Appendix B

Interview Details

In this book, I draw on a number of interviews with politicians, bureaucrats, donors, and citizens. In Tables B.1–B.4 and Section B.5, I describe all the interviews cited in the text. Per agreement with ethical oversight bodies and interview subjects, the identity and constituency of all interview subjects are redacted or fictionalized. Interviewees were asked for verbal consent prior to participating in the interviews. Most public officials and voters were compensated for their time.

Unless otherwise mentioned, all interviews were conducted in person by the author or a research assistant. Interviews were conducted in English or the respondent's native language (Chichewa or Tumbuka). When non-English languages were used, the enumerator translated the response when transcribing the interview.

Interviews were not recorded, but enumerators were asked to write the interviewee's responses as closely as possible. Where quotes from these interviews are provided in the main text, I correct obvious spelling errors, grammatical errors, and missing words in the original transcript. I also replace acronyms and abbreviations to ease clarity of understanding.

B.1 DONOR INTERVIEWS

Most interviews with donors were conducted in the summer of 2023. The intention of these interviews was to obtain as comprehensive a sample as possible of all the major donors involved in education provision in Malawi. At each organization, we asked to speak with the main official (program manager or task team leader) involved in the provision of education. Since education provision is both highly aid-dependent and

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TABLE B.1 *Interviews of donors and NGO officials*

ID	Date	Location	Interviewee	Description
A1	November 2017	Phone Interview	Programme officer working for a bilateral donor on public health service delivery in Malawi.	This interview discussed corruption in public health service delivery in Malawi and the effectiveness of different anti-corruption institutions.
A2	July 2023	Lilongwe	Programme officer for major bilateral donor working on education-related issues.	This interview discussed interactions between the donor various government institutions and policies.
A3	July 2023	Lilongwe	Portfolio coordinator for a national government's development finance initiative.	This interview discussed interactions between the donor various government institutions and policies.
A4	July 2023	Lilongwe	Person in charge of education projects (in Malawi) for an international organisation.	This interview discussed interactions between the donor various government institutions and policies.
A5	July 2023	Lilongwe	Manager of education projects for a bilateral aid agency.	This interview discussed interactions between the donor various government institutions and policies.
A6	July 2023	Lilongwe	Senior technical advisor for the Malawi office of an international charity focused on child welfare.	This interview discussed interactions between the donor various government institutions and policies.
A7	February 2017	Lilongwe	Portfolio coordinator for a national government's public health finance initiative.	This interview discussed corruption in public health supply chains.

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TABLE B.2 *Interviews of elected officials*

ID	Date	Location	Interviewee
B1	August 2015	Southern Region, Malawi	Councilor
B2	September 2016	Southern Region, Malawi	MP
B3	August 2016	Central Region, Malawi	MP
B4	September 2016	Central Region, Malawi	MP
B5	August 2016	Southern Region, Malawi	Councilor
B6	July 2016	Southern Region, Malawi	Councilor
B7	September 2016	Central Region, Malawi	Councilor
B8	August 2016	Southern Region, Malawi	Councilor
B9	July 2016	Central Region, Malawi	Councilor
B10	August 2016	Central Region, Malawi	Councilor
B11	August 2015	Southern Region, Malawi	Councilor
B12	August 2015	Southern Region, Malawi	Councilor
B13	August 2015	Southern Region, Malawi	Councilor
B14	August 2015	Southern Region, Malawi	Councilor
B15	September 2016	Central Region, Malawi	MP
B16	September 2016	Southern Region, Malawi	MP
B17	September 2016	Southern Region, Malawi	MP
B18	August 2016	Southern Region, Malawi	MP
B19	September 2016	Southern Region, Malawi	MP

TABLE B.3 *Interviews with ADCs*

ID	Date	Location	Interviewee
C1	July 2016	Central Region	Member, ADC
C2	May 2016	Southern Region	Member, ADC
C3	September 2016	Central Region	Member, ADC
C4	July 2016	Central Region	Member, ADC
C5	August 2016	Southern Region	Member, ADC
C6	August 2016	Southern Region	Member, ADC

TABLE B.4 *Interviews of bureaucrats*

ID	Date	Location	Interviewee
D1	September 2016	Northern Region, Malawi	District Commissioner
D2	October 2016	Southern Region, Malawi	District Commissioner
D3	September 2016	Central Region, Malawi	District Commissioner
D4	August 2016	Northern Region, Malawi	District Commissioner
D5	July 2016	Southern Region, Malawi	District Commissioner
D6	August 2016	Southern Region, Malawi	District Commissioner

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decentralized in Malawi, this allowed me to identify the ways in which donors interact with varying kinds of officials. Since many questions posed to teachers and public officials focused on the education sector, this sampling strategy allows cross-comparison.

B.2 POLITICIAN INTERVIEWS

Enumerators were provided with an interview script assessing (1) the relationship between politicians and other actors involved in development, including donors, NGOs, and citizens; (2) the oversight MPs face from these actors; (3) the relationship between politicians and donors; (4) politicians' perceived job responsibilities and role in development; (5) gaps politicians face in fulfilling their job responsibilities.

B.3 AREA DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (ADC) INTERVIEWS

Enumerators were tasked to ask questions about (1) how ADCs perceive their role in development; (2) the nature of relationships between ADCs, donors, and politicians; (3) ways in which ADCs provide oversight to development; (3) how ADCs might react to development decisions that they disagree with; and (4) how different kinds of officials (councilors, TAs, MPs, DCs, NGOs, and donors) influence decisions made by ADCs.

B.4 INTERVIEWS WITH BUREAUCRATS

Interviews were focused on District Commissioners (DCs), who are the senior civil servants at the district level in Malawi. Enumerators were tasked to ask questions about (1) how DCs perceive their role in development; (2) the relationship between donors, NGOs, DCs, and politicians; (3) ways in which DCs provide oversight to donors, councilors, and MPs; (3) how DCs might react to development decisions that they disagree with; (4) how different kinds of officials (councilors, TAs, MPs, ADCs, NGOs, and donors) influence decisions made by DCs.

B.5 FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEWS

Trained local enumerators conducted focus groups with thirty citizens in four wards in southern Malawi. In each ward, the interviewee was instructed to go to the largest trading center nearby and recruit ten subjects from the area. These subjects were not randomly selected but were

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recruited from different parts of the trading center and were not already in a discussion together at the time of recruitment. We asked that the participant list be balanced on gender, age, and profession. All participants were asked for consent and were compensated for their time.

The enumerator then asked, in a group setting, the respondents to discuss in depth three separate issues: (1) perceptions and knowledge regarding the roles and responsibilities of ward councilors in allocating development aid; (2) beliefs about potential mechanisms of electoral and horizontal accountability; (3) perceptions of the role of donors and civil society groups in their communities.

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