Develop Objectives, Plans and Evaluation Procedures for Civic Involvement in Politics and Governance

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Abstract
Civic involvement in politics and governance is the active participation of citizens in public decision-making. In many places, including Nigeria, this involvement is still weak. Many citizens do not take part because the goals of politics and governance are unclear, plans are weak, and there is little to no proper evaluation of what leaders promise and deliver. This study develops a practical framework for setting clear objectives, preparing practical plans, and implementing evaluation procedures to strengthen civic involvement. The study uses simple definitions from existing empirical studies. It links civic involvement to the constitutional right of every Nigerian adult to vote and to be voted for under the 1999 Constitution (as amended). Statistics on low voter turnout and high-profile cases of alleged embezzlement handled by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) reveal a gap between set objectives, a practical plan, and usable evaluation procedures. The findings offer workable SMART objectives, a practical community-centred plan, and simple evaluation procedures for a usable framework. When objectives, plans and evaluation become part of everyday civic life, participation improves, and governance becomes more accountable. Recommendations include that civic education should include training on setting objectives, preparing simple plans, and using basic scorecards and trackers.

Keywords: *civic involvement, objectives, plans, evaluation procedures, politics, governance, Nigeria, constitutional rights*

Introduction

Politics and governance affect every part of daily life. Decisions about education, health care, security, roads, jobs, and justice touch every citizen. When ordinary people stay away from these processes, a small group of leaders makes most of the choices. This often leads to poor services, corruption, and loss of public trust. Politics may be defined as the activity through which people make, preserve and amend the general rules under which they live (Heywood, 2013). Governance, according to Fukuyama (2016), is the process of steering society and the economy through collective action in accordance with common objectives. It involves both state institutions and non-state actors working together to solve public problems. In Nigeria, the foundation of civic involvement is the constitutional right of every adult citizen to take part in the political process.

Section 77 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) provides for direct election and franchise. It states that every citizen of Nigeria who has attained the age of eighteen years and is residing in Nigeria at the time of voter registration is entitled to be registered as a voter. Related provisions (Sections 65 and 106 for the National Assembly and State Houses of Assembly, and Section 7(4) for local government councils) also guarantee the right to be voted for, subject to age, education and other qualifications.

Civic involvement in politics and governance therefore rests on this constitutional right: the right to vote and the right to be voted for, together with the broader freedoms of association and expression that support active citizenship. Civic involvement is often referred to as civic engagement or political participation. It is described by van Deth (2016) as the activities of private citizens aimed at influencing the selection of governmental personnel or their actions, as well as broader community-oriented actions that seek the common good. It includes voting, campaigning, attending public meetings, monitoring government performance, advocacy, and community problem-solving. Three related concepts are central to this paper. An objective, according to Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development [OECD] guidelines (2018), is a clear statement that defines the direction of action and the desired future state tangibly. A plan is a map or framework of action: an organised set of interrelated activities designed to achieve specific objectives within a given budget, organisational structure and time period.

Evaluation, according to the OECD Development Assistance Committee (2022), is the systematic and objective assessment of an ongoing or completed project, programme or policy, its design, implementation and results. The aim is to determine the relevance and fulfilment of objectives, development efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability. Despite its importance, many citizens do not know how to begin or remain effective. They need three basic tools: clear objectives (what they want to achieve), practical plans (how they will achieve it), and evaluation procedures (how they will know whether they are succeeding and what to improve). Without these three elements, efforts become scattered, short-lived, and ineffective.

Statement of the Problem

Voter turnout in Nigeria hit a historic low of approximately 26.72% in the 2023 presidential election, reflecting a broader trend of declining public motivation and low civic engagement nationwide. According to official figures, subsequent off-cycle governorship elections recorded similarly low participation, ranging from 24% to 37% across several states. Continuous Voter Registration (CVR) data shows large gaps between citizens who begin the registration process and those who actually complete it (Independent National Electoral Commission [INEC], 2023). At the same time, Sanusi (2024) reported in The PUNCH that the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission reopened money-laundering cases against 13 former governors and some former ministers, with the amounts involved running into over N853.8bn. PUNCH findings revealed that the amount at stake in the high-profile cases involving the former governors and ex-ministers was not less than N772.2bn; however, the anti-graft agency was currently investigating the N81.6bn that was allegedly looted in the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation.

