, they contributed toward the purchase and distribution of sanitary kits, protective masks, hydro-alcoholic gels, gloves, washing soap and food kits to needy populations. They also organized awareness campaigns to sensitize the populations about the pandemic.

In Cameroon, the National Chapter contributed to the fight against the Coronavirus as well. Some members of the Chapter distributed materials such as buckets, washing soap and others to the population. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the Chapter was not able to hold its Annual General Meeting.

In Zambia, the Right Hon. Dr. Patrick Matibini, MP, Speaker of the National Assembly of Zambia, on 11 November 2019 approved the setting up of the Zambian National Chapter of APNODE. Hon. Stanley Kakubo, a Member of Parliament, was appointed as Interim Chairperson and the Parliamentary Reforms Programme (PRP)-Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Department in the Office of the Clerk, was designated as the Secretariat of the National Chapter. The Interim Chairperson and Secretariat held several stakeholder meetings to sensitize key institutions and development partners about APNODE and the rationale to set up a National Chapter in Zambia. An official launch of the Chapter was slated for March 2020. However, the launch of the Chapter was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A new launch date is yet to be communicated.

2.5. Knowledge Sharing & Peer Learning

During the year in review, the Secretariat worked earnestly to facilitate knowledge sharing and peer learning among Network members. Several updates were passed on to the members and National Chapters via the different communication channels (emails and LinkedIn Group page). Information on webinars, workshops, conferences and more were also communicated, and members had the privilege to attend some of these events.

Below are highlights of the key knowledge sharing and peer learning events that APNODE Members participated in over the period under review:

- From **28 - 30 August 2019**, APNODE held its **5th Annual General Meeting (AGM)** in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The event, hosted by the Independent Development Evaluation (IDEV), attracted over 60 African parliamentarians from 16 countries across the continent. The event attracted high-level guests such as the Speaker of Parliament of Cote d'Ivoire, H.E. Amadou Soumahoro, Speaker of Parliament of Zimbabwe, Hon. Adv. Jacob Francis Mudenda, First Deputy Speaker of Parliament of Ghana, Hon. Joseph Osei-Owusu; and, the Second Deputy Speaker of Parliament of Ghana, Hon. Alban Sumana Kingsford Bagbin. Themed 'Shaping the Africa We Seek: The Vital Role of Parliamentarians in Evaluation Capacity Development', the 5th AGM, among others, highlighted the efforts of African parliamentarians in their role as catalysts of change and drivers of an evaluation culture in Africa. The AGM's program covered: i) review of the 2018 Annual and Financial Report, ii) a training session on evaluation at the legislative level; iii) three panel sessions on *Country Strategy Evaluations and the Role of the Legislature*; *Diversifying APNODE's Resource Pool – A Conversation*; and, *APNODE, Parliamentary Oversight and the African Continental Free Trade Area*. A new APNODE Executive Committee was also elected. The AGM attracted parliamentarians (Speakers of the House/Senate, Members of National Assemblies and Senators) from across the Continent, as well as representatives from development partners such as the AfDB, UN-Women, CLEAR-AA (Centers for Learning on

Evaluation and Results – Anglophone Africa), Global Parliamentarians’ Forum on Evaluation (GPFE), and RFE (Réseau Francophone de l’Evaluation). Also, in attendance were representatives from some of Africa’s regional parliaments, notably, the ECOWAS Parliament and the Pan African Parliament.

