“Bridging the gap: Strengthening the Connections between Research, Evaluation and Evidence-based Policies and Practices in sub-Saharan Africa”
COUNTRY REPRESENTATION

Kenya  Somalia  Mozambique
USA  Tanzania  DRC
UK  Burundi  Cameroon
Malawi  Ethiopia  South Africa
Ghana  Guyana  Netherlands
Uganda  South Korea
PREFACE

Over the past decade, Africa has witnessed a growing interest in research and evaluation for policy development and is increasingly becoming aware of its critical role. African governments and development organizations need credible evidence to inform policy-making, program design, implementation and governance to spur economic growth. The need for stakeholders to work closely together has never been more urgent.

However, while the value of research and evaluation is increasingly appreciated on the continent, determining what evidence to use for decision-making, and how to use it, has been a challenge. This must now change, so that the role of research and evaluation is understood as an opportunity for learning to improve performance and accountability for impact. There is an ardent need to translate research and evidence into policy relevant actions for decision-makers, including developing effective communication strategies for dissemination to the wider public.

Although there is commitment by governments and research institutes to design evidence-based policies to improve economic development, enhancing professional skills in this area remains a major challenge. Furthermore, there continues to be a gap between the generation of contextual evidence and its translation into data-informed policy action with policy makers struggling to find, collate and understand evidence. The value of hosting forums where there is the opportunity to interact and discuss actionable strategies to drive improvement in policy evaluation, formulation and implementation through sound data and evidence is invaluable. The challenges are not insurmountable and addressing this disconnect is an achievable goal.

The good news however is that there already exists a huge body of research and evaluation work that can be immediately reviewed, translated, contextualized, and disseminated to assist policy makers and development practitioners to effectively transform Africa. Stakeholders must now discuss strategies for enhancing the dissemination of research findings and ensure future research is demand driven through consultation.

Governments are keen to ensure that they attain economic transformation. It is for this reason, I urge all stakeholders to be bold and innovative in developing new ideas to guide policy decisions on the continent. I challenge you to go beyond the usual conversations to think outside the box and come up with radical ways in which governments can use evidence-based policy and evaluation to drive development.
FOREWORD

On behalf of the partners, we are pleased to present to you a copy of the report on the 1st African Evidence to Action Conference 2018, held at the United States International University – Africa, Nairobi Kenya under the theme “Bridging the gap: Strengthening the Connections between Research, Evaluation and Evidence-based Policies and Practices in sub-Saharan Africa”. The Conference attracted more than 300 delegates, and development partners from more than 15 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and South and North America and comprised of pre-conference capacity building sessions, keynote sessions, plenaries, side events, and exhibition presentations by renowned local and international researchers, development practitioners and organizations. With this conference, the organizers hope to shape and influence the utilization of evidence to inform policy and practice.

Research and evaluation for policy development has received and continues to attract more attention in the recent years. National governments and development practitioners, particularly in Africa, are increasingly becoming aware of the need for credible evidence to inform policy and decision-making processes. Despite the growing interest and demand for research and evaluation, there continues to be a great disconnect between knowledge and evidence generation and its subsequent use as an evidence-based intervention for policy decision-making and implementation.

To increase the adoption of evidence into policies and decision-making in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Malabo Declaration; the International Centre for Evaluation and Development and the Department of Monitoring & Evaluation, The National Treasury & Planning hosted the 1st African Evidence to Action (E2A) Conference 2018.

At the conference, the need to strengthen partnerships and institutional capacity for generation of demand driven evidence and adoption of evidence into policy and decision-making processes was underscored. It was observed that in most cases, evidence produced by non-state actors has been ignored by policy makers due to a lack of awareness, non-alignment of research outcomes to policy needs, poor credibility and dissemination challenges among others. Similarly, the need to increase resource allocation and foster collaboration to ensure research and evidence generated are effectively disseminated was highlighted.

We are convinced that the 1st African E2A conference, has generated momentum for demand driven research and evaluation for policy and decision making. We hope to enhance understanding of the contribution of research and evidence into policy and practise as well as strengthen dialogue and partnerships for evidence-based policy making process. It is our expectation that credible evidence will be generated and disseminated in real time to inform policy decisions and development priorities. We have made important strides forward, but we still have much to do.

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Henry K. Rotich, EGH,
Cabinet Secretary,
The National Treasury and Planning
Republic of Kenya
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The International Centre for Evaluation and Development and the Department of Monitoring & Evaluation, The National Treasury & Planning are indebted to the various individuals and institutions who supported the 1st African Evidence to Action Conference and Exhibition 2018 held at USIU-A.

The conference was organised by The International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED) and the Department of Monitoring & Evaluation (MED) in partnership with The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access (AMA), United States International University-Africa (USIU-A), the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER), The Campbell Collaboration, Agriculture Technology Adoption Initiative (ATAI), Tegemeo Institute, African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP), Evaluation Society of Kenya (ESK) and African Evaluation Association (AfREA). We acknowledge the team's dedication and commitment to ensuring this conference was a success.

We are grateful to Dr. David Ameyaw President/CEO, The International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED) and Dr. Samson Machuka Director, Department of Monitoring and Evaluation (MED) for their decisive leadership in the organising of this conference. Without their guidance and encouragement, the conference would not have been as impactful or monumental as it was.

The conference secretariat is appreciated for going beyond the call of duty and working tirelessly to execute this conference. The moderators, presenters, discussants, session chairs, paper authors, speakers, rapporteurs and delegates are hereby acknowledged for their participation and contribution towards the success of this conference. Special thanks go to the national government agencies, especially the Department of Monitoring and Evaluation at The National Treasury and Planning for their efforts to mobilize resources and attendance of policymakers to ensure the conference was inclusive.

The conference would not have succeeded without the substantial support from the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access and Campbell Collaboration. Without their financial support and team commitment, the conference would have remained a distant dream. USIU-A's dedication to fostering innovative interdisciplinary research was key to the success of this conference through their unwavering staff dedication and support. Furthermore, with ISSER's invaluable contribution aimed to strengthen partnerships and collaboration, the conference offered the opportunity for delegates to network and share experiences and to all, we are grateful.

Julius Muia, PhD, EBS
Principal Secretary,
State Department for Planning,
The National Treasury and Planning
ACRONYMS

AFC  Agricultural Finance Corporation
AFIDEP  African Institute for Development Policy
AGRA  Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa
ASALs  Arid and Semi - Arid Lands
CAPI  Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing
CEO  Chief Executive Officer
CIMES  County Integrated Monitoring & Evaluation System
EAC  East Africa Community
EGH  Elder of Golden Heart
ESK  Evaluation Society of Kenya
GCF  Green Climate Fund
HCD  Horticultural Crop Directorate
ICCA  Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation
ICED  The International Centre for Evaluation and Development
ICT  Information Communication and Technology
IEU  Independent Evaluation Unit
IFAD  International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILRI  International Livestock Research Institute
ISSER  Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research
J-PAL  The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab
KEBS  Kenya Bureau of Standards
KEPHIS  Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services
KIPPPRA  Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis
KNBS  Kenya national Bureau of Statistics
M&E  Monitoring & Evaluation
MED  Department of Monitoring & Evaluation
MPs  Member of Parliaments
NDAs  Non-Disclosure Agreements
NGOs  Non-Governmental Organizations
NIMES  National Integrated Monitoring & Evaluation System
PCBP  Pest Control Products Board
PPF  Public Provident Account
R&D  Research and Development
R&E  Research & Evaluation
SDGs  Sustainable Development Goals
SMEs  Small and Medium Enterprises
SSA  Sub - Saharan Africa
USAID  United States of America in Development
USIU Africa  United states International University - Africa
3ie  International Initiative for Impact Evaluation
The first Evidence to Action conference was a milestone in appreciation of the strengthening connection between Research, Evaluation and Evidence-based decision making. The International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED) is proud to be a pace-setter of utilisation of evidence in informing policy.

The conference was organised by The International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED) and the Department of Monitoring & Evaluation (MED) at The National Treasury & Planning in partnership with BASIS Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access (AMA), United States International University-Africa (USIU-A), the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER), The Campbell Collaboration, Agriculture Technology Adoption Initiative (ATAI), Tegemeo Institute, African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP), Evaluation Society of Kenya (ESK) and African Evaluation Association (AfREA).
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 1st African Evidence To Action Conference 2018 was held at the United States International University–Africa, Nairobi-Kenya from 26th and 27th July 2018. The theme for the Conference, “Bridging the gap: Strengthening the connections between Research, Evaluation and Evidence-based Policies and Practices in sub-Saharan Africa,” was premised on the understanding that contextualizing research and evaluation for Africa has the potential to inform policy decision-making and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The specific conference objectives were to:

- Facilitate dialogue among stakeholders on research and evaluation agenda and priority setting to influence policymaking and governance.
- Identify effective ways research and evaluation findings can be utilized for evidence-based policy making and action.
- Highlight and share what has worked and what has not worked in using cutting-edge research and evaluation results and findings for policy making and action.
- Identify and discuss successful models for collaboration between networks of researchers, evaluation professionals, policy makers, and civil society to strengthen policy relevant research and evaluation.

The conference was structured around nine sub themes. These included Agriculture and Food Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa; Climate Change and Environment; Agriculture Risk, Index Insurance and Risk Mitigation; Private Sector in Development; Impact of investment in Agriculture and Food Systems; Innovative Finance, Credit and Savings for Smallholders; Systematic Review and Impact Evaluation for Policy Making; Gender and Youth in Agriculture and Food Systems and National and Local Governance and Accountability.

The conference attracted over 300 policy-makers, academia, researchers, civil society, students, and development partners from more than fourteen countries across the world—Africa, Asia, Europe and North America.

The steering committee comprised of officials from the national government, academia, research institutes and think tanks who were tasked with planning and executing the conference. Key partners included the International Centre for Evaluation and Development, Department of Monitoring & Evaluation, Ministry of National Treasury & Planning, The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access (AMA Innovation Lab), United States International University - Africa (USIU-Africa), Campbell Collaboration, Agriculture Technology Adoption Initiative (ATAI), Tegemeo Institute, the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER) who came on board to drive the research, evaluation and evidence agenda.

Highly valued was the diversity of the breakout sessions, the depth of the speakers in the panel sessions and the openness of policymakers in speaking about the challenges faced in design and implementation of policy in the African context.
The two-day conference programme was delivered through plenary session presentations, panel discussions, and breakout sessions. A two-day pre-conference workshop was also organized as a precursor to build capacity of delegates on systematic reviews and meta-analysis; executive leadership on monitoring and evaluation; and building resilience through graduation programs.

The inaugural key note address was delivered by Henry K. Rotich, EGH, Cabinet Secretary, The National Treasury and Planning. The special opening remarks were made by Hon. Dr. William Sabi, Deputy Minister for Monitoring and Evaluation, Ghana representing Hon. Dr. Anthony Akoto Osei, Cabinet Minister for Monitoring and Evaluation, Ghana; Mr. Charles Sunkuli Principal Secretary, Devolution representing Hon. Eugene Wamalwa, EGH, Cabinet Secretary of Devolution and ASALs; and Dr. Julius Muia, Principal Secretary for Planning, The National Treasury and Planning. Other dignitaries present during the opening ceremony included Dr. David Ameyaw President / CEO, ICED; Dr. Samson Machuka, Director, MED; Dr. Amos Namangi Ngongi, Board Chair, ICED; Prof. Paul T. Zeleza, Vice Chancellor, USIU-A; Dr. Manu Chandaria, Chancellor, USIU-A; and Dr. Makali Mulu, Kenya National Assembly.

Speakers reiterated the importance of the conference to drive economic development in the African continent. Several speakers highlighted the role of M&E in shaping the development agenda. They echoed the need for additional resources to be set aside for research and evaluation to generate evidence that feeds directly into decision making for policy and practice. In addition, all participants emphasized the need for active collaboration among stakeholders to ensure use of demand-driven research and effective dissemination of findings for policy. A change of mind-set and the establishment of institutionalized bodies were also identified as critical for utilization of evidence amongst policy makers.

Highly valued was the openness of policymakers in speaking about the challenges faced in design and implementation of policy in the African context, the diversity of the breakout sessions, and the depth of the speakers in the panel sessions.

The conference adopted the following resolutions:

- Build Partnerships to support evidence generation and utilization in decision making to improve livelihoods. Collaboration between state and non-state actors to raise technical and financial support will enhance credibility of research and evaluations undertaken by non-state actors to inform policy;
- Build Institutional Capacity to undertake research and evaluation across the continent through collaboration to implement M&E policies, develop M&E curricula and convene regular forums will inculcate a culture of M&E;
- Devolve Monitoring and Evaluation to improve governance and project implementation. Strong M&E systems coupled with improved resource capacity will inform decisions and encourage transparency and accountability;
- Stakeholder Inclusion including concerted efforts to involve elected representatives in generating and utilization of evidence that is demand driven;
- Generate Credible Evidence through collaboration between governments and non-state actors to generate evidence that is relevant, demonstrative of impact and outcomes and promotes the development of standard methodologies;
- Avail Real Time Evidence that is credible, demand driven, relevant and current. By ensuring evidence is current, it can be included in policy formulation;
- Targeted Communication and Dissemination of research and evaluation findings should be communicated to the intended users with explicit recommendations to inform policy makers otherwise unaware of existing or ongoing research.
1.0 INTRODUCTION
1.0 INTRODUCTION

This conference was the latest milestone in a series of conferences organized by the International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED) and the Department of Monitoring & Evaluation, The National Treasury & Planning in partnership with The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access (AMA Innovation Lab), The Campbell Collaboration, United States International University - Africa (USIU-A), Agriculture Technology Adoption Initiative (ATAI), Tegemeo Institute, the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER) and other partners. This conference was a consolidation of the inaugural Regional Evidence to Action conferences that were held in Nairobi, Kenya from 24-25th May 2017 and Accra, Ghana in 25-26th July 2017. The Conference aimed at conveying the importance of the value of research and evaluation, addressing challenges and identifying workable solutions among stakeholders.