Moreover, another $2.2bn was alleged to have gone missing through money laundering, fund diversion and misappropriation in recent times. The $2.2bn was allegedly diverted by a former National Security Adviser, Sambo Dasuki; the late media mogul, Raymond Dokpesi; the former governor of Sokoto State, Attahiru Bafarawa; the former Minister of State for Finance, Bashir Yuguda; and others. The anti-graft agency's broad campaign against these politically exposed persons remains ongoing.

Many of these cases involve abandoned or poorly executed projects that were announced with great fanfare but lacked clear objectives, realistic plans, and systematic evaluation. The repeated pattern of failed promises and diversion of funds points directly to the absence of discipline rooted in set objectives, planning and evaluation in the political and governance process. When citizens are not actively involved in setting and monitoring these elements, accountability weakens, and public trust declines.

Aim and Objectives of the Study

This paper aims to develop objectives, plans, and evaluation procedures that can strengthen civic involvement in politics and governance.

The specific objectives are:

1. To identify the present objectives commonly found (or missing) in politics and governance processes.
2. To identify the present evaluation procedures used (or neglected) in politics and governance.
3. To draw a workable set of objectives and a practical plan for civic involvement in politics and governance.
4. To draw workable evaluation procedures that can be applied by citizens, community groups and civil society organisations.

Significance of the Study

This study is important because it offers a simple, usable framework that ordinary citizens, church groups, community associations and civil society organisations can adapt. It links the constitutional right to participate with practical tools for setting goals, making plans and checking progress. In a context where many people feel that politics is dirty or that their voices do not matter, this study shows a clear path to meaningful, organised involvement for every civilian in Nigeria, including the Christian community.

Literature Review

The literature on civic involvement, politics and governance is wide. This section reviews key ideas on the meaning of civic involvement, the role of clear objectives and plans and the place of evaluation under the following sub-headings: conceptual framework, theoretical framework and empirical review.

Conceptual Framework

This section clarifies the main concepts used in the paper and shows how they relate to one another.

Civic Involvement and Democratic Practice

A healthy democracy needs active citizens. Verba and Nie (1972) defined political participation as activities by private citizens that are more or less directly aimed at influencing the selection of governmental personnel and/or the actions they take. Later writers, such as van Deth (2016), expanded the idea to encompass new forms of action, including community problem-solving and the use of digital tools. Civic involvement is therefore broader than voting alone. It includes attending meetings, monitoring budgets, joining advocacy groups, and holding leaders to account. In well-functioning systems, governments and citizens work together. Citizens help set priorities, watch how money is spent, and give feedback on services. When this does not happen, policies often fail to meet real needs and public trust falls.

Politics is the activity through which people make, preserve and amend the general rules under which they live (Heywood, 2013). It includes the struggle for power, the making of public decisions, and the distribution of resources and values in society.

Governance is the process of steering society and the economy through collective action in accordance with common objectives (Fukuyama, 2016). It involves both formal state institutions and informal networks of actors who influence public decisions.
Civic involvement refers to the active participation of citizens in the political and governance life of their community and nation. It rests on the constitutional right to vote and to be voted for. It includes voting, monitoring, advocacy, community problem-solving and other forms of public action aimed at the common good.

Objectives, Plans and Evaluation in Public Life
Clear objectives give direction. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development [OECD] (2018) stresses that objectives should tangibly state the desired future condition so that progress can be measured. Without clear objectives, plans become vague, and evaluation becomes almost impossible. A plan turns objectives into action; it answers the questions: Who will do what? By when? With what resources? How will people stay informed? Good plans remain flexible so that they can be adjusted when conditions change. It is an organised set of interrelated activities designed to achieve specific objectives within a given budget, organisational structure and time period. Evaluation closes the management cycle. The OECD definition makes it clear that evaluation is systematic and objective. It looks at relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability. Evaluation can be formative (during the process) or summative (at the end). When evaluation is missing, the same mistakes are repeated, and successes are not recognised or built upon. Evaluation procedures are the methods used to collect information, judge progress, learn from experience and improve future action. Evaluation is the systematic and objective assessment of design, implementation and results (OECD, 2018).