- From **22 - 29 September 2019**, the [64th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference \(CPC2019\)](#) took place in Kampala, Uganda. **Hon. Evelyn Mpagi-Kaabule**, Chairperson of APNODE, attended the event. Themed ‘Adaptation, engagement, and evolution of parliaments in a rapidly changing Commonwealth’, the CPC2019 was an opportunity for the APNODE Chairperson to network with the over 500 participating Parliamentarians, parliamentary staffers and decision makers from across the Commonwealth.
- From **30 September - 4 October 2019**, **Hon. Evelyn Mpagi-Kaabule**, Chairperson of APNODE, participated in the 2019 [International Development Evaluation Association \(IDEAS\) Global Assembly](#) in Prague, Czech Republic, as a panelist in the UNICEF-GPFE session titled ‘*Follow-up of the Colombo Declaration of the Global Parliamentarians Forum for Evaluation (GPFE)*’. The 2019 IDEAS Global Assembly was held under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and in collaboration with the Czech Evaluation Society. Themed ‘Evaluation for Transformative Change bringing experiences of the Global South to the Global North’, the 2019 IDEAS Global Assembly highlighted how evaluation as a profession contributes to the understanding of transformative change necessary to solve economic, social and political crises.
- From **20 - 24 October 2019**, the UNDP held its [2019 National Evaluation Capacities \(NEC\) Conference](#) ‘Leaving No One Behind: Evaluation for 2030’, in Hurghada, Egypt. **Hon. Evelyn Mpagi-Kaabule**, Chairperson of APNODE, attended the Conference as a panelist in two sessions: a) ‘*Strengthening demand for and use of national evaluation systems to inform national development strategies*’, and b) ‘*Transforming Evaluation through Partnerships*’. The Conference and associated sessions provided an opportunity for in-depth discussions on the challenges and solutions for building national evaluation frameworks that will facilitate inclusive development that leaves no one behind.
- From **12 - 15 November 2019**, the third edition of the [Forum of the Francophone Network of Evaluation \(FIFE\)](#) took place in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The forum, themed ‘Evaluation for whose benefit and with which values?’, attracted participants from over 30 Francophone countries, including current and former Executive Committee members of APNODE, notably, **Hon. Abbas Imbassou Ouattara** (Vice Chairperson), **Sen. Roger Mbassa-Ndine** (former APNODE Chairperson), **Hon. Rahhal El Makkaoui** (Morocco), **Hon. Noel Rossan Goakûn Toe** (Burkina Faso), **Hon. Jérémie Adomahou** (Benin) and **Hon. Andre Richard Moussounda Mikala** (Gabon). The APNODE delegation participated in the workshop on “*Institutionalization of Evaluation in French-speaking countries: Current situation, challenges and perspectives*”, aimed at analyzing the progress on the institutionalization of evaluation across Francophone African countries.
- From **10 - 12 December 2019**, **Hon. Evelyn Mpagi-Kaabule** attended the UNICEF-UNECA 2nd Conference on “Strengthening National Evaluation Capacities for the Africa We Want” in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The conference was a follow-up to an earlier forum organized by the same organizations in December 2018. The conference focused on reinforcing capacities of African countries for evidence-based Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs).

- On **29 February 2020**, the [National Assembly of the Republic of Zambia sent a delegation from its Monitoring and Evaluation \(M&E\) Department](#) to benchmark with the Parliament of the Republic of Uganda on how to improve their M&E activities. As a part of the visit, the delegation had a working meeting with **Hon. Evelyn Mpagi-Kaabule**, Chairperson of APNODE, who, among others, took them through APNODE's mission, vision and objectives, as well as shared insights on the role and essence of an APNODE National Chapter. The delegation was comprised of Ms. Saraphina H. M. Banda, Principal Clerk - M&E and Mr. Japheth Chanda, M&E Officer.
- On **1 June 2020**, the National Assembly of Zambia in collaboration with the Ministry of National Development Planning and the Zambia Monitoring and Evaluation Association organized a webinar themed '[Building a Results Culture in the Zambian Parliament](#)', as part of the 2020 CLEAR Initiative gLOCAL Evaluation Week. The webinar discussed how M&E could contribute to improve the performance of the country's implementation of the SDG commitments. **Hon. Stanley Kakubo**, interim chairperson of APNODE Zambia participated in the event as one of the key speakers.
- On **5 June 2020**, the APNODE Secretariat in collaboration with CLEAR-AA organized a webinar titled '[Implementing the UN 2030 Agenda & its SDGs: What are African Parliaments Doing?](#)' The webinar was held as part of the CLEAR Initiative's 2020 gLOCAL Evaluation Week. Speakers at the webinar were **Hon. Evelyn Mpagi-Kaabule**, APNODE Chairperson and **Hon. Stanley Kakubo**, MP, Zambia/Interim Chair of APNODE National Chapter in Zambia. Central to the webinar was the recognition that to reflect the SDGs in tangible and measurable national policies, Parliaments should be actively involved.

2.6. Communication

Communication over the course of the period in review continued as usual. The Secretariat brought information to EC and other APNODE members using different channels such as news bulletins, emails and social media. The shared information was important for members since it was comprised of news concerning the Network as well as updates on trainings, workshops and dialogue forums.

