

## Assessing the Impact of Decentralization on Governance and Development in Malawi

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**Abstract :** This study examines the impact of decentralization on development and government in Malawi. Decentralization has been a key element in Malawi's attempts to alter its political system since the early 1990s. This study uses both qualitative and quantitative methods to look into how well devolution promotes local development, improves service delivery, and supports effective governance. The findings suggest that while devolution has resulted in particular improvements in local government or service provision, significant challenges persist. Limited financial decentralization, inadequate local competency, and governmental meddling in local decision-making processes are some of these difficulties. The paper concludes with recommendations for strengthening Malawi's decentralization initiatives to better promote good governance and sustainable development.

**Keywords :** governance, development, malawi, local government

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