Objectives are clear statements that define the direction of action and the desired future state tangibly (OECD, 2018). Good objectives are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound (SMART).These concepts form a continuous cycle: clear objectives lead to practical plans; plans guide action; evaluation assesses results and feeds lessons back into the next round of objective-setting and planning. Civic involvement is most effective when citizens participate at every stage of this cycle.

Theoretical Framework
This paper is guided mainly by the Theory of Participatory Democracy and supported by elements of social contract thinking.

Theory of Participatory Democracy
The practice of participatory democracy dates back to ancient Athenian democracy in 508–507 BC; Jean-Jacques Rousseau is widely credited with establishing the foundational theory of modern participatory democracy in 1762. Participatory democracy theory holds that democracy is strongest when citizens are actively involved in the decisions that affect their lives, not only at election time but throughout the policy process. The theory stresses that participation builds civic skills, increases the legitimacy of decisions, and improves the quality of public outcomes. Okafor (2023) applied this theory to the Nigerian context and noted that constrained civic engagement has

led to citizen exclusion and poor governance results. The theory highlights that if citizens are to participate meaningfully, they need clear objectives to aim at, practical plans to follow, and evaluation procedures that allow them to judge progress and demand accountability. Without these tools, participation remains shallow or disappears altogether.

Social Contract Perspective

The social contract is a school of thought rather than a single theory, established by a few prominent philosophers: Thomas Hobbes (1651) first laid out the modern concept in his book Leviathan, arguing that people surrender absolute freedom to a sovereign power in exchange for security and order. John Locke (1689) significantly altered the theory in his Second Treatise of Government, arguing that the contract exists explicitly to protect citizens' natural rights (life, liberty, and property). He pioneered the idea that if a government violates this trust, citizens have a right to alter or overthrow it. Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1762) further expanded the perspective by publishing The Social Contract, positioning popular sovereignty and the collective "general will" as the ultimate moral foundation of governance. Social Contract Perspective shows that government derives its legitimacy from the consent of the governed and exists to protect the rights and welfare of the people. When government fails in this duty through corruption, poor service delivery or lack of accountability, the contract is weakened. Civic involvement isone-way citizens can renew and enforce the contract by setting clear expectations, monitoring performance and demanding results. Together, these theoretical perspectives provide a solid foundation for developing objectives, plans and evaluation procedures that put citizens at the centre of politics and governance.

Empirical Review

Selected empirical studies on civic engagement, political participation and related issues in Nigeria and similar contexts were reviewed. Each study is presented in a consistent narrative form. Okafor (2023) investigated “Deconstructing the Civic Engagement Context, Processes, and Outcomes in Nigeria”. Using a qualitative methodology with a focus on content and descriptive analysis of the period 2012–2022, the study found that civic engagement processes have been constrained, resulting in poor public participation in governance and public policy, and in citizen exclusion from the policy process. The author recommended expanding the space for engagement through political reforms and good governance practices to ensure citizen participation, especially at the grassroots level.

Obiagu and Ajaps (2022) investigated “Civic Engagement in Nigeria: A New Sociopolitical Development Perspective”. Using an analysis of the influence of five sociodemographic factors on civic engagement reports from a sample of 372 participants, the study found that male participants and individuals with higher education and income were more likely to participate in politics. In contrast, male participants and those with higher income were more likely to engage in human rights activism. The authors recommended contextualising imported theories and understanding the nuances of civic engagement across diverse democracies to increase civic action.

Badiora, Bako and Olaleye (2020) investigated “Evaluating Public Participation in a Project Plan Review: A Nigerian Case Study.” Using a descriptive survey with quantitative and qualitative data from participants who contributed to a public project planning and review process in a Nigerian city, the study found that public participation was far below the minimum legal requirement and not demographically representative. Three-quarters of the respondents thought

the final plan did not take their observations and advice into consideration. The study highlighted weaknesses in feedback mechanisms during project review.

Okewale (2022) investigated "Citizen Participation in Budgetary Processes in Nigeria: Myth or Reality." Using a qualitative design based on secondary data, the study found that citizen participation in governance and budgetary processes remains at its lowest in the nation. Efforts at participatory governance since 1999 have never received the full backing of the ruling class. The author recommended participatory budgeting as an important tool to encourage active citizenship and concluded that the quality of democracy depends on how far people can participate in and influence the governance process.

