PAN AFRICAN CIVIC EDUCATORS NETWORK (PACENET)

PROFILE

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The History of PACENET

Pan African Civic Educators Network (PACENET) was founded in 1996 as a continental body with technical and financial support from the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, to coordinate civic education activities on the African continent. The process of its registration under the Trustees Incorporation Act ,of 1962, Malawi was completed on 14Th. March 2002. It had regional chapters in southern Africa, East Africa, and West Africa. Trustees and Board of directors were appointed from regional chapters. The cooperation with Konrad Adenauer Foundation was for a specific period 1996-2003, during which PACENET was expected to grow and be able to reach out to other development partners for financial support. The Konrad Adenauer Foundation supported the administrative and operational needs of PACENET until. However, it did not take long for the regional chapters to disappear after 2003 as the secretariat, based in Malawi was unable to raise adequate funds to support continental and regional activities. This forced trustees to facilitate a process of localization of PACENET's status and operations to become a local NGO. This process was completed in 2007 and since then PACENET is being managed by a local board, with all its interventions responding to development agenda of Malawi and the region through networking with other like-minded institutions. The title for head of the secretariat changed from coordinator to executive director.

The local organization called PACENET identifies itself as an NGO leading the struggle against poverty, oppression, inequality, and all forms of injustices. PACENET strives to promote active citizen participation in the socio-economic, cultural and political affairs of their country, and the promotion of functional ,transparent and accountable democratic governance. The current program focus is on Gender equality and women empowerment; Environmental degradation and climate change; Basic education; Human health and the right to life; Governance & electoral processes; Child protection and the juvenile justice system, and Institutional development.

Currently PACENET secretariat is located in the municipality of Luchenza next to Luchenza secondary school in the southern region of Malawi It implements projects across the country based on need and availability of financial resources.

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In terms of staffing, PACENET has 9 permanent members of staff, and 75 plus ,community volunteers operating under Transparent and Accountability Clubs (TACs)/community-based democracy volunteers.

Mission

To strengthen citizen action against poverty, inequality, oppression and injustices in Malawi and beyond.

Vision

A nation where citizens are empowered, inspired, dedicated, and engaged in confronting poverty, inequality, oppression, and injustices.

PACENET Core Values

- ♣ We are champions of accountability, transparency, diversity and inclusion.
- ♣ We challenge power with principled courage and determination.
- ♣ We believe in justice and dignity for all, while putting the most excluded first
- ♣ We are committed to solidarity, collaboration and networking with likeminded institutions and individuals in order to change things for the benefit of humanity.
- We stand for a vibrant, independent and progressive civil society.

Strategic Goals

Strategic Goal 1:

Promoting and Defending Human Rights, Civic freedoms and democratic values.

Strategic Goal 2:

Enhancing the Power of People to Organize, Mobilize and Act

Strategic Goal 3:

Empowering more accountable, transparent ,effective and innovative community-based organizations ,women groups and youth Organizations.

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Thematic Focus Areas/what we do

1. Gender equality and women empowerment:

Motivating women and young women through human rights awareness programs to participate

in politics and electoral process.

> Conducting capacity building and strengthening for women and young women participating in

politics focusing on campaign strategies, resource mobilization, digital strategies to mobilize

voters etc.

➤ Mobilizing voters to support and vote for female candidates during election.

Recruit, train and deploy Long Term Observers and Short/medium Term Observers to observer

,document and report all forms of violence against women during elections.

Capacity strengthening of women and girls for leadership positions in society both at local and

national level

2. Environmental degradation and climate change

• Community awareness on enhancing community adaptation to environmental degradation and

climate change.

• Mobilizing community-based organisations for tree planting along riverbanks, creating nurseries

for tree seedlings, creating community woodlots

• Building adaptive capacity and resilience of communities in order to reduce vulnerability to

impacts of climate change

• Advocate for policies, bylaws, programs and activities for climate change adaptation.

• Strengthening capacity of communities in effective environmental management and climate

change interventions at community, district, and national levels

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• Engage and mobilize the media on environmental degradation and climate change effects at

community, district, and national levels.

3. Basic education

↓ Community awareness on the importance of early child education

Organize education open days.

♣ Engaging the media to promote education in targeted districts.

♣ Mobilizing resources to support construction of additional classrooms or renovations to old

school blocks for selected primary schools.

Advocating for increased teacher training

4. Human health and the right to life

o Lobbying Council members on improving health delivery.

o Mobilizing the media to organize national level public debates (interface meetings) on the health

delivery in Malawi.

o Community awareness on theft of drugs in health facilities

o Mobilize communities around public health facilities to demand transparency and accountability for

drugs in their facilities.

Mobilizing communities for general cleaning at selected health centers

o Conduct local level public expenditure tracking of the budgetary allocations to the Ministry of Health

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5. Institutional development

- > Organizing training of staff on program development and implementation
- Recruiting staff with appropriate skills and qualifications
- Developing and implementing performance management system and plans.
- > Conducting staff performance appraisal.

