



Centre for Environmental  
Policy and Advocacy

*Facilitating Policy Formulation and Implementation Processes*

## **Our Vision**

An equitable and just society that promotes sustainable livelihoods and environmental conservation

## **Our Mission**

To be a think tank for ideas and action oriented research institution of first choice to promote environmental sustainability in Malawi and Southern Africa

## **Our Goal**

To facilitate policy formulation processes and policy implementation for sustainable environment and natural resources management.

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## **About CEPA**

CEPA is a not for profit non-governmental organization registered as a company limited by guarantee in 2002. CEPA seeks to contribute to the development of environment and natural resources management best practices in Malawi and Southern Africa Region. As a think tank organization CEPA provides advice and conducts research in environment and natural resources management policies and legislation with a view to designing appropriate interventions for promoting sustainable environment and natural resources management. Our work concentrates on sound environmental governance; in this respect, issues of accountability, institutional strengthening and representation are at the core of our activities.

## **Project Profile**

CEPA is currently implementing a number of projects in collaboration with its partners. These include:

### **Legislative Representation**

The project on legislative representation in environment and natural resources issues in Malawi seeks to open political space for constituencies to use their legislators to effectively represent their environment and natural resources interests.

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Issues of performance monitoring of legislators and political party representation of constituency interests are considered here. This project is being implemented with funding from World Resources Institute (WRI), Washington DC. For more details contact Clement Kalonga, email [clement@cepa.org.mw](mailto:clement@cepa.org.mw)

### **Biodiversity and Modern Biotechnology**

Involves biodiversity and modern biotechnology policy lobbying and networking which seeks to advocate for sustainable development and management of biotechnology and biodiversity to enhance local livelihood issues. The project is also assisting Malawi Government in the development of legislation on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) for Genetic Resources. This project is managed in collaboration with the Community Technology Development Trust of Zimbabwe and is funded by the Development Fund of Norway and Swedibio in Sweden. For further details you can contact Maybin Ng'ambi, email: [maybin@cepa.org.mw](mailto:maybin@cepa.org.mw)

### **Land and Agrarian Reform**

The Land and Agrarian Reform Project is an initiative covering several countries in Southern Africa. These include Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. The aim of the project is to promote equitable land reform projects and programmes and ensure that these effectively address critical issues such as poverty reduction, livelihoods,

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employment creation and lobby for appropriate institutional frameworks to support people centered land and agrarian reform among others. The project is coordinated by Community Development Trust and African Institute for Agrarian Studies in Zimbabwe. For more details contact Maybin Ng'ambi.

### **The Access Initiative (TAI)**

TAI is an initiative of a global coalition of NGOs that seeks to enhance implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, 1992 to which the state parties re-committed themselves in Johannesburg 2002 at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. CEPA is leading a coalition of Malawi several NGOs conducting research to assess progress of Malawi Government implementation of access to information, justice and encouragement of public participation in environmental decision making. This project is coordinated by the World resources Institute in Washington D.C. up to 2007. Contact Clement Kalonga for more information.

### **Consultancy Assignments**

In addition, CEPA has undertaken a number of consultancy assignments relating to review and reform of environment and natural resources policies and legislation in Malawi and Southern Africa.

Among the notable assignments are the harmonization of Malawi's environment and natural resources policies, the revision of its National Environmental Policy, the development of a National Biotechnology Policy, revision of the Environment Management Act (EMA) and a review of the Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources policy and legal framework which is part of the Southern Africa Biodiversity Support Program. At regional level CEPA has undertaken assignments for the Southern Africa Development Community to summarize all SADC legal instruments including the SADC Treaty and all protocols under it. We are also facilitating a UNEP initiative to harmonize environmental legislation involving Malawi, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland. Details can be obtained from Gracian Banda, email: [gracian@cepa.org.mw](mailto:gracian@cepa.org.mw)

### **Partnership**

CEPA believes in partnership and collaboration and in this respect, the organization has set up very good working relationships with like-minded institutions. These include the Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT) in Zimbabwe, the World Resources Institute (WRI) in Washington D.C., the Environmental Affairs Department (E.A.D) of the Malawi Government and the Wildlife and Environmental Society of Malawi (WESM) among others.

These partnerships and collaborative relationships have given CEPA immense insight into policy processes at local, national, regional and international levels. These relationships are being strengthened and expanded.

### **Staffing**

In addition to core staff that consists of environmental lawyers, economists and scientists CEPA utilizes a multi-disciplinary network of Research Fellows from academia and other NGOs; this enables us to effectively respond to the multifaceted nature of environmental problems.

### **Our Contacts:**

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