1.1 Why Does Research and Evaluation for Policy Development Matter?

Despite the growing interest in and demand for research and evaluation (R&E), R&E has not yet reached its full potential and there continues to be a great disconnect. This must now change, so that the role of research and evaluation is understood as an opportunity for organizational and individual learning to improve performance and accountability for impact. There is an ardent need to translate research and evidence into policy relevant actions for decision-makers, including developing effective communication products and strategies for sharing and dissemination to a wider public. These challenges are not insurmountable and addressing this disconnect is an achievable goal.

1.2 Overall Goal and Theme of the Conference

The aim of the conference was to increase policy-relevant, demand-driven research and the adoption of evidence in policy and decision-making. The conference sought to reinforce demand-driven, evidence-based policy development in the context of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the African Union Malabo Declaration. This would be achieved by facilitating dialogue and sharing of knowledge & experiences among international, regional and local stakeholders.

The theme for the Conference, “Bridging the gap: Strengthening the connections between Research, Evaluation and Evidence-based Policies and Practices in sub-Saharan Africa,” was premised on the understanding that contextualizing research and evaluation for Africa has the potential to inform policy decision-making.

The Conference included pre-conference sessions, a keynote session, plenaries, side events, and exhibition by nationally and internationally renowned practitioners from diverse disciplines who have used research and evaluation for effective and impactful policy making and action in the African context and culture. This promoted dialogue and exchange of experiences and a way forward was charted for enhanced collaboration in research and evaluation.

“...The conference seeks to enhance sustainable collaboration and sharing of knowledge and information among researchers, policy makers, civil societies and development partners...”

Dr David Ameyaw, President/CEO, International Centre for Evaluation and Development
1.3 Conference Objectives

The conference objectives were to:

01. Facilitate dialogue among stakeholders on research and evaluation agenda and priority setting to influence policymaking and governance.

02. Identify effective ways research and evaluation findings can be utilized for evidence-based policy making and action.

03. Highlight and share what has worked and what has not worked in using cutting-edge research and evaluation results and findings for policy making and action.

04. Identify and discuss successful models for collaboration between networks of researchers, evaluation professionals, policy makers, and civil society to strengthen policy-relevant research and development.
2.0

PROCEEDINGS
DAY 1
The event commenced with welcome remarks by Prof. Paul T. Zeleza, Vice Chancellor, USIU–A, who highlighted that the use of research and evidence in decision making contributes greatly to the regional and continental agenda. He lauded the efforts made by USIU-A in contributing to the research agenda through ICT collaborations with Hewlett-Packard in hosting a high-performance Computing (HPC) centre, which will aid in big data analysis and decision making. Against this background, Prof. Zeleza welcomed the participants to the Evidence to Action Conference, indicating that it would contribute to advancing evidence-based decision making in Africa.

Dr. Manu Chandaria, Chancellor, USIU-A, welcomed the participants and thanked the organizers for the logistical support and all the partners for their generous financial support. He underlined that this conference was the first of its kind in the continent, and applauded the efforts geared to enhance research capacity and training of professionals to inculcate a culture of Monitoring and Evaluation and stakeholder inclusion in decision making in Kenya. He added that USIU-A requires support from other universities and Government agencies to produce verifiable data that can be used as evidence. He further stated that USIU-A is committed to becoming a leader in Monitoring and Evaluation, while incorporating big data in Africa.

Dr. David Ameyaw, President / CEO, ICED, observed that despite the growing interest and demand for research and evaluation (R&E), R&E has not yet reached its full potential. He underscored that the 4th Industrial revolution in Africa would be driven by technology, leading to economic transformation for nations that are prepared through adoption of relevant policy. He reiterated the objectives of the conference and called on delegates to work in close partnership with the aim is to advance the use of evidence-based policy making and practices that will promote growth, transform lives, and improve livelihoods on the continent.

Dr. Samson Machuka, Director, MED, highlighted that evaluations are critical in providing evidence for decision-making ensuring the effectiveness of government policies and programmes as stipulated in Kenya Vision 2030. Monitoring and evaluation therefore is key to measuring the performance of the economy. He further reiterated that any development cannot be realised whenever interventions being implemented do not lead to intended outcomes and impact. It is imperative that activities and processes are supported by necessary inputs to get timely outputs. The government through MED have developed an electronic platform, the National Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System (NIMES), which has integrated traffic light panels that display progress at every stage of project implementation to ensure that implementation status of each deliverable is in real time. This conference therefore offers an ideal platform for policy makers and researchers to deliberate how evaluation connects to research, evidence, policy and action.
Julius Muia, PhD, EBS Principal Secretary, State Department for Planning, observed that The Evidence to Action Conference will encourage discourse to establish how evidence can be used as a pillar in policy and program development. He highlighted that the theme of the conference resonates well with Kenya’s development agenda, which advocates for evidence-based policy making. The sub-themes of the conference including Agriculture, Private Sector in Development, Impact Evaluation for Policy Making, Governance and Accountability are all priorities across the continent towards the achievement of specific national development goals as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This also resonates with the implementation of the Third Medium Term Plan (MTP) 2018 – 2022 and the Kenya Vision 2030. To ensure achievement of the envisaged development results, and effective monitoring and evaluation framework needs to be put in place.

Dr. Amos Namanga Ngongi, Board Chair, ICED, underscored that Monitoring and Evaluation is no longer a preserve for non-governmental organisations. He stated that Africa has come a long way in development but needs to utilise knowledge to make informed choices. A vibrant M & E framework needs to be inculcated in Africa. He also emphasised on the need for the political class to embrace evidence for policy making.

Hon. Dr. Makali Mulu – Kenya National Assembly, Chair of Parliamentary Caucus on Evidence Informed Oversight and Decision-Making. He reiterated that parliamentarians are faced with various challenges in utilising evidence to inform decision making and observed that the use of evidence is critical in the key roles of members of parliament; representation, legislature, oversight and budget making. He mentioned that members of parliament face challenges in mapping sources of data – research generated in universities, think tanks and research institutions is not readily accessible. The other challenge encountered is that the caucus is not a formally established structure within parliament thus needs to be institutionalised for it to carry out its mandate. He encouraged more collaborations and networks by research institutions with parliament.
Hon. Dr. William Sabi, Deputy Minister for Ministry of Monitoring and Evaluation represented Hon. Dr. Anthony Akoto Osei, Cabinet Minister for Ministry of Monitoring and Evaluation, Ghana.

He acknowledged the role of this important initiative that will provide opportunities to deepen collaborations with the various stakeholders on promoting the application of evidence in policy, programme management and decision-making. He underlined that the vision of the President of Ghana, His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo Addo, is building Ghana Beyond Aid. The Government has outlined several policy measures aimed at the successful implementation of his vision by use of time-tested information to buttress decision-making at Cabinet level; and hence the creation of the Ministry of Monitoring and Evaluation, which is under the Office of the President. The Economic Management Team (EMT) is tasked with the sole responsibility of tracking and reporting on Government priority programmes and to provide just in time information to Cabinet on the performance of high priority Government programmes. The Government Results Framework 2017-2020, guides the Ministry's work and to date, has prepared one rapid assessment and annual progress reports, using a colour coded or traffic light system.

Charles Sunkuli, Principal Secretary Devolution represented Hon. Eugene Wamalwa, EGH, Cabinet Secretary of Devolution and ASALs.

He observed that the theme of the conference resonates with the mandate of his Ministry which coordinates devolution programs in Kenya noting that the conference provides an opportunity for learning and sharing of experiences to stimulate increased investment in monitoring and evaluation in a coherent and coordinated manner. He thanked the ICED and MED for co-hosting this event in Kenya, a country grappling with how to improve governance systems and therefore with a huge interest in understanding how research and evidence can improve project implementation, reporting and decision-making. Indeed, for devolution to succeed, he underscored the need for County Governments to keep a close eye on how projects and processes are being managed and continually evaluate them. He also emphasized a need to design strong research and evaluation programmes to ensure that the development policy and programs being implemented have a lasting impact on the lives of the Kenyan people, particularly vulnerable citizens. Strong legislative framework to guide the institutions supporting devolution in the country have been put in place, thus research and evaluation can play a very important role in improving our governance systems. Having well designed and structured research and evaluation programmes will help us to hold our leaders accountable and develop policies and management decisions. Further, he said that the Devolution Ministry has set up Research and M&E Departments to support County Governments to deliver more efficiently but needs more financial support calling upon development partners and non-state actors to design effective evaluation and research programmes that will ensure that county activities are monitored in addition to dealing with emerging challenges in real-time.
Keynote Address by Henry K. Rotich, EGH, Cabinet Secretary, The National Treasury and Planning.

The Cabinet Secretary for Treasury and Planning, Henry K. Rotich, EGH, delivered the keynote address. He expressed his delight in presiding over the historic occasion marking the official opening of the 1st Africa Evidence to Action Conference. He underlined that the theme of the conference - Bridging the gap: Strengthening the connections between Research, Evaluation and Evidence-based Policies and Practices in sub-Saharan Africa was very appropriate, given that development of policies and practices in Africa, if based on research and evaluation, can transform the lives and livelihoods of people. He reiterated that the Government of Kenya believes that strong recommendations based on evidence is necessary to achieve its development agenda, which is based on the Kenya Vision 2030 and implemented through its Medium-Term Plans, which are also captured in the country’s Big Four agenda. He observed that there are three major components that affect evidence-based decision making in Kenya;

(a) Lack of awareness of the value of research in decision making - Often, policies are not based on research and evidence due to a focus on short term goals that do not allow adequate time to gather evidence.

(b) Lack of documented examples of best practice - Well disseminated examples of what works can lead to significant budget allocations where research indicates areas that can accelerate growth. These examples of best practice, when utilized well can act as a benchmark in policy and decision making.

(c) Demand driven research and evaluation will increase uptake by policy makers and should include:

(i) Political context – familiarisation with the national agenda allows researchers to understand the political climate and propose workable solutions.

(ii) Relevant research and evaluation findings – Undertake practically useful, conclusive and credible research backed by evidence to support findings.

(iii) Strengthened links with key stakeholders - build partnerships to foster collaboration and progress.

(iv) Effective communication of research – ensure that research findings are accessible and comprehensible.

Success factors to adopt fact-based policy making

- Development of professional capacity in evidence-based policy is necessary to improve economic development
- Strong legal framework to back generation and utilisation of evidence for decision making.
- Implementation of monitoring and evaluation tools and frameworks to ensure that the government generates real time evidence for decision making
- Enhance research capacity and training of researchers to inculcate a culture of Monitoring and Evaluation and stakeholder inclusion in decision making
- Institutionalisation of bodies led by policy makers to facilitate utilization of evidence in decision making
- Nurturing collaborations and strengthening partnerships
- Provide technical assistance to county governments in strengthening monitoring & evaluation

This session was concluded by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between ICED and USIU-A; ICED and Tegemeo Institute; and ICED and ISSER to establish a formal agreement for driving the agenda on monitoring and evaluation on the continent through partnership and joint ventures.
2.2 Plenary Session 2

*Moderator: Prof. Robert Darko Osei, Asst. Dean, School of Graduate Studies, University of Ghana*

This session set the stage by presenting key findings of recent studies on the evolution and evaluation of research in informing global policy and practices. It provided an opportunity to discuss how evidence can be used to increase resilience and reduce vulnerability among poor livestock dependent households.

**The Evolution of Evaluation and Research in Informing Global Policy and Practices**

**Presenter: Dr. Howard White, the Executive Director, The Campbell Collaboration**

Dr. Howard White outlined the benefits of utilising the knowledge brokering platform pyramid. Different ways in which evidence exists or is reported differ in the degree to which that knowledge has been brokered or translated for use in policy and practice. Evidence-based organisations need to think strategically about what sort of product they will produce, and the skills required to do so. This model envisages utilising data in studies that inform systematic reviews, then databases and evidence maps to portals that are used to develop guidance and guidelines and finally checklists. These then make studies more accessible to institutionalise the use of bodies of evidence. This infrastructure of knowledge brokering is not a list of alternatives and each layer informs the next layer. There is growing awareness of the need for systematic reviews rather than relying on single studies or traditional literature reviews. The development of full infrastructure making well brokered evidence available to policy makers and practitioners is still lagging in most sectors in most countries.

**Using Evidence to Increase Resilience and Reduce Vulnerability Among Poor Livestock Dependant Households**

**Presenter: Dr. Andrew Mude, Chief Economist, ILRI and Winner of 2016 Norman Borlaug Award for Field Research Application**

Dr. Andrew Mude laid out a framework for increasing the impacts of evidence on development policy. These guidelines, he argued, will help enable interventions and the evidence generated from them to be effective and become scalable.