Larreguy and Marshall (2017) investigated "The Effect of Education on Civic and Political Engagement in Nonconsolidated Democracies: Evidence from Nigeria." Using a difference-in-differences design that leveraged variation across local government areas and gender in the intensity of Nigeria's 1976 universal primary education reform, the study found large increases in basic civic and political engagement: better-educated citizens were more attentive to politics, more likely to vote, and more involved in community associations. The authors recommended sustained investment in education as a pathway to stronger civic and political participation.

These studies collectively show constrained civic engagement, weak feedback loops in project and budget processes, sociodemographic influences on participation, and the positive role of education. They provide the empirical base for the findings that follow.

Methodology

This paper is qualitative, using secondary sources including the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended), official statistics from the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), public reports and statements from the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), peer-reviewed journal articles, books, and institutional guidelines from the OECD, the United Nations and related bodies, to achieve the objectives of this study. No primary data were collected for this paper; rather, it is a careful synthesis of existing knowledge and the translation of that knowledge into simple, usable tools for citizens and community groups.

Findings

The findings of this study are organised under the four specific objectives. Each finding is drawn from a synthesis of the reviewed empirical studies.

Present Objectives Commonly Found (or Missing) in Politics and Governance Processes

The empirical studies show that clear, measurable objectives are largely missing from politics and governance processes in Nigeria. Okafor (2023) found that civic engagement processes have been constrained over ten years, with citizens excluded from the policy process. This exclusion is linked to the absence of public, measurable goals that citizens can understand and monitor. Okewale (2022) reported that efforts at participatory governance since 1999 have never received the full backing of the ruling class. When political promises and policy statements are not framed as clear objectives, citizens cannot judge performance and gradually withdraw. Obiagu and Ajaps (2022) further show that even where sociodemographic factors such as education and income increase the likelihood of participation, overall civic action remains low because the public agenda itself lacks tangible targets. In short, the present situation is characterised by vague promises rather than SMART objectives.

Present Evaluation Procedures Used (or Neglected) in Politics and Governance

Evaluation procedures that involve citizens are largely neglected. Badiora et al. (2020) directly reveal that public project evaluation procedures are weak and broken. In their urban case study, three-quarters (75%) of the respondents confirmed that their evaluation feedback and advice were entirely ignored in the final implementation plan. This indicates that systematic evaluation of campaign promises and policy results is missing. Okafor (2023) links poor public participation to these weak feedback loops, pointing to weak feedback and accountability mechanisms. Where any evaluation occurs, it is usually internal to government, treated as a bare-minimum legal requirement, and does not feedback to ordinary citizens. Formative evaluation (checking progress while programmes are still running) is almost absent at the grassroots level.

Workable Set of Objectives and a Practical Plan for Civic Involvement

Drawing from the gaps and recommendations in the empirical studies, a workable set of objectives includes:

- Increase informed citizen participation in budget and project monitoring at the local government level within one electoral cycle.
- Expand civic education and political socialisation, especially among youth and under-represented groups, building on the education effect shown by Larreguy and Marshall (2017).
- Establish community monitoring groups that publish simple public reports on local projects and budgets.
- Create regular feedback channels so that citizen input is documented and linked to final decisions.

A practical plan includes stakeholder mapping, civic education in accessible formats, formation of small monitoring teams, regular public reporting, and partnerships with civil society and faith communities. These steps respond to Okafor's (2023) call for expanded grassroots engagement and Okewale's (2022) emphasis on participatory budgeting.

Workable Evaluation Procedures for Citizens, Community Groups and Civil Society Organisations

Workable procedures that ordinary groups can apply include:

- Simple community scorecards to rate service delivery and project performance.
- Basic spend and project trackers that record what was promised, what was delivered, and any gaps.
- Clear evaluation questions set at the start: Did we reach the intended people? Were activities completed? Were objectives achieved?
- Both mid-process (formative) and end-of-cycle (summative) reviews.

Publicly share monitoring results so citizens can see whether their suggestions were used, thereby addressing the problem of ignored feedback noted by Badiora et al. (2020).

Discussion

The discussion is organised around the four specific objectives of the study. It draws together the conceptual and empirical evidence reviewed and translates the findings into practical guidance for citizens, community groups, churches and civil society organisations.

