



STRENGTHENING ENABLING ENVIRONMENTS, NATIONAL EVALUATION POLICY FRAMEWORKS AND INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT -
MALAWI**

**NATIONAL EVALUATION CAPACITIES CONFERENCE 16 –
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Outline

- Development policy evolution
- Planning levels;
- Integration of International Development Frameworks
- Progress reviews and analysis
- Challenges in policy/ programme evaluation
- Strategies for addressing challenges

Development Policy Evolution

- Beginning 1960's to early 1990's, Malawi used 10-year Statement of Development Policies (DEVPOL's);
- Structural Adjustment Programmes (1980) – IMF and World Bank;
- Vision 2020 developed and launched in 1998, as a home grown national long term perspective for Malawi;

- 5 year medium term strategies, namely:
 1. Malawi Poverty Reduction Strategy (2000-2006)
 2. Malawi Growth and Development Strategy I (2006-2011)
 3. Malawi Growth and Development Strategy II (2011-2016)
 4. Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III (2017 – 2022)

Planning Levels

- Malawi has a two tier system of governance;
 - Central Government – Ministries
 - Local Government - Districts
- Development planning is done at three levels; i.e.
 - Long term planning e.g. Vision 2020.
 - Medium term planning e.g. MPRSP, MGDS III etc.
 - Short term planning e.g. Budget, Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF)

Integration of international development frameworks

1. Agenda 2030 – SDGs mainstreaming
 2. African Union agenda 2063
 3. SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan
 4. Istanbul Programme of Action
 5. Sector treaties and commitments
- The frameworks have already been localised in MGDS III

Progress Reviews and Analysis

- National development plans are reviewed annually to monitor progress - (SDGs)
 - Independent mid- term and final evaluations
- Review and analysis benefit from:
- Inputs from Sector Working Groups,
 - An independent review, and
 - Various government policy and strategy documents.
- From these reviews, a number of lessons are learnt to inform subsequent development plans- MGDS III.

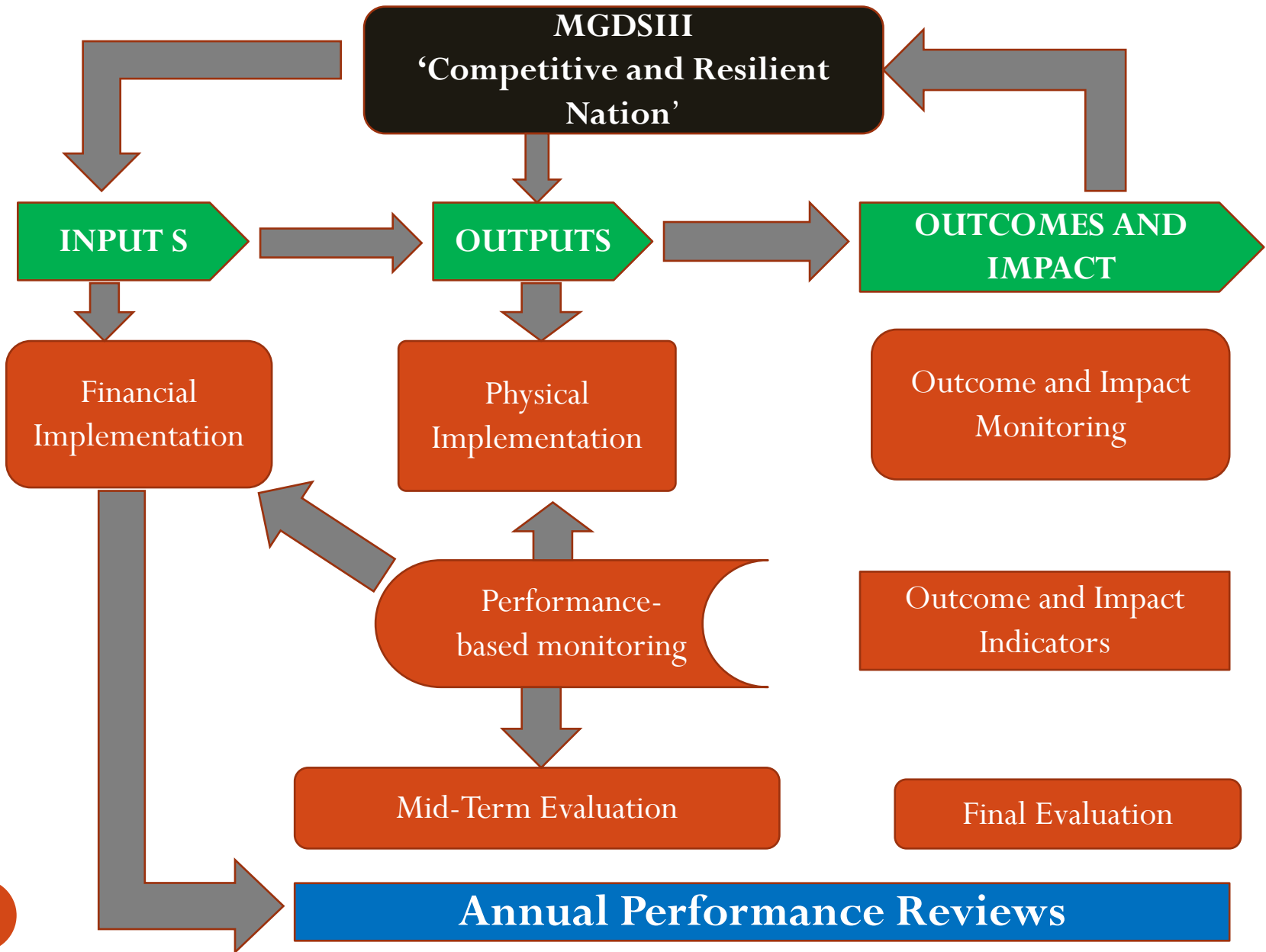
Challenges in Programme Evaluation

- Policy/ programme formulation not backed by evidence
- Inadequate resources to fund evaluations
- Lack of baseline data
- Poor data quality (administrative)
- Inadequate human capacities (numbers and skills) to carry out evaluations
- Poor coordination among institutions
- Poor response on evaluation findings and recommendations

Strategies in addressing Challenges

- Instituted Public Policy Research unit to promote evidence based policy/ programme formulation
 - Reposition evaluation as a strategic function to inform direction and performance, rather than just an end of programme activity.
- Formulated a comprehensive M&E framework mainstreaming SDG indicators with clear baselines
- Developing a monitoring and evaluation framework linking inputs, process, outputs and outcomes as per the diagram below
- Developed a quality assurance framework to improve data quality
- Implementing a programme based budgeting clearly outlining outputs to be achieved
- Proposed budget line to support M&E at all levels

M&E Framework



Strategies in addressing Challenges Cont'd

District Council level:

- Devolution of the budget from Central to district council level

Human capacity:

- Devolution of human resources from the centre to district council level to address capacity gaps
- Staff rationalisation
- Placement of staff based on establishment warrants
- Implementing capacity development programmes for District officers

Thank for your attention