1. **Know Your Client:** Identify the first limiting constraint.
2. Use a context-informed theory and related evidence to identify a promising intervention.
3. Design the innovation based on theory, existing best practices, and consultations with stakeholders, rigorously test it.
4. Understand and uncover the constraints on the innovation's performance and diffusion – act on them.
5. Once the innovation is established to “work” scale up.

Dr. Mude illustrated his points using the example of Index Based Livestock Insurance (IBLI) as a case study. The trajectory of the research, interventions and scaling of IBLI has led to a real increase in resilience and reduction in vulnerability among poor livestock-dependent households in Northern Kenya and Southern Ethiopia.

Dr. Mude concluded that the experience and evidence from IBLI suggests that for programs to scale sustainably, they need to build on strong, well-coordinated public and private sectors and that, in particular, government leadership is critical to coordinate investments and create conducive policy environment for private delivery.

**Key observations arising from plenary presentation**

- Understanding and uncovering constraints on innovation performance is key in establishing informed effective demand. This can be realised through capacity development, extension and marketing.
2.3 Session 3: Parliamentarian Group Panel Discussion: Using Evidence for Public Sector Accountability in Sub-Saharan Africa — The Place for Research and Evaluation in Government Priority Setting Agenda

**Moderator: Dr. Rose N. Oronje, Director, Science Communication and Evidence Uptake, AFIDEP**

The discussion started with an exchange of views regarding the use of evidence for public sector accountability and the place for research and evaluation in government priority setting agenda. Several challenges were cited in the use of evidence in passing legislation key among them being; lack of technical support on data, out of date libraries and lack of collaboration with experts.

**Dr. Andrew Osei Asibey**, Technical Advisor, Ministry of Monitoring and Evaluation – Ghana, posited that the government of Ghana has identified high priority areas with key priority outcomes so that the national budget is then aligned with high priority areas. The emerging issues identified have been slow release of funds to implement the identified priorities and challenge to get relevant evidence to track budgets.

**Hon. Dr. Michael Bukenya**, Chair Parliament’s Committee on Health – Uganda, said that Uganda has adopted use of evidence in legislation and acknowledges the need for high stakeholder involvement before a bill is presented to parliament. Though the use of evidence is encouraged, critical to progress is ensuring the buy in of members of parliament.

**Hon. Juliana Lunguzi**, Chair Parliament’s Committee on Health – Malawi, pointed out that in Malawi, there is limited budgetary allocation to research activities with it mostly donor and not necessarily demand driven therefore carried out by universities and research institutions. In addition, information generated by researchers is not disseminated or presented to parliamentarians in a format they understand while political interference creates a challenge to opposition parliamentarians since they cannot access relevant information.
Hon. Samuel Poghisio, Senator, West Pokot County emphasized that members of parliament need to use research to drive the national agenda. To achieve this, a shift in mind-set to embrace use of evidence amongst parliamentarians is necessary as are contextual research findings to determine the impact on rural or urban areas. The national government should be taxed to raise resources to enhance the capacity of the monitoring and evaluation function and strengthen policies to enhance research uptake amongst parliamentarians.

### Key issues arising from panel discussion

- Systematic reviews should be made available to all stakeholders
- Researchers to be encouraged to present research findings to parliamentarians
- Researchers to build their capacity on parliamentary procedures to ensure maximum participation in informing policy
- Research should be contextual and not donor driven
- Need for institutional mechanisms to utilise evidence
- Research findings should be easily decipherable

Source: Asibey, Bukenya, Lunguzi, Poghisio, July 2018

**2.4 Session 4: Strengthening Policy Making Process: The Role of Evidence-Based Research and Evaluation.**

*Moderator: Dr. Rose Ngugi, Executive Director, (KIPPRA)*

This was a panel discussion by research organizations discussing how to integrate evidence and policy to inform government priorities to improve the lives of citizens. The discussion began with each panelist giving a brief introduction about themselves, their institutions and explaining what they do and how they work to ensure that the role of evidence-based research and evaluation is achieved.

Evidence is a critical tool to enable policy makers to identify and understand development issues at all stages: agenda setting, policy formulation, policy implementation and evaluation. Where research may not provide solutions, it provides accurate, reliable and credible information and knowledge that informs the public policy process. More so evidence generated from research must be able to support the experience, expertise and judgement of the decision maker. Challenges cited regarding government's use of evidence includes focus on long term plans that address the symptoms and not the cause of the challenges that characterize development while other factors at play are tacit knowledge, poor communication channels, politics and institutional capacity.
Prof. Jane Mariara, Executive Director at Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP), shared how their systems have been designed to ensure that all stakeholders are included in every step of the project. For example, the community including the youth and marginalized groups, are involved in the identification of indicators used to formulate development plans. She said researchers should work with policy makers from the design of the project through to the uptake to ensure that studies conducted impact policy making.

Dr Felix Asante, Director at ISSER, spoke of the need to bridge the gap between researchers and policy makers by potentially utilizing an intermediary institution or system established to address the gap. To progress is ensuring the buy in of members of parliament.

Dr Miltone Aylieko, Director at Tegemeo Institute, proposed the involvement of all stakeholders from the inception to program design and include various interest groups for them to clearly understand and appreciate the process and the theory of change.

Prof Joe Kleya, KIPPRA, noted that politicians as the implementors require support to understand the research results and how to best use them as they worry about the risks and the impact of the policies they are making.

Dr Rose Oronje, Director of Science, Communication and Evidence uptake at AFIDEP advised researchers to ensure that policy makers have access to evidence and data to ensure that way policies made are evidence-informed as opposed to evidence-based.

Prof Amos Njuguna, Dean at School of Graduate Studies, Research and Extension, USIU-Africa, discussed how researchers and policy makers should work together to ensure that research is done on issues that are of high priority to encourage uptake of evidence from the research.

Key issues arising from panel discussion

- Credible evidence should be generated in a multidisciplinary context
- Building capacity for researchers to undertake market driven research
- Stakeholder to work together to focus on both long term and short-term development plans
- Adopt accessible and comprehensible channels for dissemination of research findings
2.5 Breakout sessions
2.5.1 Using Evidence for Agriculture and Food Systems Policy and Programs in Sub-Sahara Africa.

Moderator: Rebecca Toole – J-PAL

Joyce Makau / Jackson Langat’s presentation was on Assessment of Farmers’ Willingness to Pay for Agricultural Extension Services in Kenya. The study considered the willingness of farmers to pay for extension services that was previously free and how much they were willing to pay. The double-hurdle approach was used. 350 clusters out of 1340 rural clusters were selected from a sampling frame provided by KNBS and focused on dairy subsector, maize and horticulture. The findings indicated that 56.1% of farmers were not willing to pay for extension services, out of the percentage willing to pay 72% had access to markets. The reasons cited for unwillingness included – affordability, government role perceived not necessary or had a negative experience from government extension service officers. It was established that group approach was favoured. Age, gender and education were considered important for choice of service while age, gender, group, credit and experience important on extent for choice of services provided.

Key recommendations

- Extension services are a vital and necessary intervention
- There is need to improve uptake of new technology
- Extension services should be encouraged
- Groups should also be encouraged in the provision of extension services

Source: Makau and Langat, July 2018

Fred Mawunyo Dzanku, presentation was on Influencing Agricultural Policy, Implementation and Outcomes at the Macro and Meso Levels in Ghana. He indicated that; Level of knowledge on agricultural policies is quite low though important, policy making at national and local levels is highly influenced by who pays, within the context of decentralization and power relations at the community level, the Ministry of food and agriculture and central government are responsible of policy issues though the ministry is only allocated 1% of national budget other players such as the District Assembly, traditional authorities, foreign organizations and the private sector should be engaged. The study focused on the Demeter Project in 4 Districts (2 in the South and 2 in the North of Ghana). A key finding was that women and the youth are not engaged in policy formulation.
Key recommendations

- Policy control could be by multilateral and bilateral donors, NGOs through aid relationships
- There are challenges on decentralization which affects policy implementation
- There is limited influence on agriculture policy by the women and youth in a male dominated policy making engagements
- Women and youth need to be encouraged in policy engagement

Source: Dzanku, July 2018

Kevin Onyango presented on Enhancing Agriculture Productivity through Leverage Private Sector Investment. He highlighted that sorghum production has been on the increase in Ethiopia, while in Kenya production is stagnant since 2000 to 2017. Increase in Kenya sorghum production during the 2011 and 2013 was characterised by industrial use of the product. Challenges included; low utilization of improved varieties, pests, diseases, weak extension services, weak investment in R&D. There was a surge in production (up by 50%) due to use of improved varieties in 2013 to 2017. There was a notable effect of commercialization - A traditional farmer uses 23% of resources on land while the modern farmer concentrates resources in labour, fertilizers and seed.

Key recommendations

- Increase private sector participation in agricultural production
- Identify methods to stimulate farm level production for increased income.
- Public Sector should enhance the provision of resources and services

Source: Onyango, July 2018
Benjamin Jabik made a presentation on Assessment of Planned and Autonomous On-Farm Climate Change Adaption Approaches by Small Scale Crop Farmers. He stated that on-farm adaptation approaches being planned and autonomous Farmers planning shorter gestation varieties had the highest yields. Refilling, planting in anticipation of rain and planting trees had the lowest yield. Crops under study included early millet, late millet and guinea corn/maize.

Dr. Simon Bawakyillenuo presented a paper on: The Role of Social Protection Interventions in Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation: The Case of The Labor Intensive Public Works of The Ghana Social Opportunities Projects. He underscored that frequency and intensity of climatic change events has increased in recent times, this has greatly affected developing countries and the more vulnerable people are the poor, women and children. There is therefore need for up scaling adaptation and mitigation measures which are often limited by limitation of funds. At the household level, social protection activities result to an increase in consumption spending and a decline in poverty among households.

2.5.2 Research and Evaluation in National Health, Education, and Energy Security

Moderator: Dr. Timothy Okech, USIU-Africa

Richard Richardson presented a paper on: Energy Security and Sustainable Livelihoods for Southern Africa. He underlined that energy security is a critical component, an element of food security that is often overlooked. Forests are important both as a source of energy and for livelihood sustenance. Deforestation for purposes of charcoal burning threatens energy security, agricultural production, human and animal health, livelihoods and production of ecosystem services. Charcoal is the main source of energy for majority of homesteads in the African region. Poorer households participate more in the production and sale of charcoal and is mainly a safety net to supplement their income.

Key recommendations

- More effort should be focused on alternative sources of energy which are cost effective and eco-friendly
- There is a need to examine such alternative sources of energy such as biomass briquettes and multi-purpose cook stoves
- There is need for collaborative grant proposals for research on development of eco-friendly and sustainable energy sources
- There is need of comprehensive energy sources policies by the National governments that regulate sustainable use of charcoal.

Source: Richardson, July 2018
Key recommendations

- As an alternative, there is need for innovative financing through social protection programs such as tree plantation, construction of rural feeder roads, rehabilitation of dams etc.
- There is also need for advocacy in adaptive capacity building activities by all people.
- It is recommended that the targeting strategy of social protection should be improved to ensure that more poor individuals/households are recruited to benefit directly from the projects.

Source: Bawakyillenuo, July 2018

Emefa Akua Amponsah, made a presentation on: Child, Home and School Factors as Predictors for Learning Outcomes in Public Primary Schools in Ghana – A Difference in Difference with Covariates Models. She highlighted that academic achievement is considered an important indicator for successful future. School feeding programs have influence on educational, health and agricultural outcomes. Education is key to national development and thus schools should provide a conducive learning environment to every child.

Key recommendations

- There is the need to align the home and school environment which have an impact on learning outcomes of school children
- School feeding programs have a significant impact on net enrolment and children performance (test scores)
- Structural infrastructure such as buildings, sanitation etc should be available in all schools
- Access to and quality of meals should be improved for child development.

Source: Amponsah, July 2018
2.5.3 Bang for the Buck: Identifying Causal Mechanisms to Maximize Financial and Development Impact

Moderator: Tara Chiu, Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access

Holistic development strategies are increasingly common, with policy-makers and implementing partners bundling multiple interventions into one program. While this broad-based approach to tackling tough development problems has the potential to have huge impact, how do implementers know which precise elements within these bundles of interventions are the ones making the difference? Do interventions, when combined, have even greater impact than the sum of the individual interventions? Could the interventions in a bundle even be diminishing the effects of the others? Why it is important to have a research process in place to identify the causal mechanisms that are responsible for development impacts? How can policy makers and implementers determine which mechanisms are most (cost) effective alone or in conjunction with each other, or whether they possibly combine to produce negative impacts.

Prof. Michael Carter, in his session, highlighted that rigorous evaluation of a short-term fertilizer subsidies program in Mozambique has proven a great example of why breaking down the individual pieces of an intervention is important. Unintended and unexpected results emerged when certain savings and subsidies interventions were combined, contrary to the expectations of complementarity. Without a careful parsing of the various interventions, these conditions would have remained undiscovered. When using multi-faceted interventions, it is critical to develop methods to break them down and analyse how they interact, to ensure development impacts are maximised and scarce resources are spent in the most effective way possible.