Objective One: To identify the present objectives commonly found (or missing) in politics and governance processes

The first objective examined the guiding principles of politics and governance in Nigeria and whether they are sufficiently clear to support meaningful civic involvement. The literature indicates a major gap between broad political promises and clear, measurable objectives that citizens can understand and monitor. The OECD (2018) explains that objectives should tangibly describe a desired future condition. Therefore, citizens should be able to identify what government intends to achieve, for whom, with what resources and within what period.

Political promises concerning education, health, employment, roads, security and poverty reduction are important, but statements such as "we will improve education" are too broad for effective monitoring. A useful objective should specify the expected change, the target population, the indicators and the time frame. Okafor (2023) found that civic engagement in Nigeria has been constrained, contributing to citizen exclusion from policy processes. Okewale (2022) similarly found weak citizen participation in budgetary processes. These findings suggest that citizens cannot participate effectively when public objectives are unclear or are developed without adequate consultation.

Obiagu and Ajaps (2022) further found that education and income influence participation, showing that political rights alone do not guarantee meaningful civic involvement. Citizens also need information and understandable public objectives. Larreguy and Marshall (2017) provide further evidence that education can strengthen civic and political engagement.

The finding is therefore that clear, measurable and publicly communicated objectives are insufficiently developed in many political and governance processes. Civic involvement would be strengthened if government institutions and political actors used SMART objectives and involved citizens in identifying community priorities. Community groups, churches and civil society organisations can also establish specific objectives around issues such as roads, healthcare, education, water and public accountability.

Objective Two: To identify the present evaluation procedures used (or neglected) in politics and governance

The second objective examined the evaluation procedures used in politics and governance and the extent to which citizens participate in evaluating government programmes. Evaluation is the systematic and objective assessment of a policy, programme or project, including its design, implementation and results (OECD, 2022). It helps determine relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability.

The evidence reviewed indicates that citizen-based evaluation is weak. Badiora et al. (2020), in a Nigerian case study of public participation in project planning and review, found that public participation was below the required level and that three-quarters of respondents believed their observations were not reflected in the final plan. This demonstrates a weak feedback mechanism: citizens may be consulted, but their contributions may not influence final decisions.

Evaluation should occur both during and after implementation. Formative evaluation allows problems to be identified and corrected while a programme is ongoing, whereas summative evaluation assesses overall results at the end. Citizens should therefore not wait until the end of an administration before checking government promises. They can periodically compare planned activities with actual progress.

Evaluation should also be evidence-based. Citizens and civil society organisations can examine public documents, monitor projects, observe service delivery, document progress and

obtain feedback from beneficiaries. Simple tools such as scorecards, project checklists and budget trackers can make evaluation accessible to ordinary citizens.

The finding is that evaluation procedures exist in some areas of governance but are often weak, inaccessible or insufficiently connected to citizen participation. Strengthening civic involvement requires evaluation that is regular, transparent, participatory and understandable, with clear feedback on how citizens' recommendations were considered.

Objective Three: To draw a workable set of objectives and a practical plan for civic involvement in politics and governance

The third objective was to develop practical objectives and a plan that citizens, community organisations, churches and civil society organisations can use to participate effectively in politics and governance. Civic involvement should extend beyond voting to include public consultation, advocacy, budget monitoring, project monitoring, community meetings and constructive engagement with public officials.

A workable plan should begin with identifying a specific community problem. Citizens should then identify the relevant government institution, elected representatives, community leaders, civil society organisations and other stakeholders. The next step is to establish SMART objectives. Civic education should follow, especially for young people and groups that face barriers to participation. Larreguy and Marshall (2017) show the importance of education for civic and political engagement.

Community monitoring teams can then be formed around selected issues. They should engage responsible authorities peacefully, document commitments, monitor implementation and report findings. The process should remain flexible so that strategies can be adjusted when circumstances change.

The following objectives provide a practical framework:

- Increase informed citizen participation in local budgets, public projects and community decision-making within one electoral cycle.
- Strengthen civic education among citizens, particularly young people and under-represented groups.
- Establish community monitoring groups to track selected government projects and publish simple reports.
- Create regular citizen-government feedback channels through which concerns and recommendations are documented.
- Promote peaceful and lawful participation through voting, advocacy, public consultation and engagement with government institutions.
- Improve citizen access to public information needed to monitor government programmes and expenditure.
- Encourage churches and community organisations to promote responsible citizenship without turning civic education into partisan mobilisation.

