

Malawi Program Summary

Malawi's program is focused on improving the legislative and judicial branches, providing support for lead anti-corruption agencies, strengthening independent media coverage and expanding and intensifying the work of civil society organizations.

Program Highlights

- a** Malawi's \$20.9 million threshold program, focused on preventing corruption, enhancing oversight functions, and building enforcement and deterrence capacity, ended on September 30, 2008. The purpose was to create more effective legislative and judicial branches of government, provide support for lead anti-corruption agencies, strengthen independent media coverage, and expand and intensify the work of civil society organizations.
- a** A financial intelligence unit has been established and is providing a safeguard against corruption by enabling the government of Malawi to track suspicious movements of money.
- a** The establishment of the Media Council in Malawi has enhanced local press freedom, as well as promoted journalistic ethics and professional standards by involving journalists and the media in the regulation of the profession. The program also trained journalists to report on and analyze corruption, resulting in numerous stories exposing government waste and corruption.
- a** The program has also effectively strengthened oversight and increased transparency by improving audit capabilities, establishing a system to monitor and evaluate public sector projects and increasing fiscal management capacity. The integration of civil society as part of an anticorruption public campaign has produced a tripling of the number of groups testifying before parliament. In addition, MCC support for the operation of Malawi's National Assembly enabled all 13 standing committees to convene for the first time in the Assembly's history. The ability of these committees to exert effective parliamentary oversight is critical to executive branch accountability and the sustainability of anti-corruption efforts.

Threshold Status

Status.....Implementation, Year 2

Threshold Information

Total Amount.....\$20.92 million

Agreement Signed.....September 23, 2005

Country Information

Population.....12,883,935*

GNI Per Capita Income.....\$160*