Helen Dalton made a presentation on the BOMA Project. She highlighted that poverty among the rural communities has been rampant. The BOMA (poverty graduation program for women) program is designed to ensure that beneficiaries can find a pathway out of poverty while managing or avoiding shocks. This is achieved through: sampling to identify the ultra-poor, consumption support to meet basic daily needs, an income-generating asset (cash or in kind) and training in managing the asset, access to savings through savings groups and mentoring over a two-year period to reinforce lessons, monitoring of households’ progress, provision of moral support and help to overcome any challenges along the way. The BOMA graduation program provides an example of how an evaluation of a complex intervention can identify which specific elements of an integrated program are most effective in accomplishing development objectives. By identifying which pieces of the program produce the greatest results, the program can then be honed and refined and become more cost effective, while still delivering the desired development impacts.

Prof. Nicholas Magnan made a presentation on Paying it Forward: Short-term Impacts of a Livelihoods Program with Built-in Spill Overs. He posited that poverty among livestock farmers is mainly due to lack of economic empowerment. Economic empowerment gives people hope and makes them aspire for a better future. He sought to evaluate the short-term (1.5 year) impacts of a program in Nepal (Heifer International) that transfers livestock, promotes social capital, increases human capital, and asks program beneficiaries to “pass on the gift” to others in the village as the livestock reproduce. The program seeks to reduce poverty through; Self-help group formation with encouragement to save, technical trainings on improved animal management, Livestock transfers (two doe goats for shared breeding buck) and value-based training with encouragement to “pay-it-forward”.

Key recommendations

- There is need for interventions maximizing financial value to generate capital for economic empowerment and poverty reduction.
- Programs should be designed to help poor communities/beneficiaries find pathways out of poverty while managing or avoiding shocks.
- There is need to adopt insurance against risks so that farmers do not fall back into poverty but continue thriving.
- Mentoring and coaching would be necessary to encourage farmers to save.
- Communities should be encouraged to form self-help groups, this will bring synergy to fight poverty as well as empower them economically.
- There is need for technical training among farmers on improved animal management.

Source: Carter, Dalton & Magnan, July 2018
2.5.4 Bridging the gap: The Need for Demand-Driven Research and Evaluation in Effective Evidence-Based Climate Change Policy and Practice in Sub-Saharan Africa

Moderator: Roberto La Rovere, Green Climate Fund (GCF), South Korea

Hans Andre Lahoyo (Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) presented on: Policy Based Evaluation and Evidence from Climate Change Activities in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). He mentioned that there is an absence of policies in the field of climate change despite repetitive calamities and evidence. In addition, the Government is reluctant to sponsor research leading to climate change related policies while there is also lethargy from regulators in the field of environment and climate change. Little attention is paid to scientific and scholars’ warnings about unsustainable and inefficient management of environmental /climate changes policies or natural resources and related issues.

Ntahorwamiye Aime Claude from Burundi made a presentation on: Climate Change Policies and Strategies in Burundi. He underscored that there is an over simplistic scaling effort; the implementation of innovation and technologies also matter. Policies are also made without consultations with stakeholders while limited finances are allocated to carry out evaluation. There is also insufficient statistical data and lack of awareness of its existence. In order to own different policies and strategies, Burundi has made the decision to develop their policies without recourse to international consultants.

Karl Hughes made a presentation titled; Towards A More Demand Driven Paradigm for Scaling and Evaluating Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Innovations. He stated that there are low adoption rates of farmers due to high complexity and risk. He further stated that without experimentation there would be no innovation.

Key recommendations

- Make evaluations and evidence collection more meaningful channelling to policies and regulations incorporating NDAs
- To bring IEU more pro-active and effective, it will be necessary to follow the whole GCF cycle of projects/programs which include the Readiness activities, Concept Note, PPF, Funding Proposal, the implementation to the closing
- To play an important role of its independency from all stakeholders in the GCF mechanisms, the existence of data base of indicators for each beneficiary as baselines for evaluations and evidences’ collection.
- Institute new demand driven paradigm for scaling up complex technologies
- Have multiple options for farmers to experiment and isolate what works
- Real time evaluation of alternative scaling approaches to be explored
- Implementation of technologies matters – case of Malawi
- To ensure there is capacity to conduct evaluations and act on them, countries must own different policies and strategies on climate change in order to know their needs;
- Stakeholders must align on national strategies
- Statistical data must be available;
- Financial means to make evaluations must be ready on time

Source:Djambo, Claude and Hughes, July 2018
2.5.5 Agriculture Risk Index Insurance and Risk Management.

*Moderator: Dr. Paul C. H. Wachana USIU-Africa*

Kyle Murphy made a presentation on: Protecting farmers from risk through insurance and improved seed. Groups were randomly assigned to either receive insurance or not. Then the outcomes of interest were measured at the beginning and because of the random assignment, any difference in outcome was attributed to the program. He stated that risk protection on seeds and technologies is very important. He further stated that use of meso-level insurance and introduction of free insurance would act as a form of social protection. It is therefore imperative to come up with strategies to reduce basic risks in index insurance products and to adopt new risk-mitigating crop varieties (a promising alternative).

**Key recommendations**

- Take up risk protection on seeds and technologies
- Use meso-level insurance should be encouraged
- Issuance of free insurance to be used as a form of social protection
- Device strategies to reduce basic risk in index insurance products
- Adoption of new risk-mitigating crop varieties such as crops with tolerance to drought, floods, pests and diseases should be explored.

Source: Murphy July 2018

“Agriculture is inherently risky and can have large negative impacts on agricultural income, food security, and the capacity of the sector to develop, invest, and compete. As a result, governments and public policies must try to address this problem.”
2.5.6 Kenya Legislature: Role, Opportunities and Challenges in Evidence-Policy Influencing

Moderator: Jennifer Mutua, Evaluation Society of Kenya

Hon. Florence Koskei Bore, Member of Parliament for Kericho and Hon. Gideon Ochanda, Member of Parliament for Bondo explored the roles, opportunities and challenges in using evidence to influence policy under the following:

(a) Role that both houses of parliament play and/or could in giving political and public recognition and visibility to evidence driven socio-economic growth, with a special focus on the NIMES and CIMES tracking systems

Notably, awareness and house business on the two systems was highlighted as limited among parliamentarians. More awareness and capacity building for the legislators and their support staff on evidence use is a necessary pre-requisite. Furthermore, strategically introducing the evidence-based agenda and tools in parliamentary business (including through committees), their speeches and interactions with the electorate and the media will help drive debate on the issue

(b) MP’s can support the finalization of the draft M&E policy

By creating awareness among the MPs to enable them to realize the importance of the policy and help them to make informed decisions while debating the policy

(c) Existing challenges by the legislature in use of evidence in their oversight role

i. 60% of the parliamentarians are not re-elected thus 60% of them are new after every election cycle. This usually erodes the gains made in creating awareness among the MPs

ii. With numerous issues competing for the attention of the MPs including attending to their electorate, it leaves very little time for evidence gathering in their oversight role

iii. The process of developing bills is controlled mainly by the government with 98% of the bills being government bills driven by the majority party in parliament. This poses a challenge to private members in sponsoring bills that can entrench the use of evidence in oversight. E.g. the order paper keeps changing affecting the ability of parliamentarians to contribute effectively especially where they need to introduce new issues like evidence-driven socioeconomic growth. This is compounded by time limitations on bill discussions.

iv. There is very little preparation on house debates among parliamentarians thus denying them an opportunity to incorporate evidence in their contributions in parliament

v. Awareness of NIMES and CIMES systems is very low among parliamentarians

vi. Time limitations on the consultations with the researchers which denies the parliamentarians the opportunity to gather the requisite evidence

vii. Evidence/facts during debates are overshadowed by political party interests thereby, eroding trust on the evidence adduced

viii. Parliamentary committees are only interested in the budgetary allocation and not implementation of the budget.

(d) Incentives that can be used to get legislators more involved in using evidence in their oversight role and towards the promotion of a national culture and practice for evidence

i. Package the information in a manner that is attractive to the members of parliament

ii. Strategic and targeted lobbying and advocacy regarding the evidence agenda through parliamentary committees

iii. Capacity building of the members of the caucus including their support staff to impart knowledge

iv. Institutionalize M&E in parliament, including through lobbying and advocacy with e.g. the Speakers and clerks to avoid politicization of evidence

(e) How the parliamentary caucus influences the affairs of the parliament

i. By creation of awareness, among their fellow legislators

ii. Making use of the researchers in parliament to get facts

iii. Ensuring that there are members of the caucus in as many committees as possible
Key recommendations

• Advocacy – more awareness needed to bring on board all the parliamentarians - a critical mass of like-minded MPs is required
• More strategic approach including targeting MPs as point of entry for evidence agenda
• Data sources need to look for ways to engage parliament e.g. KNBS with the understanding that MPs have competing interests
• Capacity building e.g. members of parliament can be empowered in the execution of the budget.
• Provide incentives for the MPs to adopt the evidence agenda
• Proper packaging of the information in user friendly manner to allow for ease of understanding by the MPs and other stakeholders
• Allow for online participation of the public at the committee stages to allow for greater participation by the public
• Identify champions in parliament to drive the action agenda
• Institutionalize evidence-based culture – devolution dream will require all to inculcate the culture of evidence-based action in order to succeed

Key action points

• Awareness creation among the politicians to give the agenda visibility – immediate
• Provide incentives to adopting the evidence agenda – immediate
• Approval of the M&E policy to depoliticize evidence – immediate
• Package information in a user-friendly manner – immediate
• Identify champions for the cause among the MPs - immediate
• Investment in research to generate evidence for action – immediate

Source: Bore, Ochanda July 2018
3.0 PROCEEDINGS DAY 2
3.0 DAY 2 - PLENARY SESSION

3.1 Directed versus Enabling Interventions - A study of subsidies and savings conducted in rural Mozambique.

‘If you have multi-faceted interventions, you need to figure out a way to break them down and analyse how they interact, to make sure you are maximizing development impacts and spending scare resources in the more effective way possible.’ Prof Michael Carter

Presenter: Prof. Michael Carter, UC Davis, and Director of the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access

Moderator: Dr. Simon Bawakyillenuo, Head of Statistics and Survey Division, ISSER, University of Ghana

Day two began with a presentation by Prof. Michael Carter on the study of subsidies and savings conducted in rural Mozambique. He spoke about two broad types of common development interventions. Directed interventions seek to facilitate a defined action, such as fertilizing crops. Enabling interventions expand beneficiaries’ abilities to mobilize scarce resources with some degree of flexibility; financial services interventions are key examples. Depending on the underlying market failures, one or the other type of intervention may be optimal, and there may be complementarities from combining both.

In a randomized controlled trial in rural Mozambique, Carter compared the impacts of directed (fertilizer subsidy) and enabling (savings) interventions, separately and in combination. While the directed fertilizer subsidy intervention has positive and sustained impacts (on fertilizer use), our results provide greater support for enabling interventions. The enabling (savings) intervention has positive impacts on savings.

Tellingly, households assigned only to the savings program do not choose to invest in fertilizer. Households receiving both interventions initially raise their fertilizer use, but when exposed to the savings program they reduce their fertilizer use and divert resources to savings. Carter explained that the results from the study underscore the value of interventions (like financial services) that allow beneficiaries freedom of action, and raise cautions about interventions focusing on narrow, targeted activities.
3.2 Funding for Research and Evaluation in Sub-Sahara Africa – Building the Capacity for the generation and Utilization of Evidence for Policy Making and Practice

Moderator: Dr. Howard White, Chief Executive Officer, the Campbell Collaboration

The session brought together a panel of research investors drawn from the Embassy and International Organisations engaged in funding research to exchange and share their perspectives on the utilization of evidence for policy making and practice.

Norma Altshuler, Program Officer, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation postulated that governments collect a lot of data and consume so much time when doing so. Similarly, agricultural officers for example spend a substantial amount of their time filling forms that are never used. There is need for various stakeholders to work with governments to strengthen the systems adding that governments need to be involved in data collection to better solve problems. She emphasized that if governments collaborated with research/evaluation officers, they would achieve more.

Ken Chomitz, Chief Analytics Officer, Global Innovation Fund (GIF) articulated that GIF uses evidence to guide and determine which innovations to support. They also conduct research and share the findings with policy makers to support decision making. He stated that GIF only funds innovations and interventions that make a difference in people’s lives as well as have a high social impact. They support both private and public organisations as well as not-for-profit sectors. He however stated that there is need for capacity building to train people on evaluation.

Rose Makenzie, Policy Officer, Netherlands Embassy stated that the government of Netherlands invests in both research and development work in Kenya. She explained that the Dutch Government makes use of the Dutch Diamond Approach, partnerships between the government, the private sector, research institutions and civil society organisations. The Dutch Government funds projects that are geared to policy intervention and validate assumptions based on projects. In order to improve policies, the Dutch Government also works through strategic partnerships that specifically focus on civil society organisations as they do a lot of lobbying of policy issues or new policies that are being introduced. The civil societies do not lobby based on their preferences or sentiments but based on evidence on specific issues. The Government has been supporting several civil societies in Kenya to build their evidence base to inform governments based on facts and figures that have been validated. The Dutch Government also works with knowledge institutions in Kenya through Dutch education institutions, by building the capacity of lecturers, students to carry out research in a robust way. They have also come up with a curriculum to be able to respond to the market needs.

Alex Ezeh, Board member, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), shared with the participants that 3ie has been a key organisation in building value of impact evaluation, evidence and systematic review. The organisation has disbursed resources to carry out impact evaluation on various projects. He reiterated that a lot of impact evaluation has been done by donors but not factored in making policy decisions since reports are not shared with governments. Connecting evidence to policy processes in the region indicates that there is a gap and a lot needs to be done to create awareness. In order to bridge this gap, there is need to build strong capacity to train people and also equip institutions where mentorship will be done. Building strong capacity involves not only training students in classroom but also working on projects on the ground. He also observed the need to create strong networks to build capacity to carry out evaluation.

