

Local Government Stakeholders Validate Policy Brief on “Policy and Practice: Lessons for Localizing Malawi’s Food Systems Transformation”



Research Fellow, Dr. Anderson Gondwe, making the presentation during the validation workshop in Dedza

As part of the GIZ Transformative Initiative for Food Systems in Malawi (TI Malawi) project, the MwAPATA Institute developed a Policy Brief titled “Policy and Practice: Lessons for Localizing Malawi’s Food Systems Transformation”, which will be useful in informing the localization of global and regional policy frameworks for the transformation of food systems at the country level. The Policy Brief draws on data and information from three primary sources, including consultations with local government stakeholders from Dedza, Mzimba and Chikwawa—the three pilot districts for the TI Malawi Project.

From 6th to 10th October 2025, MwAPATA conducted district-based workshops in the three districts to validate the Policy Brief. Research Fellow, Dr Anderson Gondwe and

Communications Officer, Mr Blessme Phiri, facilitated the validation workshops. At each district, the MwAPATA team presented the Policy Brief to key district council focal persons, including the Director of Planning and Development (DPD), Agriculture Officers, Nutrition Officers, Environmental Officers, and CSO Representatives.

Responding to the presented Policy Brief, the district stakeholders provided their input on areas that require review or further research. For instance, Mzimba DPD's Mr Walter Chikuni suggested that the recommendations in the Policy Brief should not only be addressed to central government policymakers but also to local government decision-makers. Following the validation workshops, MwAPATA refined the Policy Brief and submitted it to GIZ for further review before publication.

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