



Concept Note

10th Annual General Assembly of the African Parliamentarians' Network on Development Evaluation (APNODE)

From 19 to 21 November 2025

General Context

The 2025 Annual General Assembly of APNODE takes place within an African context where the evaluation of public policies is gaining increasing strategic importance for the continent's development.

Founded in 2014, APNODE is a pan-African network of parliamentarians and development partners dedicated to promoting the integration of evaluation into public decision-making. The Network's vision is to make evaluation a central instrument of effective and transparent governance, in service of development efficiency across the continent.

Today, this practice is widely recognized as a powerful lever for improving governance and the performance of public actions. Indeed, "a good evaluation is a powerful tool to inform decision-making at both the executive and parliamentary levels, aiming to optimize limited resources for maximum impact." It allows lessons to be learned to guide future interventions and reinforces the imperative of accountability toward citizens and development partners, which is an essential challenge as African countries strive for more transparent, results-oriented public management.

Despite notable progress, reflected in the adoption of national evaluation policies in several pioneering countries, many challenges remain. Among these challenges are capacity building, mobilizing financial and human resources to ensure evaluation quality, and the need to better institutionalize this practice within state mechanisms. Frequently associated with a logic of sanction, it is also essential to renew the perception of evaluation among all stakeholders. Evaluation should be recognized as a true instrument of collective learning and policy regulation, contributing to strategic guidance and continuous improvement of public policies, rather than as a tool of judgment or questioning.

To meet these challenges, the progressive establishment of a genuine evaluation culture is imperative at all levels, from citizens to the highest decision-making spheres, so that learning and accountability become natural reflexes of public management.

APNODE is particularly honored that its 2025 Annual General Assembly will be hosted by the House of Councillors of the Kingdom of Morocco. Owing to the diversity of its composition and its recognized expertise in public policy evaluation, the Moroccan House of Councillors provides an ideal setting for high-level exchanges, the sharing of best practices, and the strengthening of cooperation bridges at the continental level. This General Assembly, bringing together parliamentarians, experts, civil society, diplomatic and institutional representatives, will thus serve

as a true platform for collective reflection on the progress achieved and the challenges inherent to evaluation in Africa.

Objectives

The 2025 Annual General Assembly of APNODE is structured around clear objectives, carefully aligned with the established program and the aspirations of its members:

- **Reaffirm political commitment to evaluation:** The 2025 AGA will aim to reiterate political support for the development of evaluation in Africa, underline the importance of integrating it into decision-making processes, and strengthen legislative and regulatory frameworks that promote it.
- **Thematic Session: “Public Policy Evaluation: A Shared Competence”:** This session will address evaluation as a collective responsibility and a democratic lever in service of inclusive and transparent governance. It will explore how this practice can strengthen democracy through citizen involvement and greater transparency in public decision-making. The session will emphasize enhanced coordination among the legislative, executive, and oversight institutions to optimize their complementarity. The important role of civil society in the appropriation of evaluation results will also be highlighted, as well as the contribution of the academic sector in training and research. Finally, the meeting will facilitate exchange on pan-African initiatives aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in the field of evaluation.
- **Strengthen the institutional foundations of the APNODE Network:** The meeting will fulfill its statutory function through a session dedicated to the Network’s internal obligations. The reports of the previous General Assembly, the 2025 activity report, and the financial report will be presented and adopted, ensuring transparency for members. The AGA will review and vote on proposed amendments to the Network’s statutes to adapt its functioning to the developments of the past decade. It will also assess the implementation of the 2023–2025 Strategic Plan, drawing lessons to inform future planning. This collective introspection will enable APNODE to enhance its organizational effectiveness and its capacity to address emerging challenges.
- **Shape the future and renew the governance of the Network:** The 2025 General Assembly will elect the new Executive Committee of APNODE for the upcoming term and endorse the Network’s future orientations. The presentation of the 2025–2027 Strategic Plan will be a key highlight, setting forth priority objectives and activities for the coming years in terms of capacity building for parliamentarians, advocacy, and partnerships. The renewal of the governing bodies, coupled with a new strategic roadmap, will inject fresh momentum into APNODE, allowing it to consolidate its achievements and explore new areas of action.

Perspectives

The 2025 APNODE Annual General Assembly represents a significant milestone in the Network’s institutional calendar. It takes place at a pivotal moment marked by the assessment of commitments related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals and the priorities of the African Union’s Agenda 2063, which recognizes evaluation as a key driver and an essential lever of institutional transformation and public accountability. This meeting will provide a structured platform to review progress achieved, discuss evaluative practices, and identify areas for improvement.

Beyond its procedural dimensions, the Assembly also represents a unique opportunity to strengthen interaction among members around the strategic use of evaluation in public decision-making processes. The richness and diversity of the expertise gathered will foster the emergence of collective solutions tailored to African realities, while consolidating a dynamic community of evaluative practices fully committed at the continental level.

In conclusion, the 2025 APNODE Annual General Assembly continues the work initiated by the Network since its creation by offering a structured space for consultation, institutional monitoring, and exchange of experiences. It will enable the progress achieved to be assessed, consolidate the Network's strategic orientations, and enhance coordination among stakeholders engaged in promoting public policy evaluation. Through the quality of expected contributions and the diversity of representatives, this meeting will contribute to the progressive strengthening of an evaluation culture at the regional level, in support of more effective, transparent, and results-based public governance.