He envisioned Africans soon, solving their problems and generating evidence. In conclusion, he said that for us to realise this, there is need for governments to start making basic investments in this area as a high priority area. In order to transform the landscape of impact evaluation, there is therefore need to shift focus from sitting around tables and make clear investments to fund impact evaluation and to fund research in general and also to invest in our own institutions.

Michael Nicholson, Deputy Chief, Office of Economic Growth and Integration, USAID, said that USAID is providing value to the critical mass by building capacity through several interventions key among them being mentorship. He also observed that a dichotomy exists between policy makers, academicians and the business world, thus research does not inform policy. He advised that there is need for policy makers and universities to work together. He emphasized the need to work together, collectively in order to achieve more. He underscored the importance of creating a platform that foster growth in organisations.

Key recommendations

- There is a need to build capacity for institutions on data collection and reporting
- Strong collaboration needed between researchers, policy makers, institutions and donors
- Research should be demand driven versus donor driven

Source: Altshuler et al, July 2018
3.3 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

3.3.1 Research Evidence for Equity in Sustainable Agricultural Intensification.

*Moderator: Richard Lamboll, Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich*

Jeremy Haggar’s presentation was titled Enhancing the Use of Research Evidence Amongst Agriculture Decision-Makers in Sub-Saharan Africa. He highlighted that during decision making, outcomes are not utilized to inform policy decisions. In his study, he found there to be a lack of research evidence and where there was existing evidence it was weakly translated to policy formulation. In addition, there has been a lack of capacity to generate demand driven evidence, limited access to quality research evidence and weak implementation systems thereby crippling use of research evidence for decision making.

Million Gebreyes shared his research findings on Social Learning for Evidence Based Policy Making on Sustainable Agricultural Intensification. He underlined that sustainable intensification is a complex problem observing that politics acts as a major impediment to progress in addition to inconclusive evidence from research. Social learning results also take time to emerge thus a challenge towards evidence-based policy making on sustainable agricultural intensification.

*Key recommendations*

- Incorporate varied actors on sustainable agricultural intensification and bring together relevant stakeholders.
- Informing evidence-based decision making requires high quality, wide range of evidence delivered on time.

*Source: Million Gebreyes, July 2018*

Silvia Silverstri presented a paper titled, Enhancing Women and Youth Awareness and Uptake of Agriculture Innovation. In her study, she observed that different communication channels are available but are inaccessible to farmers due to barriers such as age and gender.

*Key recommendations*

- Trade-offs between mode of communication media so as to reach and targeting sustainability for complex messaging.
- Need to put in transformational changes at farm level
- Need of science-based evidence
- Decision makers need to utilize communication mechanisms that have wide coverage.

*Source: Silvia Silverstri, July 2018*
Audax Rukonge made a presentation on Engaging with Decision Makers for Policy Change in Tanzania. Generating quality evidence is the foundation for quality policy outcomes while knowledge, skills and tactics in communicating the evidence to the relevant audience is an added advantage. Decision makers are confronted with several options to select from, and the ones with succinct recommendations may be given preference over others. Well packed research reports with clear recommendations may contribute to quick response by policy and decision-makers. Furthermore, knowing who the players in policy-making discourses are and their roles offers the opportunity to create critical masses to rally behind an agenda. Champions identified from the community of practitioners have a significant role to keep it going beyond formal decision-making forums. Sending the right messenger to relevant policy-making forum is advantageous for additional testimonies and evidence. Clarity on target audience and specific information requirement is prerequisite in designing information package.

**Key recommendations**

- Of importance is continuity by organizations from the source of the evidence to implementation (this is a long-term process)
- Stakeholders should remain committed to the process, start together and finish together
- Policies are not static neither is the context or choice of platform and players must keep abreast of the tides
- Co-generate research agenda through stakeholder engagement, leveraging on expertise among actors

**Source:** Audax Rukonge, July 2018

### 3.3.2 What Works and What Doesn’t Work in Innovative Finance, Credit and Savings for Small and Medium Enterprises

**Moderator: Gordon Wanzare, Evaluation Society of Kenya**

Alfred Orora representing Ronald Ajengo gave a presentation on the AGRA-Profit Program. This program seeks to increase the availability of appropriate and affordable funding, thereby reducing the costs and mitigating risk. The program is acting at three levels namely; Micro, Meso and Macro. He explained that inclusive finance looks at scalability, leverage, catalytic, sustainability and inclusion. The program is currently running in Kenya, Ghana, and Tanzania with a total of $78,862,828 in value. The lessons learnt from this program include the importance of; having accurate and relevant data, innovative delivery channels necessary to reduce costs/risks, structured value chains and capacity building for SMEs.

Rebecca Toole presented on Emerging Insight from Randomized Evaluation – Agricultural Credit and Saving. She stated that there is need for developing research and policy partners and policy insights from rigorous evaluations of credit for smallholder farmers. In addition, traditional microcredit has had limited impact in agriculture. More agricultural activities could be undertaken with adequate funding.

**Key recommendations**

- Lessons to be learnt on PROFIT Dairy Value Chain Partnership
- Case studies show that before impact, programs struggled to reach smallholder farmers. After, PROFIT provided support to refine the anchor model, developed alternative delivery channels, used alternative collateral from SACCOs
- Through partnership, PROFIT provided input credit, insure and assure that there is market for the product
- Evidence is being practically used in informing policy – AGRA-Profit is member of the financial sector policy working group concerned with agricultural value chain financing

**Source:** Alfred Orora, July 2018

**Key recommendations**

- Credit access is not a smallholder binding constraint - case of Ghana
- Credit can be utilised to work by - timing of credit to seasonal income and price fluctuations
- Financial products should be tailor agricultural context to improve uptake

**Source:** Rebecca Toole, July 2018
3.3.3 Building Better Evidence Using ICT- Breakthroughs in Data Collection Methods

Moderator: Dr. Dennis Otieno, Tegemeo Institute

Andrew Mude, Tim Njagi, and Andrew Hobbes all agreed that gathering accurate data is essential for developing evidence-based research and the subsequent policies that emerge. Data collection, however, is very expensive and time-consuming, often requiring people to travel long distances for extended periods of time to gather various kinds of information, such as household data, or crop and forage conditions. Capitalizing on the spread of mobile technology and the increasing savviness of smallholder farmers and pastoralists to use these tools, researchers have been able to employ satellites, cell phones, tablets, photographs to capture more accurate data, in simpler, quicker, and less expensive ways.

Some of the ICT interventions that have been developed for better data collection include:

(i) KAZNET: Developed from work at ILRI, researchers in the rangelands of Northern Kenya, have been piloting a photography and other information-based crowdsourcing method to gather data about forage conditions and market prices livestock and related commodities. There is the potential for rangeland monitoring to be completely transformed by these new methods.

(ii) CAPI: A system that can be used to carry out surveys among farmers. Researchers can use this platform to ask questions and get immediate responses from experts.

(iii) SimPastoralist: Capitalizing on the interest of tablet-based entertainment, researchers are piloting an interactive game developed using research from University of California, Davis that allows pastoralists to test out various scenarios concerning the purchase of index-based livestock insurance. Not only are pastoralists better informed about the possible impacts of insurance coverage on their herds as a result of playing the game, but researchers are able to simultaneously gather data on the decisions made by the players, providing rich information to better design and market insurance products.

With a wide range of technology-aided data collection tools now available, organizations must understand the benefit and challenges of using different types of technology for data collection, and comb through to find solutions that best address their data collection needs.

Emmanuel Bakirdjian shared his findings on Bringing Digital Agriculture to Scale – Experience from Kenya and Ethiopia. He has designed Precision for Agriculture (PAD) a mobile application, to support small holder agriculture. Mobile phones can help farmers adopt technology through the use of short message service (SMS). This intervention (PAD), involves providing mobile extension service to farmers for free. Farmers use the platform to ask questions regarding their farming activities and they receive responses from experts. This way, they are able to decide their next course of action as far as farming is concerned hence improving their farming habits subsequently boosting their produce. Through the platform, they can also text “Truth/Ukweli” and they receive the truth as a way of combating rumours associated with farming. PAD intends to ensure that people remain in the platform and gain value through collection of feedback and measurement of outcomes.

Key recommendations

• People should be furnished with the necessary information in order to gain knowledge to help make choices among the varied existing ICT platforms.
• There is need to tailor ICT tools according to the needs of end users.
• There is need for capacity development to enhance skills and boost utilization and experience of ICT tools and software.
• An ICT Infrastructure is critical to lay a foundation for ICT software and tools. This will enhance the use of ICT in data collection and subsequently make evidence available for informed decision making.
• Farmers should make use of smart mobile phones as a service delivery, training and performance tool as well as data provision tool e.g. phones can be used to take photos of the status of their farms and can also be used as a question and answer tool.
• Farmers should adopt the available ICT platforms e.g. KAZNET, Simpastoralist, PAD etc. to enhance data collection and decision making.
• Researchers should adopt the available software systems e.g. CAPI that can be used to carry out surveys efficiently and effectively in the community about a issue. This will make the evidence available to support decision making.

Source: Mude/Njagi/Hobbes and Bakirdjian, July 2018
3.3.4 Generating evidence to support gender and youth interventions

**Moderator: Dr. Samuel Mburu, Tegemeo Institute**

Lilian Kirimi’s presentation was On Intra Household Analysis of Gender Differential in Agricultural Productivity in Tanzania. In her study, she observed that there is varied gender participation in decision making. In addition, there are regional gender-based differences in participation in decision making; both genders mostly make joint decision.

Eunice Mueni presented on Evidence on Youth and Demographic Dividend. In her research, she observed that the opportunity window for investment for the East Africa Community (EAC) is until 2030. With the right investments, EAC can harness massive demographic dividends within the window period.

Dr. Marie Rarieya’s research paper was on Gender, Sustainable Food and Nutrition Security: Perspective from Europe And Africa. She posited that gender roles, responsibilities and decision making on use of resources is always biased and hence gender perspectives and analysis must be considered in all stages of project cycle.

Marcella Vigneri shared her paper presentation on - Girls Can: Empowerment Through Higher Education in Mali. In her research, she established that the most effective way to encourage girls to progress with their education in Mali (primary to secondary) is to allow unlimited interaction with themselves and with the environment.

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**Key recommendations**

- Promotion of female farmers’ participation in agricultural productivity programs.
- Positive exploitation of female-farmer decision-making power and control of resources.
- Invest in family planning and health, education and skills development, economic reforms that promote job creation, women and girl empowerment, environment and climate, and, governance and accountability by governments in order to leap massive demographic dividends.
- A transformational process that responds to and addresses gender-based constraints and causes of gender inequalities in any project development initiatives.
- To mainstream a gendered perspective in development initiatives, gender equality must be tailored carefully to reflect the economic, social and cultural context for sustainability.
- More research needed in order to document the specific activities which are most impactful on girl empowerment and to conclusively check whether heterogenous effects on empowerment are significant.

Source: Kirimi, Mueni, Rarieya & Vigner, July 2018
3.3.5 Impact Evaluation and Research – Process of Generating and Using Evidence for Decision Making

Moderator: Dr. Ekwaro Obuku – Africa Centre for Systematic Reviews and Knowledge Translation

Mercy Kamau presented on Theory of Change for Policy Research and Evaluation for Agriculture Sector Development. She explored the roles and importance of theory of change involving the identification of evaluation questions, relevant variables and intermediate outcomes – early results, aspects of implementation and identification of the mediating factors in an intervention. Successful pathways of the theory incorporate; research, outreach, capacity changes, policy changes, behavioral changes and transformed agricultural sector. The theories incorporated in the theory of change are; production theory, profit maximization, utility maximization, learning theories, behavioral change theory and utility maximization.

Joyce Gema presented a paper titled Catalyzing Food Safety in the Domestic Horticulture Sector in Kenya. She highlighted that the fresh fruits and vegetables segment in Kenya is characterized by;

(i) Fragmentation and weak supply chain relations which is the most limiting factor for sectorial development.

(ii) Limited or no attention to food safety

(iii) Over 90% informal markets leading to increased contamination

(iv) Well-developed export market with high compliance to market standards meeting high quality and safely parameters

(v) Local regulator including Horticultural Crops Directorate Authority (HCDA), Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) and Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) who have not been able to reign in the local market players

(vi) Limited consumer awareness on food safety

(vii) Freshness is the key driver of quality determinations in all the market segments

Key action points

- Incorporate the theory of change in introduction of new strategies
- Identify stakeholders to be engaged in the processes

Source: Mercy Kamau, July 2018

Key action points

- Need for Piloting – aggregating demand from mid-range grocery and institutions, creating linkages to farmers already meeting higher standards and testing regimes to assure customers
- Scaling up of market segments within the wet markets through traceability, regulation, testing and monitoring including setting up of wholesale infrastructure and consumer branding.

Source: Joyce Gema, July 2018
Dr. Asaah Ndambi presented on Evidence-based Approach to Improving Milk Quality and Safety in Kenya. He highlighted that deaths due to milk related diseases are very high with approximately 850 lives lost every year, valuable evidence for policy makers. There is need for strategic partnerships and robustness of research evidence to influence policy.

