



Centre for Multiparty Democracy

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Evaluation of Political Party Monitors Training

TERMS of REFERENCE

Introduction

The Centre for Multiparty Democracy – Malawi (CMD-M) is a membership organization comprising of political parties that have representation in the National Assembly. Its recently revised constitution opens membership to other political parties that have no parliamentary representation. Representation in the National Assembly is defined as getting parliamentary seats through General Elections and / or by - elections.

The CMD – M sets out to ensure the entrenchment of multiparty democracy in Malawi. Its mission is to “enhance inter – party programs of common interest for the promotion of political dialogue, stable multiparty democracy and social economic development of Malawi.”

Background

In the run up to the 2019 tripartite elections, and the June 2020 Fresh Presidential Elections, the Centre for Multiparty Democracy organized and conducted training sessions for political party monitors. The monitors were directly identified by political parties, and two monitors were identified from each of the constituencies. After the training sessions, political parties were expected, where possible, to use the trained monitors as trainers in the lower level structures. But principally, the monitors were supposed to be deployed to different points, be it at the polling station level, constituency level or the district tally centres to actually do the monitoring of the elections.

Training Objectives

The objectives of the training sessions were

- Equip party agents with knowledge and skills to effectively carry out their monitoring role during the elections.
- It is important to have well trained polling agents who have an in-depth knowledge of the election day processes.
- The polling agents should be able to articulate the importance of electoral integrity.

The training sessions covered a variety of topics including:

- Electoral integrity
- Roles and Responsibilities of a party monitor
- Electoral irregularities
- Polling day procedures
- Complaints handling

These and other topics were considered to be critical in order to equip party monitors with the requisite skills for them to be able to carry out their functions. It was believed that while these topics would enable the monitor to be fully aware of their roles and responsibilities, it would also assist in ensuring that there are no undue conflicts on the polling day as different players would all know what was expected of them.

Evaluation Objectives and Questions:

This evaluation exercise is expected to achieve the following objectives:

1. To assess the effectiveness of the training sessions (i.e. the extent to which the objectives were achieved)
2. To assess sustainability of the interventions (i.e., the likelihood of the monitors to be utilized in future elections by political parties)
3. To assess the relevance of the training content (i.e. appropriateness of the content of the training in relation to the needs of the parties and situation on the ground)
4. To assess determine ways to improve the training design, with special focus on the content and delivery of the sessions

The evaluation is expected, on the minimum to answer the following specific questions

Effectiveness

1. To what extent have the objectives of the training been reached?
2. Are the training adequate to realize the objectives?

Relevance

3. Are objectives of the training sessions in keeping with political party needs and priorities?
4. Should the nature of the training be changed to better reflect those needs and priorities?

Sustainability

5. To what extent does the training established skills that are likely to support the continued use of the monitors during future elections?
6. Are the involved parties willing and able to continue using the monitors in their other activities on their own?

Project Design Improvement

7. In what ways can the training sessions and materials be improved to better meet project objectives?
8. In what ways can the delivery of the training be improved to ensure that monitors acquire the knowledge, skills and practice carry out election monitoring?
9. How can the overall design of the training sessions be improved to better achieve the objectives?

Evaluation Methods and Scope of Work

The evaluator is expected to undertake the evaluation in as rigorous manner as possible to produce information and make recommendations that are sufficiently valid and reliable. It is expected that the evaluator will conduct a **participatory evaluation** that will involve project implementers and target beneficiaries in all key evaluation tasks.

Timeline and Deliverables

The evaluation is expected to be conducted within an 8 to 10 day period for the evaluator to complete the tasks. The final deliverable is the evaluation report that will be submitted to the executive Director. The CMD will organize access to the monitors for the evaluator to conduct the assignment. The monitors will be clustered into some groups within the districts for easy access and engagement.

Supervision and Reporting

The consultant will be under the direct supervision of the Executive Director to whom the final report will be presented.

Submission of the Technical and Financial Proposal

Interested consultants are expected to submit both technical and financial proposal to the Executive Director through email at cmdmalawi.general@gmail.com

Expressions of interest must be sent by e-mail to the same address as above by CoB on 8th of September, 2020. When submitting please put subject line: **Evaluation of Political Party Monitors Training.**