The Secretariat continued to reach-out to its membership via the three key channels, notably, the *APNODE Weekly What's New Flyer*, *APNODE LinkedIn Group page* and the *APNODE Quarterly Newsletter*. In addition, regular email communication was used to inform and sensitize members on an as-needed basis through-out the year.

Since their launch last year, the above-mentioned communication channels have been welcomed by members. Some members have replied to the Secretariat with words of appreciation. The Secretariat, in turn, has been consistent in sending the electronic leaflet every week.

The number of members on the LinkedIn Group has increased since last year and the Secretariat continues to encourage those yet to join to do so. Doing so, will increase visibility and draw much needed attention to the work of the Network.

Much like the other communication channels, the Newsletter has enabled the Secretariat to highlight different activities being undertaken by members in their own countries and beyond. It is an opportunity to display the work of the Network, National Chapters and members with the

purpose to encourage knowledge sharing and peer learning. It also alerts readers to upcoming events – webinars, workshops, conferences and more.

Efforts on the standalone APNODE Website are progressing steadily, with much of the content drafted and ready. Once the remaining edits to the final draft dummy site are completed, the migration of information will take place, following which the website will go live.

2.7. Capacity Development

During the period under review, capacity development efforts by the Network and its partners faced several challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic which halted all in-person events. The lockdown resulted in the cancellation and/or postponement of several events. Others had to be modified to be delivered virtually. However, due to challenges with internet access and bandwidth speeds, not all APNODE members could access the benefits of the many virtual dialogue forums and learning events.

However, prior to the outbreak of the pandemic, CLEAR-AA organized a training themed 'Introduction to Development Evaluation' during the 5th AGM held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, from **28-30 August 2019**. Facilitated by Ms. Linda Khumalo and Dr. Lewis Ndhlovu, the training aimed to teach parliamentarians about the essence of evaluations for programming and policy formulation at the legislative level.

2.8 Resource Mobilization

The Executive Committee had discussions on the topic of resource mobilization throughout the 2019-2020 year. For the Executive Committee, there is a necessity to understand the resource mobilization environment in order to increase APNODE funds. Moreover, resource mobilization should be increased as the Network seeks to further enhance its visibility and footprint. Discussions therefore centered around recruiting a resource mobilization consultant who will develop a strategy that will enable the Network to gather sufficient funds for its activities and day-to-day running. However, due to the Network's finance status, a resource mobilization strategist could not be hired but the terms of the reference and a draft contract were crafted.

The Secretariat also continued engaging with other Parliamentary Networks as well as National and Regional Parliaments to sensitize them about APNODE and its activities, to encourage them to join the Network. Members were also urged to advocate for APNODE in order to grow the Network's footprint and visibility. The COVID-19 pandemic did not help the situation, forcing some such as the Parliament of Zambia to postpone its official launch of an APNODE National Chapter, which would have given visibility to the Network.

Strategic partners such as CLEAR-AA, IDEV, RFE, Twende Mbele and UNICEF continued to support the Network with in-kind and cash support – financing activities of the Network especially trips of some EC and other members to various capacity building events and conferences.

III. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

As at **31 December 2019**, the Network's available balance stood at **32,610.00 USD** (thirty-two thousand, six hundred and ten United States dollars).

The breakdown of 2019 total disbursement by activities is as follows:

ACTIVITIES	DISBURSEMENT (USD)
1. Structural/Organizational Support	4,245.00
2. Network and Advocacy	8,855.00
3. Capacity Development	-
4. Outreach and Resource Mobilization	-
TOTAL	13,100.00

In-kind Contributions (1st January to 31st December 2019)

Organization	Contribution (USD)
IDEV/AfDB	121,734.00
CLEAR-AA	9,790.00
RFE	6,351.00
TWENDE MBELE	3,000.00
UNICEF	6,835.00
TOTAL	147,710.00

Further details can be found in the APNODE Annual Financial Report for 2019².

APNODE Secretariat
Independent Development Evaluation
African Development Bank
01 BP Abidjan, 01
Côte d'Ivoire
Tel: +225 27 2026 5114

² As per the APNODE Constitution, the APNODE financial year is the calendar year, 1 January - 31 December. This annual financial report therefore covers the calendar year.