

STAKEHOLDERS VALIDATE POLICY BRIEF ON FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION



Dr. Anderson Gondwe speaking to the media during the Policy Brief Validation event.

As partners in the Transformation Initiative for Food Systems (TI) project, the MwAPATA Institute, GIZ Malawi, Civil Society Organization Nutrition Alliance (CSONA) and Civil Society Agriculture Network (CISANET) jointly conducted a Policy Brief Validation Workshop on “Strategies for Accelerating Malawi’s Food Systems Transformation.” The workshop was held at Lifestyle Boutique in Lilongwe on Friday, 29 November 2024. Key stakeholders in the Malawi Food Systems that participated in the validation workshop included representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture - Malawi, the National Planning Commission, Oxfam, the Department of Nutrition, the Ministry of Local Government, the media, as well as Dedza, Chikwawa and Mzimba District Councils.

The MwAPATA Institute led the TI project team in the research process to publish the policy brief. The policy brief highlights the current challenges, draws some lessons, and identifies areas for accelerating the implementation of food systems transformation in Malawi. It also examines the ongoing efforts to transform Malawi's food systems. Data that informs the policy brief was gathered from dialogues with various stakeholders in the agri-food systems sector. Such dialogues were organized by the Ministry of Agriculture in partnership with several development partners, including GIZ and USAID’s Feed the Future Food Systems for Nutrition Innovation Lab at Tufts University. Participants at these events included representatives from the Government, private sector, academia, development partners, and media.

The policy brief also incorporates lessons from the TI Project activities implemented in Mzimba, Chikwawa, and Dedza districts between July and August 2024. The project has been engaging stakeholders at the district and community levels, enabling them to imagine and work towards an ideal future for their local food systems.

MwAPATA Institute's Research Fellow Dr. Anderson Gondwe made the presentation on the Policy Brief highlighting key findings and recommendations. In reaction to the presentation, the participating stakeholders engaged in critical discussions on the ongoing efforts to transform Malawi's food systems. They also gave input to the policy brief and validated it. Pending approval to be published, the policy brief was revised by the MwAPATA Institute based on the given input.

Download the validated Policy Brief [here](#).