



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Photo Credit: USAID

USAID MALI CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

LOCAL VOICES, NATIONAL CHANGE

The USAID Mali Civic Engagement Program (CEP) will provide support in the form of tools and resources to Malians that enable them to fulfill their end of the social contract, and to make the Government of Mali more responsive and accountable to its citizens. Guided by best practices from Mali, West Africa, and countries worldwide, the Civic Engagement Program will help Malians overcome the challenges that keep them disconnected from the government.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM STRATEGY

Through its activities, CEP aims to meet the following objectives:

- 1) Mechanisms of bottom-up social accountability strengthened – Activities include increasing CSOs’ capacity to advocate for issues to their constituents, connecting CSOs and commune-level governments to work together, especially with marginalized groups;
- 2) CSOs collaborate effectively with government and the private sector to develop public policy – Grants and technical assistance will contribute to conflict mitigation and consensus building, new policies, laws, regulations, investment agreements that promote access to service delivery;
- 3) Citizens understand their rights and responsibilities and feel empowered to engage with Government of Mali (GOM) actors – Public information campaigns implemented by CSOs that reach citizens will result in at least significant increases in citizen awareness of the legal framework and barriers specific to women and other marginalized persons.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM EXPECTED RESULTS

Over the 5-year (2016 – 2021) project cycle, CEP will leverage \$12 million budget to:

- Increase CSO effectiveness to provide government oversight and aggregate citizen interest;
- Strengthen citizen ability to demand improved services, especially health services, through CSO advocacy;
- Improve access to and oversight of government by citizens, particularly marginalized groups;
- Increase understanding of rights and responsibilities leading to citizens’ ability to engage government and solve problems through participatory democratic processes.