Key action points

- Advocating to the policy makers on the significance of the impact of the milk safety on health
- Referees – regulators required to act and play their roles
- Lower the tariff protection to lower the cost of production
- Create awareness on the consumers side on milk quality and safety

Source: Dr. Asaah Ndambi, July 2018

3.3.6 National and Local Governance – Tools and Instruments for Evidence-Based Decision Making.

_Moderator: Dr. Richmond Atta-Ankomah, ISSER, University of Ghana_

Caroline Muchiri, Yvonne Tamba and Keith Shepherd presented a paper titled Probabilistic Decision Tools for Evidence-Based Impact Evaluation. In their study, the presenters found out that the scientific method is a poor fit for a decision –oriented agricultural model whereas decision sciences offer a more fitting paradigm for agricultural modeling. Decision analysis thinking should be incorporated in our research paradigm, to increase the share of development decisions that receive robust and context- specific scientific support.

Abeba Taddese in her findings on the paper Result for All Tools and Instruments for Evidence-Based Decision Making, there are challenges of disconnect between a generation of evidence and policy making that is evidenced based. Other challenges cited include access of evidence / data to policy makers and lack of motivation to use evidence.

Key recommendations

- There is need to move away from scientific methods and have an all-inclusive method of research – includes uncertainties and risk, shareholder involvement
- Institutionalise use of evidence for decision making
- Enhancement of collaborations between researchers, media and other stakeholders
- Use of incentives to promote use of evidence by highlighting those that embrace evidence use – case of Mexico

Source: Caroline Muchiri/Yvonne Tamba/Keith Shepherd and Abeba Taddese, July 2018
All moderators of the breakout sessions presented a highlight of all the breakout presentations and emerging issues in the plenary. Delegates had the opportunity to seek clarifications and comment on the session outcomes.

**3.3.8 Plenary Session: National Research and Evaluation Agenda Setting - The Effective Use of Evidence for Public Sector Decision Making**

*Moderator: Prof. Felix Ankomah Asante, Director, ISSER, University of Ghana*

Prof. Felix Asante set the stage by posing a question to the panellists on the issue of setting a national research and evaluation agenda. He echoed the sentiments of the earlier speakers that the research been done is not feeding policy and is instead stored in libraries.

**Question:** Who, When and How should the setting of the national agenda and supervision be done?

William Sabi, Deputy Minister for Monitoring and Evaluation, Ghana observed that if we want to influence policy while setting the agenda, then the Government's development agenda must be considered. Monitoring and evaluation and research is also aligned to priority areas of Government and research institutions can come up with research areas but align the objectives to the government priority areas so as to influence policy.

Dr Timothy Lubanga, Ag. Commissioner, Office of the Prime Minister, Uganda started by reminding the participants that at the end the day, research is done for the purpose of the national development. He chose to answer the three questions by reflecting on why research has been conducted.

**Who:** Every country has its own development framework, and the development agenda is stipulated in the national development framework. In Uganda, there are five-year and ten-year national development plans. The research agenda therefore must be linked, generated from and originate from the national development plan or the national development framework relating to their respective country. He underlined that the agenda should not be hanging only at the apex, because eventually, policies and programs are owned by different sectors. Each sector should therefore be responsible for generating its research agenda and take lead in incorporating stakeholders. Academia or any research institution undertaking research, should be connected within that sector which will in turn inform the national development plan. All stakeholders and researchers should undertake consultation within their respective sectors spearheaded by the National Development Authority.

**When:** With a long-term development plan, the government can devise its key priorities and strategic objectives e.g. In Uganda, there is heavy investment in infrastructure since it enables major reforms and transformation in social services, social sector, education, health, water among others in the economy.

**How:** Strong and effective co-ordination mechanisms should be established to bring the stakeholders together and ensure the process is as consultative as possible. Currently, research is not responding to the demand of the policy makers while poor communication among researchers and policy makers means that there is a lack of awareness of available research and information.

Juliana Lunguзи, Chair, Health Committee, Malawi Parliament observed guiding documents like Sustainable Development Goals provide a blue print of global priority areas. In Africa, Agenda 2063 outlines what African countries need to do to develop and only requires thought on how to contextualize and make it a reality. In order to realise these objectives, there is need to decentralise research for development to the districts from the national level. She cautioned that if we have a project that does not yield productivity, innovation, ownership and sustainability, then Africa is in trouble. It is therefore of vital importance to localise documents and have decision makers as champions of incorporating evidence in policy making equipped with the necessary resources. She stated that resources are allocated at the apex and further proposed that there is need to build the local level capacity. In addition, there should be a short term, medium term and long-term national agenda to provide a holistic approach that will resolve the challenges that we are having as a continent.
3.3.9 Plenary Session: The Motivation and Rational for Research and Evaluation in Climate Change and Environmental Programs

**Moderator: Prof. William O. Ogara – Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation, ICCA, University of Nairobi**

The session brought together students from different nationalities based at the Institute of Climate Change and Adaptation (ICCA), University of Nairobi to highlight their perspective on the motivation and rational for research and evaluation in climate change and environment programs. The moderator, Prof. William Ogara, from ICCA, university of Nairobi opened the floor by demystifying the myth that drought and floods are sent by God. He said that the role of the Institute is to change the mindset of the African people so that they know what causes climate change and how to mitigate and adapt, and while adapting build resilience.

ICCA in the University of Nairobi was established in 2011 for building capacity to address unique climate change challenges and the adaptation needs of vulnerable communities. They achieve this through teaching, action-oriented research, development of innovative technology and community participation. The Institute also provides expert advice to national and regional policy formulations and internationally in various forums. The main source of and strength of the institute is a pool of experts and researchers drawn from the University of Nairobi community and within the city. Research incubation is one ingredient of research in the training of the students.

The core values of ICCA are: mentorship, effective team work and collaboration. The problem of climate change is a complex one, that requires discourse, input and science to overcome. The Institute has achieved much because of corporate Governance which is simplified in efficiency, effectiveness, inclusiveness and accountability and has 232 postgraduate students pursuing masters and PhDs in climate change and adaptation. The studies are clustered in specific thematic areas namely:

i. Climate risk management and food security
ii. Human dimensions and health
iii. Policy and communication
iv. Sustained technologies, water, environment and eco-system

These thematic areas are identified based on the challenges e.g. development issues, program for funding. The main goal ultimately is to reduce exposure to climate related risks and subsequently attack poverty and also contribute towards management of that confrontation that mankind has today. The problem is confrontational since the magnitude is of enormous proportions.

**Students’ Perspective**

**Joseph Mukasa** shared how the institution has trained him to identify a problem in a community and how to undertake research which has impact on the community. He observed that in the last decade, his home district located in the central region of Uganda has been confronted by climate change and has experienced severe seasons of drought and reduction in natural water resources which have dried. He is undertaking research to assist adaptive capacity of people with water scarcity due to drought. He intends to involve the community who are affected by water scarcity to try and find out what strategies or measures they have in place. He also intends to inform policy at a national level from his findings.

**Paul Zaake** underlined that when it comes to climate change, there are only two options i.e. adapt or mitigate. His research focuses on high temperatures brought about by climate change. It focuses on how largescale farmers can adapt to climate change since their farming activities are greatly affected by high temperatures. He also urged policy makers to limit bureaucracy when one is conducting research to streamline research in Africa.

**Eunice Boruru** is conducting a research study on nutrition security in the South Eastern region of Nigeria. Her motivation to carry out the research was the observations of high incidences of malnutrition in her region and how it impacts nutrition security especially among the vulnerable. Research shows that over 70% of people in the region eat a high calorie staple of starchy tubers everyday with minimum fruits and vegetables leading to malnutrition. There is a need to have the right combination of foods to combat malnutrition in Nigeria and her research therefore seek to improve the consumption of staple foods through food processing to improve nutrition without altering the taste.

**Lydia Makena** is conducting a research study on prevalence of antibiotic resistance among human beings as a result of consuming chicken contaminated with bacteria. She highlighted that food security is threatened by consumption of meat contaminated by bacteria. She went on to say that in Nairobi, most people consume chicken meat as a source of protein. Her research is premised on checking the bacterial content of two types of chicken; one from the farm and another from the market to find out which one has a higher content of bacteria. Preliminary findings indicate that chicken from the market is contaminated due to poor hygiene while the one from the farm build up from the use of antibiotics.

**John Maara** is undertaking research on improving the animals for high milk production hence improving the livelihood of vulnerable farmers. In 1980s, the funds from the government were used to boost small farmers by giving them improved animals to improve the value chain in processing. He postulated that if dairy animals are improved, they will increase milk production. He underlined that farmers are faced with many challenges among them; diseases, lack of inputs, policies and climate change outstanding of which is diseases among animals. He stated that most African countries cannot export meat and other animal products because they are contaminated with diseases.
3.3.10 Keynote Presentation: The Use of Better Evidence for Africa Development Policies and Practices – The Politics of Demand-Driven Decision Making in Development Investments

Moderator: Mr. David Kiboi, Chief Economist, Department of Monitoring and Evaluation, The National Treasury and Planning

Dr. Amos Namanga, Board Chair, International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED) delivered a key note on the ‘Use of Better Evidence For Africa Development Policies And Practices – The Politics Of Demand-Driven Decision Making In Development Investments’.

He observed that for better decision making, there is a need for quality evidence for allocation of resources and to respond to the needs of the people. There are rooms full of documents that have never been used, which he attributed to lack of systems and structures to usefully utilize documentation and results from research. Thus, demand should be driven by decision makers who can use the resources in the most appropriate manner to enhance development in their respective counties. Universities have launched courses specifically tailored to monitoring and evaluation and systematic reviews to build their capacity and provide a strong basis to make decisions. In Africa, more active parliaments have committees and caucus groups that help identify priority areas that are relevant to their own development and there is increased acknowledgement of the value of special departments and ministries to deal with evidence.

The international community has set a target of 2% of gross domestic product for research so decision makers can transform information into knowledge and put it into action. Fortunately, Africa has not been left behind, the government of Kenya has pledged to use 1% of the development fund for monitoring and evaluation while Ethiopia enhances food security through basic research. An adaptive and innovative private sector can also support government priority areas and drive the national agenda. Resource scarcity remains a challenge, but if stakeholders do not embrace research, recognize the benefits of new technology or the value of innovation, it will be difficult to move forward.
4.0
WAY FORWARD
4.1 Closing Remarks

Jared Ichwara, Deputy Chief Economist, Department of Monitoring and Evaluation presented the way forward in the commitment and resolve as a continent and especially SSA to embrace research and evaluation for evidence decision making in the continent.

Closing remarks were made by Dr. Chege Muchiri, Director of Administration on behalf of Joseph Mukui, Economic Planning Secretary; State Department of Planning.

There is no doubt that as a continent we have massive data and information, but the main challenge has been how to connect knowledge and evidence generation with policy decision-making. Demand for evidence for decision making by governments across Africa has gained traction over the past decade however the question remains on how monitoring and evaluation practitioners can bridge the gap between use of evidence and policy formulation. The theme and the conference in general is timely and can help to address some of these questions.

It is against this background that this conference provides a rich platform for learning and sharing different experiences with a view to developing evidence. The conference offers an opportunity to identify and discuss successful models for collaboration between networks of researchers, evaluation professionals, policy makers and civil society to strengthen policy-relevant research and evaluation globally. He underscored the need to continue strengthening the networks and to achieve what has been resolved.

He appreciated and acknowledged all those who made the conference a success: The Kenya Senate and National Assembly, International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED), United States International University-Africa (USIU-Africa), Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER), Tegemeo Institute, Campbell Collaboration, African Institute for Development Policy (AFDEP), Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative (ATAI), University of California at Davis, University of Ghana and all facilitators.

He also invited the participants to the upcoming annual event, the 7th National Monitoring and Evaluation Week, which will be held in November 2018 and encouraged all present to play their role in the advancement of the continent.

“The Government of Kenya believes that strong recommendations based on evidence is necessary to achieve its development agenda, which is based on the Kenya Vision 2030 and implemented through its Medium-Term Plans, which are also captured in the country’s Big Four agenda”

Henry K. Rotich, EGH, Cabinet Secretary, The National Treasury and Planning
4.2 Conference Resolutions

Key recommendations

- **Build Partnerships** to support evidence generation and utilization in decision making to improve livelihoods. Collaboration between state and non-state actors to raise technical and financial support will enhance credibility of research and evaluations undertaken by non-state actors to inform policy;

- **Build Institutional Capacity** to undertake research and evaluation across the continent through collaboration to implement M&E policies, develop M&E curricula and convene regular forums will inculcate a culture of M&E;

- **Devolve Monitoring and Evaluation** to improve governance and project implementation. Strong M&E systems coupled with improved resource capacity will inform decisions and encourage transparency and accountability;

- **Stakeholder Inclusion** including concerted efforts to involve elected representatives in generating and utilization of evidence that is demand driven;

- **Generate Credible Evidence** through collaboration between governments and non-state actors to generate evidence that is relevant and demonstrating impact and outcomes and developing standard methodologies;

- **Avail Real Time Evidence** that is credible, demand driven, relevant and current. By ensuring evidence is current, it can be included in policy formulation;

- **Targeted Communication and Dissemination** of research and evaluation findings should be communicated to the intended users with explicit recommendations to inform policy makers otherwise unaware of existing or ongoing research.