6. Governance & electoral processes

- Mobilizing and developing capacity of the citizenry at district and community levels to demand transparency and accountability in the use of public resources.
- O Advocating for accountability and respect for the rule of law to all office bearers.
- o Advocating and lobbying for the independence of Electoral Commission
- o Conducting Needs assessment on women and youth political empowerment
- O Advocating for increased women, youth representation in decision making positions and politics
- o Conducting trainings for electoral stakeholders on leadership, election observation, campaigns

7. Child protection and the juvenile justice system

- Community awareness on the rights of the children
- > Implementing intensive child rights educational programs
- > Implementing programs aimed at promoting juvenile justice.

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Strategies

- i. Capacity Strengthening of Partners
- ii. Use of Model and best practice
- iii. Research and Documentation
- iv. Synergy, networking, coalition and alliance building
- v. Civic Engagement, Advocacy and lobbying.
- vi. Innovativeness and incubation of initiatives/ use of digital technology

Legal Status

- ➤ Registered under the Trustees Incorporation Act
- ➤ NGO Regulatory Authority paid up member- 2023.

Current Board of Trustees

Name	Position in the board	Phone contact/WhatsApp	Email
Fritz Kadyoma	Vice chairperson	+265 999067634	fkadyoma@yahoo.com
(Dr)			
T/A Nthiramanja	Member	+265 992862320	Not available
Angela Ngwalo	Member	+265 993683229	Angelangwalo@gmail.com
Felix Chisoni	Member	+265 992255406	felixchisoni@gmail.com
Mandisa Maulidi	Member	+265 888148601	mandisamaulidi@yahoo.com
Olive Mpina	Executive Director-	+265888851094/995327460	Olivempina90@gmail.com
	Ex-officio		
	member/secretary to		
	the board		

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Examples donor funded projects implemented PACENET so far

No.	Project Name	Duration	Donor	Amount
			EU through African	MK5,300,300
1	Infrastructure development	Nov.2022-Nov	Institute of	
1	monitoring :Thyolo stadium	2023	Corporate	
			Citizenship (AICC)	
2	Enhancing women participation in	2018-2019	UNDP through	MK
	democratic governance in Malawi(UNWOMEN	203,903,865.00
	National coverage)			
3	Women participation in politics and	2018-2019	Royal Norwegian	Mk21,000,000
	decision-making positions (Thyolo		Embassy (RNE)	
	& Mulanje)		through the 50-50	
			Management	
			Agency	
4	Issue based election campaign-	2013-2014	DFID/USAID	Mk69,300,000
	Chiradzulu ,Machinga ,Thyolo		through National	
	districts		Democratic	
			Institute	
5	Enhancing Citizen Action for Just,	2012-2016	Tilitonse Fund with	GBP213,000
	Development and Democratic		support from	
	Governance at Local Level:		EU,DFID,Irish Aid	
	"Zotheka project in Chiradzulu,		and Royal	
	Thyolo, Luchenza and Machinga		Norwegian	
	Districts		Embassy	
6	50-50 campaign	2008-2009	Royal Norwegian	MK30,000,000
			Embassy(RNE)	

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7	Action for better service delivery	2009-2010	Action Aid	GBP 27,000
			International	
8	Promoting women participation in	2005-2007	Action Aid	MK30,000,000
	local government		International	
9	Advocacy on holding local	2005-2007	GTZ	MK21,000,000
	government elections			

Achievements so far:

- Continued existence and operations of PACENET twenty years after expiry of technical and financial support from the Konrad Adenauer Foundation.
- Existence of a functional website for the organization.
- Women, young and young women and the youth political participation program has become, a niche for PACENET.
- Acquired skills within the organization and the board of directors to developed training manuals for its grassroots structures.
- PACENET leadership in the NGO sector. E.g. Chaired the Council for non- governmental organizations in Malawi (CONGOMA) for 7 years; Chaired the Malawi Electoral Support Network (MESN), for 7 years- a network of CSOs involved in electoral processes for 8 years; Chaired the Southern Africa Electoral Support Network based in Harare for 8 years
- Creation of various grassroots structures (women forums; Transparency and Accountability Clubs; and Media Task Force to enhance PACENET ability to empower and mobilize citizens for participation in the socio-economic and political affairs of their country.
- A trusted partner to key development partners in Malawi (GIZ,EU,DFID,USAID,Royal Norwegian Embassy-RNE), Action Aid International Malawi).

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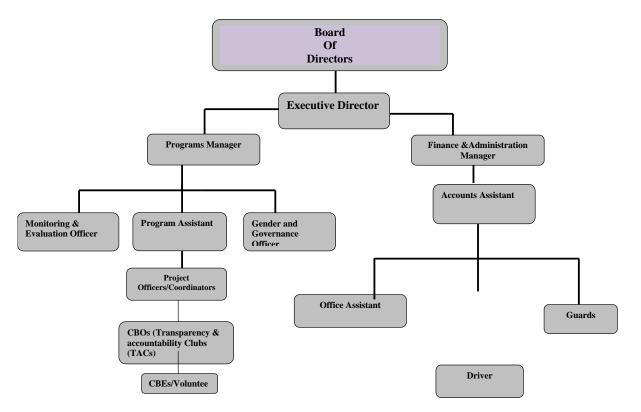
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Challenges

- ♣ A lean staff at the secretariat due to scarcity of financial resources for recruitment.
- ♣ Unfavorable legal framework for the NGO sector resulting in many local NGOs failing to operate effectively.

ORGANOGRAM



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