The practical cycle is: identify the problem → set objectives → identify stakeholders → develop an action plan → engage decision-makers → monitor implementation → evaluate results → report findings → revise the plan.

This reflects participatory democracy by placing citizens at the centre of continuing public engagement.

Objective Four: To draw workable evaluation procedures that can be applied by citizens, community groups and civil society organisations

The fourth objective focused on evaluation procedures that are simple enough for citizens and community organisations to apply while still producing useful information. Evaluation should begin with the objectives established at the start of an activity. Citizens should record baseline conditions, establish measurable indicators and then compare later results with the starting point.

A simple promise-and-performance tracker can record the government promise, the responsible institution, the expected completion date, the resources committed, the current status, evidence and citizens' comments. Community scorecards can also access services using criteria such as accessibility, quality, availability and responsiveness.

Evaluation should be carried out during implementation and at the end of the agreed period. Citizens can ask: Were the intended people reached? Were activities completed? Were objectives achieved? Were resources used reasonably? Did the intervention produce meaningful change? Can the benefits continue? Financial monitoring is also important. Where reliable public information is available, citizens can compare approved allocations with reported expenditure and actual results. However, differences should be investigated and clarified before accusations are made. Documentation should include official information, meeting records, observations, photographs where appropriate and responses from relevant authorities.

Findings should be shared with decision-makers and citizens. This creates the feedback mechanism that was weak in the study by Badiora et al. (2020). The follow-up should then determine whether the promised corrective actions were actually implemented.

A practical evaluation framework is shown below:

Evaluation Area	Key Question	Possible Evidence
Relevance	Does the activity address a real community need?	Needs assessment
Effectiveness	Were the objectives achieved?	Results and indicators
Efficiency	Were resources used reasonably?	Budget and expenditure information
Participation	Were citizens involved?	Attendance, minutes, consultation records
Quality	Was the project/service delivered adequately?	Inspection and user feedback
Impact	Did the intervention produce meaningful change?	Before-and-after evidence
Sustainability	Can benefits continue?	Maintenance and funding arrangements
Accountability	Were questions and complaints addressed?	Official responses and follow-up
Feedback	Were citizens' recommendations considered?	Responses and revised plans

[Researcher's view]

The four objectives show that effective civic involvement requires more than the possession of political rights. Citizens need clear objectives, practical plans and reliable evaluation procedures. Objectives state what should be achieved; plans explain how the desired results will be pursued; and evaluation determines whether the objectives have been achieved. Together, they create a

continuous cycle of citizen participation, monitoring, learning and accountability. From a Christian leadership perspective, civic involvement should be guided by truthfulness, justice, responsibility, peace and concern for the common good. Christian participation should not become a platform for hatred, false accusations or personal attacks. Rather, Christian leaders and members can encourage informed citizenship, peaceful engagement, accountability and responsible participation in public affairs. In this way, civic involvement can contribute to better governance while reflecting Christian values of service, integrity and justice.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Civic involvement in politics and governance is a constitutional right in Nigeria and a practical necessity for better public outcomes. The synthesis of empirical studies shows that clear objectives are largely missing, evaluation procedures that involve citizens are neglected, and the result is low participation, repeated project failures and declining public trust. By developing a workable set of SMART objectives, a practical plan built on civic education and community monitoring, and simple evaluation procedures that ordinary people can apply, this paper offers a usable framework for strengthening civic involvement. When these three elements- objectives, plans and evaluation- become part of everyday civic life, participation improves, and governance becomes more accountable.

Recommendations

1. Citizens and community groups should begin with small, clear objectives that can be measured within a short period, and then expand as capacity grows.
2. Civic education programmes should include practical training on how to set SMART objectives, prepare simple plans, and carry out basic evaluation.
3. Civil society organisations and faith communities should support the formation of local monitoring groups that publish regular public reports on budgets and projects.
4. Government at all levels should make campaign promises and policy objectives public in measurable form and create channels for citizen feedback and evaluation.

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