*Source: Ichwara, July 2018*
ICED
The International Center for Evaluation and Development (ICED) fills an important gap in the global evaluation architecture. It is the first Africa-based international think-tank that combines research and innovation with extensive practical experience in evaluation for development in the Africa.

Department of Monitory and Evaluation, National Treasury and Planning
National Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System (NIMES) was adopted in 2003 to track all government programmes in the Economic Recovery Strategy Plan (ERSP) for Wealth and employment Creation and later on the Kenya Vision 2030 and its Medium Term Plans (MTPs). NIMES therefore tracks implementation progress of public sector policies, programs and projects contained in the Kenya Vision 2030, the Medium Term Plans (MTPs) and County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs). Providing the government with reliable policy implementation feedback to efficiently allocate and/or reallocate resources over time.

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access
The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access at UC Davis (AMA Innovation Lab, formerly BASIS) conducts and supports research on policies and programs designed to help poor and smallholder farmers worldwide to manage risk, adopt productive technologies and take an active part in economic growth. our research agenda focuses on: Financial innovations and risk management, Adoption of more productive agricultural technologies and Synergies possible by bundling financial and technological innovations

USIU-Africa
USIU-Africa is a premier institution of academic excellence with a global perspective. USIU-Africa has a mission to promote the discovery and application of knowledge, the acquisition of skills and the development of intellect and character in a manner which prepares students to contribute effectively and ethically as citizens of a changing and increasingly technological world.

The Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative (ATAI)
The Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative (ATAI) is a collaboration between MIT’s Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) and UC Berkeley’s Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA), launched in 2009 with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, UK aid from the UK government, and an anonymous donor.
Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative (ATAI)’s mission is to develop and rigorously test programs that improve the adoption and profitable use of agricultural technology by small-scale farmers in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. The long-term objective of ATAI is to ensure that the poor derive greater benefit from existing and new agricultural technologies.
ATAI researchers and staff host trainings, facilitate matchmaking, and disseminate research findings among practitioners and policymakers. ATAI funds randomized evaluations. Our network of researchers and staff conduct randomized evaluations and share our findings to inform policy. increasingly technological world.

ISSER
ISSER was established in 1962 as the Institute of Statistics to provide a program of teaching and research in statistics. In 1969, it was reorganized and renamed the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic research with an expanded mandate to conduct research in the social sciences to generate solutions for national development.
ISSER currently serves as the research wing under the College of Humanities, University of Ghana and engages in a number of policy relevant research whose findings are intended to help policy makers on the best policy decisions to make for national development.
**AFIDEP**
The African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP) is an African-led, regional non-profit policy Think Tank established in 2010 to help bridge the gaps between research, policy and practice in development efforts in Africa. We analyse, synthesise, and translate evidence (i.e. data and research) and use it to generate or strengthen political commitment, inform resource allocation, programme design and implementation. The aim is to contribute to the realization of sustainable development by enabling the formulation of sound policies and programme interventions. Our work is categorized in four areas. One of these areas is strengthening capacities to use evidence in policymaking spaces population change and sustainable development; reproductive, population and health; agriculture; economic growth and poverty reduction.

**Tegemeo Institute**
Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development is a policy research institute under the Division of Research and Extension of Egerton University. The Institute conducts Research and Analysis on policy in the domain of Agriculture, Rural development, Natural resources and Environment. It aims at addressing micro and macroeconomic policy issues bearing on farming, transportation, processing, marketing, and trade of agricultural products and inputs; sustainability of agricultural systems and natural resources as well as the environment; and commercialization, income growth and food security.

**ESK**
The Evaluation Society of Kenya (ESK) is a professional network of individuals, groups and organizations that supports the application of high evaluation standards through: the enforcement of a code of ethics, enhancement of M&E capacity, utilization of sound research and evaluation systems and dissemination of evaluation lessons.

**AFREA**
The African Evaluation Association (AFREA) was founded in 1999, in response to Africa's growing appeal for advocacy, information sharing and advanced capacity building in evaluation. The organization's chief focus was to counter limited evaluation opportunities by building strategic bridges for African evaluators to connect, network and share experiences. By Supporting evaluations that contribute to real and sustained development in Africa; Promoting Africa-rooted and Africa-led evaluation through sharing African evaluation perspectives; Encouraging the development and documentation of high quality evaluation practice and theory; Supporting the establishment and growth of national evaluation associations and special evaluation interest groups and Facilitating capacity building, networking and sharing of evaluation theories, techniques and tools among evaluators, policymakers, researchers and development specialist.

**The Campbell Collaboration**
The Campbell Collaboration is a nonprofit organization that aims to help people make well-informed decisions about the effects of interventions in the social, behavioral, and educational arenas. It helps people make well-informed decisions by preparing, maintaining and disseminating systematic reviews in education, crime and justice, social welfare and international development. It is a sister initiative of the Cochrane Collaboration.
### ANNEX 2: CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

**Day 1 | Thursday, July 26th, 2018**

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<td>Registration</td>
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<td>9:00 – 9:15</td>
<td><strong>Arrival of Official Guests</strong></td>
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| 9:15 - 9:30 | **Welcome:**  
Prof. Paul T. Zeleza, Vice Chancellor, United States International University-Africa (USIU-Africa)  
Dr. Manu Chandaria, Chancellor, United States International University-Africa (USIU-Africa)  
**Conference Objectives:**  
Dr. David Ameyaw, President / CEO, The International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED) |
| 9:30 - 10:30 | **Remarks:**  
Dr. Samson Machuka, Director Department of Monitoring and Evaluation, The National Treasury and Planning  
Dr. Amos Namangi Ngongi, Board Chair, International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED)  
**Special Remarks:**  
Dr. Julius Muia, Principal Secretary for Planning, The National Treasury and Planning (Session Chair)  
Representative of the Council of Governors  
Hon. Dr. Makali Mulu – Kenya National Assembly  
Representative of Senate  
**Special Guest Address**  
Hon. Dr. Anthony Akoto Osei, Cabinet Minister – The Ministry of Monitoring and Evaluation, Ghana  
Hon. Eugene Wamalwa, EGH, Cabinet Secretary of Devolution and ASALs |
| 10:30 - 11:15 | **Keynote Address**  
Henry K. Rotich, EGH, Cabinet Secretary, The National Treasury and Planning |
| 11:15 – 11:30 | **Group Picture and Walk through Exhibition** |
| 11:30 - 11:45 | **TEA/COFFEE BREAK** |
### SESSION 2  PLENARY

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| 11:45-12:45 | Moderator: Prof. Robert Darko Osei, Asst. Dean, School of Graduate Studies – University of Ghana  
|         | 1. The Evolution of Evaluation and Research in Informing Global Policy and Practices  
|         |   Dr. Howard White – Executive Director, Campbell Collaboration  
|         | 2. Using Evidence to Increase Resilience and Reduce Vulnerability Among Poor Livestock-Dependent Households  
|         |   Dr. Andrew Mude – Chief Economist, ILRI and Winner of 2016 Norman Borlaug Award for Field Research Application  
|         | Q & A Session                                                             |

### SESSION 3  PANEL DISCUSSION

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13:30 - 12:45</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
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</table>
| 13:30 - 14:30 | Parliamentarian Group Discussion  
|         | Moderator: Dr. Rose N. Oronje, Director, Science Communication and Evidence Uptake – AFIDEP  
|         | Using Evidence for Public Sector Accountability in Sub-Saharan Africa — The Place for Research and Evaluation in Government Priority Setting Agenda  
|         | Andrew Osei Asibey – Technical Advisor, Ministry of Monitoring and Evaluation – Ghana  
|         | Hon. Dr. Makali Mulu – Chair, Kenya Parliamentary Caucus on Evidence-Informed Oversight and Decision-Making  
|         | Hon. Dr. Michael Bukenya – Chair Parliament’s Committee on Health – Uganda  
|         | Hon. Juliana Lunguzi - Chair Parliament’s Committee on Health – Malawi  
|         | Hon. Samuel Poghisio, Kenya Senate  
|         | Q & A Session                                                             |

### SESSION 4  PANEL DISCUSSION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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| 14:30 - 15:30 | Research Institutions Event  
|         | Moderator: Dr. Rose Ngugi, Executive Director - Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA)  
|         | - Prof. Felix Ankomah Asante – Director, Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER), University of Ghana  
|         | - Dr. Rose Oronje – Director, Science Communication and Evidence Uptake – AFIDEP  
|         | - Dr. Miltone Ayieko – Director, Tegemeo Institute of Egerton University  
|         | - Prof. Amos Njuguna – Dean, School of Graduate Studies, Research & Extension USIU-Africa  
|         | - Dr. Jane Mariara – Executive Director, Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP)  
|         | - Prof. Joe Kieyah – Principal Policy Analyst, KIPPRA  
<p>|         | Q &amp; A Session                                                             |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>15:30 – 15:45</th>
<th>TEA BREAK</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SESSION 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>15:45 – 16:45</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Breakout Session 5. 1</td>
<td>Chandaria School of Business-BS1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Using Evidence for Agriculture and Food Systems Policy and Programs in Sub-Saharan Africa</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment of Farmers’ Willingness to Pay for Agricultural Extension Services in Kenya – <strong>Joyce Makau, Jackson Langat</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Influencing Agricultural Policy, Implementation and Outcomes at the Macro and Meso levels in Ghana – <strong>Fred Mawunyo Dzanku</strong></td>
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<td>Enhancing Agriculture Productivity Through Leverage Private Sector Investment - <strong>Kevin Onyango</strong></td>
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<td>Assessment of Planned and Autonomous On-Farm Climate Change Adaptation Approaches by Small-Scale Crop Farmers - <strong>Benjamin Jabik</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Moderator: Rebecca Toole – J-PAL</strong> <strong>Rapporteur: Dr. Jane Gathenya</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Breakout Session 5. 2</td>
<td>Chandaria School of Business-BS2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Research and Evaluation in National Health, Education, and Energy Security</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Energy Security and Sustainable Livelihoods for Southern Africa – <strong>Richard Richardson</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Role of Social Protection Interventions in Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation: The Case of The Labor-Intensive Public Works of The Ghana Social Opportunities Projects – <strong>Simon Bawakyillenuo</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Child, Home and School factors as Predictors for Learning Outcomes in Public Primary Schools in Ghana – A Difference in Difference with Covariates Models – <strong>Emefa Akua Amponsah</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Moderator: Dr. Timothy Okech, USIU-Africa</strong> <strong>Rapporteur: Dr. Moses Njire</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Breakout Session 5. 3</td>
<td>Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bang for the Buck: Identifying Causal Mechanisms to Maximize Financial and Development Impact</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prof. Michael Carter</strong>, UC Davis, and Director of the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access</td>
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<td><strong>Helen Dalton</strong>, Regional Director, the BOMA Project, <strong>Prof. Nicholas Magnan</strong>, University of Georgia</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Moderator: Tara Chiu, Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access</strong> <strong>Rapporteur: Ms. Sarah Muthoni</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Breakout Session 5. 4</td>
<td>Chandaria School of Business-BLAB</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Green Climate Fund (GCF) Panel Discussion: Bridging the gap: The Need for Demand-Driven Research and Evaluation in Effective Evidence-Based Climate Change Policy and Practice in Sub-Saharan Africa</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hans Andre Lahoyo Djamba</strong> – GCF Focal Point, National Designated Authority – Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)</td>
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<td><strong>Ntahorwamiye Aime Claude</strong> – GCF Focal Point, Ministry of Finance and Development - Burundi</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Breakout Session 5.5 | Agriculture Risk Index Insurance and Risk Management  
Karl Hughes, International Center for Research in Agro-Forestry, Nairobi, Kenya  
**Moderator:** Roberto La Rovere, Green Climate Fund (GCF), South Korea  
**Rapporteur:** Dr. Rebeccah Maina  
Gideon E. Onumah  
Putting Farmers in the Driving Seat in Agricultural Risk Management Policies  
Nate Kline, Adam Keatts, Meagan Murphy  
Pre-Condition for Commodity Exchange Success and Alternative Models  
Kyle Murphy  
Protecting Farmers from Risk through Insurance and Improved Seed  
**Moderator:** Dr. Paul C. H. Wachana USIU-Africa  
**Rapporteur:** Dr. Lilian Kariuki |
|---|---|
| Breakout Session 5.6 | Parliamentarian Group Session – Evaluation Society of Kenya (ESK)  
Chandaria School of Business-B5  
Kenya Legislature: Role, Opportunities and Challenges in Evidence-Policy Influencing  
Hon. Gideon Ochanda  
Senator Samuel Porghisio  
Senator Prof. Margaret Kamar  
**Moderator:** Jennifer Mutua, Evaluation Society of Kenya  
**Rapporteur:** Dr. Peter Kahenya |

**SESSION 6**  
**BREAKOUT SESSIONS: SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 16:45 -17:30 | Session 5.1 – Ms. Rebecca Toole – J-PAL  
Session 5.2 - Dr. Timothy Okech- USIU- Africa  
Session 5.3 – Ms. Tara Chiu – AMA Innovation Lab  
Session 5.4 – Mr. Roberto La Rovere – GCF, South Korea  
Session 5.5 – Dr. Paul C. H. Wachana - USIU-Africa  
Session 5.6 – Ms. Jennifer Mutua - ESK | **Moderator:** Enosh Bolo, ICED |
| 17:30 - 17:45 | Closing Remarks: Prof. Amos Njuguna, Dean-School of Graduate Studies, Research & Extension, USIU-Africa |
### SESSION 7  PLENARY

**9:00 – 9:45**  
**Auditorium**  
**Directed vs. Enabling Interventions: A Study of Subsidies and Savings in Rural Mozambique**  
Prof. Michael Carter – UC Davis, and Director of the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access  
**Moderator:** Dr. Simon Bawakyillenuo, Head of Statistics and Survey Division, ISSER, University of Ghana  
**Q & A Session**

### SESSION 8  PLENARY SESSION

**9:45 -11:00**  
**Auditorium**  
**Research Investors Panel**  
**Moderator:** Dr. Howard White, Chief Executive Officer, The Campbell Collaboration  
**Funding for Research and Evaluation in Sub-Sahara Africa - Building the Capacity for the Generation and Utilization of Evidence for Policy Making and Practice**  
**Panelists:**  
Norma Altshuler, Program Officer, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation  
Ken Chomitz, Chief Analytics Officer, Global Innovation Funds  
Rose Makenzie, Policy Officer, Netherlands Embassy  
Alex Ezeh, Board Member, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)  
Michael Nicholson, Deputy Chief, Office of Economic Growth and Integration, USAID  
**Q & A Session**

**11.00-11.15**  
**TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

### SESSION 9  BREAK OUT SESSIONS

#### Breakout Session 9.1  
**11:15-12:15**  
**Auditorium**  
**Research Evidence for Equity in Sustainable Agricultural Intensification**  
Enhancing the Use of Research Evidence Amongst Agriculture Decision-Makers in SSA – Jeremy Haggar, Social Learning for Evidence Based Policy Making on Sustainable Agricultural Intensification – Million Gebreyes  
Enhancing Women and Youth Awareness and Uptake of Agricultural Innovation - Silvia Silverstri  
Engaging with Decision Makers for Policy Change in Tanzania – Audax Rukonge  
**Moderator:** Richard Lamboll, Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich  
**Rapporteur:** Dr. Moses Njire

#### Breakout Session 9.2  
**11:15-12:15**  
**Chandaria School of Business-BLAB**  
**What works and What doesn't work in Innovative Finance, Credit and Savings for Small and Medium Enterprises**  
AGRA – Profit Program - Ronald Ajengo  
Emerging Insight from Randomized Evaluation – Agricultural Credit and Saving - Kyle Murphy  
**Moderator:** Gordon Wanzare, Evaluation Society of Kenya  
**Rapporteur:** Dr. Jane Gathenya
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breakout Session 9.3</th>
<th>Chandaria School of Business-BS1</th>
<th><strong>ICT: Evidence Generation and Dissemination</strong>&lt;br&gt;Building Better Evidence Using ICT – Breakthroughs in Data Collection Methods – Andrew Mude, Tim Njagi, and Andrew Hobbes&lt;br&gt;Bringing Digital Agriculture to Scale – Experience from Kenya and Ethiopia – Emmanuel Bakirdjian</th>
<th>Moderator: Dr. Dennis Otieno, Tegemeo Institute&lt;br&gt;Rapporteur: Ms. Sarah Muthoni</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakout Session 9.4</td>
<td>Chandaria School of Business-B4</td>
<td><strong>Generating Evidence to support Gender and Youth interventions</strong>&lt;br&gt;Intrahousehold Analysis of Gender Differential in Agricultural Productivity in Tanzania – Lilian Kirimi, Evidence on Youth and Demographic Dividend – Bernard Onyango&lt;br&gt;Gender, Food and Nutrition Security: Perspective from Europe and Africa – Marie Rarieya, Karlheinz Knickel&lt;br&gt;Girls can: Empowerment through Higher Education in Mali – Marcella VIGNER</td>
<td>Moderator: Dr. Samuel Mburu, Tegemeo Institute&lt;br&gt;Rapporteur: Dr. Lilian Kariuki</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breakout Session 9.6</td>
<td>Chandaria School of Business-B1</td>
<td><strong>National and Local Governance – Tools and instruments for evidence-based decision making</strong>&lt;br&gt;Probabilistic Decision Tools for Evidence-based Impact Evaluation - Caroline Muchiri, Yvonne Tamba, Keith Shepherd&lt;br&gt;Result for All Tools and Instruments for Evidence-based Decision making – Abeba Taddese&lt;br&gt;A tool to promote Evidence-informed Policy and Prioritize Future Research for Policy Making – Prince Amadichukwu</td>
<td>Moderator: Dr. Richmond Atta-Ankomah, ISSER, University of Ghana&lt;br&gt;Rapporteur: Dr. Rebeccah Maina</td>
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**SESSION 10 BREAKOUT SESSION: SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 9.1 – Dr. Richard Lamboll - Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich</th>
<th>Session 9.2 - Mr. Gordon Wanzare - ESK</th>
<th>Session 9.3 - Dr. Dennis Otieno – Tegemeo Institute</th>
<th>Session 9.4 - Dr. Samuel Mburu - Tegemeo Institute</th>
<th>Session 9.5 - Dr. Ekwaro Obuku – Africa Center SRKT</th>
<th>Session 9.6 – Dr. Richmond Atta-Ankomah – ISSER, University of Ghana</th>
<th>Moderator: Mr. Enosh Bolo, ICED</th>
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<tr>
<td>12:15- 13:00</td>
<td>Session 9.1 – Dr. Richard Lamboll - Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich</td>
<td>Session 9.2 - Mr. Gordon Wanzare - ESK</td>
<td>Session 9.3 - Dr. Dennis Otieno – Tegemeo Institute</td>
<td>Session 9.4 - Dr. Samuel Mburu - Tegemeo Institute</td>
<td>Session 9.5 - Dr. Ekwaro Obuku – Africa Center SRKT</td>
<td>Session 9.6 – Dr. Richmond Atta-Ankomah – ISSER, University of Ghana</td>
<td>Moderator: Mr. Enosh Bolo, ICED</td>
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<td>13:00-14:00</td>
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<td>SESSION 11</td>
<td>PLENARY</td>
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| 14:00- 15.00 | National Research and Evaluation Agenda Setting  
The Effective Use of Evidence for Public Sector Decision Making  
Moderator: Prof. Felix Ankomah Asante, Director, ISSER, University of Ghana  
**Dr. Julius Muia**, Principal Secretary for Planning, The National Treasury and Planning  
**Hon. William Sabi**, Deputy Minister for Monitoring and Evaluation, Ghana  
**Dr. Timothy Lubanga**, Ag. Commissioner, Office of the Prime Minister, Uganda  
**Carole Kariuki**, CEO, Kenya Private Sector Alliance  
**Hon. Juliana Lunguzi**, Chair, Health Committee, Malawi Parliament  
Q & A Session |

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<tr>
<th>SESSION 12</th>
<th>PLENARY SESSION</th>
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</table>
| 15:00 – 16:00 | Round- Table Panel – Institute for Climate Change and Adaption (ICCA)  
Moderator: Prof. William O. Ogara – ICCA, University of Nairobi  
The Motivation and Rational for Research and Evaluation in Climate Change and Environment Programs – ICCA Students’ Perspective  
**Lydia Makena Michenzi**, University of Nairobi  
**John Maara**, University of Nairobi  
**Eunice Boruru**, Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation  
**Paul Zaake**, University of Nairobi, Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation |

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<tr>
<th>SESSION 13</th>
<th>KEY NOTE PRESENTATION</th>
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</table>
| 16:00 – 16:45 | Bridging the Gap: Strengthen Devolution through Demand- Driven Evidence for Policy and Practices  
- Hon. Eugene Wamalwa; EGH, CS; Cabinet Secretary of Devolution and ASALs  
Dr. Amos Namanga Ngongi Board, Chair, International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED)  
**Moderator: Mr. David Kiboi, Chief Economist, Department of Monitoring and Evaluation, The National Treasury and Planning** |

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<tr>
<th>SESSION 14</th>
<th>CLOSING SESSION</th>
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</table>
| 17:30-17:00 | Way Forward  
Jared Ichwara, Deputy Chief Economist, Department of Monitoring and Evaluation  
Closing Remarks:  
Joseph Mukui, Economic Planning Secretary, State Department of Planning |

| 20:00 – 18:00 | COCKTAIL – SAFARI PARK HOTEL |
# ANNEX 3: ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

## INTERNATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE
- **Dr. David Ameyaw** President / CEO, ICED (Chair)
- **Sophie Javers** BASIS Feed the Future AMA Innovation Lab (Vice-Chair)
- **Tara Chiu** BASIS Feed the Future AMA Innovation Lab
- **Dr. Howard White** Executive Director Campbell, Collaboration
- **Kyle Murphy** Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)
- **Dr Rose Oronje** African Institute for Development Policy
- **Dr Jackson Langat** Tegemeo Institute
- **Prof. Amos Njuguna** USIU-Africa
- **Salome Asena** USIU - Africa
- **Jennifer Mutua** ESK
- **Prof. Felix Asante** ISSER, University of Ghana
- **Alberta Anku** ISSER, University of Ghana
- **Dr Kingsley Arkorful** African Evaluation Association
- **Dr. Marie Rarieya** ICED
- **Sylvia Mwichuli** ICED
- **Enosh Bolo** ICED
- **Violet Lisero** ICED
- **Namulanta Kombo** ICED
- **Blessing Mhosva** ICED
- **Iyvonne Ngigi** ICED

## NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE
- **Dr. Samson Machuka** MED (Chair)
- **Dr. David Ameyaw** President / CEO, ICED (Vice-Chair)
- **Dr Jackson Langat** Tegemeo Institute
- **Prof. Amos Njuguna** USIU-Africa
- **Salome Asena** USIU - Africa
- **Linus D Oteba** USIU-Africa
- **Dr. Marie Rarieya** ICED
- **Sylvia Mwichuli** ICED
- **Enosh Bolo** ICED
- **Violet Lisero** ICED
- **Namulanta Kombo** ICED
- **Blessing Mhosva** ICED
- **Iyvonne Ngigi** ICED
- **David Kiboi** MED
- **Jared Ichwara** MED
- **Aloyce Ratemo** MED
- **Margaret Githinji** MED
- **David Nyasio** MED
- **Joseph Kiguta** MED
- **Peter Nyambok** MED
- **Duke N Gekara** MED
- **Rodgers Ewuradjoa** MED
- **Jared Ichwara** MED
- **Lilian Kendi** MED
- **Isabella Kiplagat** MED
- **Peter Nyongesa** MED
- **Richard Munyithya** MED
- **Boscow Okumu** MED

## CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT
- **Namulanta Kombo** ICED (Chair)
- **Salome Asena** USIU- Africa (Vice-Chair)
- **Blessing Mhosva** ICED
- **Iyvonne Waringa** ICED
- **Winnie Kiko** ICED
- **Violet Lisero** ICED
- **Shanizea Aura** ICED
- **Edna Nyatogo** USIU- Africa
- **Isiah Nachii** USIU- Africa
- **Carol Yogo** USIU- Africa
- **Peter Omosula** USIU- Africa
- **Jackline Opuge** MED
- **Joseph Kiguta** MED
- **David Nyasio** MED
ANNEX 4:  PRE-CONFERENCE SUMMARY

Executive Leadership Program on Monitoring and Evaluation for Public and Private Sectors
The International Centre for Evaluation and Development facilitated this high-level two-day program targeting monitoring and evaluation specialists and program administrators in the public and private sector. Highlighted, was how to utilize monitoring and evaluation to generate evidence and learning including the use of innovative models to promote strategy scale-up. It practically demonstrated the design of an effective M&E plan in different contexts including feasibility, audience, cost, as well as what does not work and why. Participants were engaged to understand and utilize M&E as a tool to measure and track crucial operational activities and, effectively communicate the results for programming, learning and accountability.

Mid-level Theory and External Validity:
Using Theories of Change to Support Transferability of Findings
The new Centre of Excellence for Development Impact and Learning is developing approaches to impact evaluation to apply to a broader range of questions. This one-day workshop engaged participants in four areas of discussion: theories of change and mid-level theory, mixed method designs, transferability and generalisability, and measurement issues.

Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Training
This workshop included an introductory lecture on systematic reviews, followed by several interactive sessions taking participants through the different steps in the review process: question setting, searching, coding, analysis and reporting. Participants worked in sector-specific groups to appreciate the use of a systematic approach to conducting literature reviews which reduce the possible sources of bias from traditional literature reviews. The one-day workshop took participants through the interpretation and calculation of effect sizes and drawing forest plots. Examples were used from a wide range of sectors to demonstrate this systematic approach to synthesizing quantitative estimates of effects, that is impact estimates from impact evaluations.

Building Resilience through Graduation Programs
Building resilience within vulnerable populations is essential for sustainable poverty reduction. Multi-dimensional “Graduation” programs, wherein the poorest and most at risk are supported with layered interventions such as life skills training, cash transfers, productive asset transfers, access to financial services, and community mentoring, are generating impressive positive development impacts. This one-day workshop, hosted by the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access, discussed emerging evidence on graduation programs from around the region and stimulated discussions with donors and implementing partners on how to use this evidence to design interventions for significant and sustainable impacts.
ANNEX 5: MEDIA COVERAGE

The E2A Conference and Exhibition 2018 attracted media attention from major media houses. Below are links to television interviews, news briefs and articles from the various outlets.

**Evaluation department to get one percent of development budget cover**

KBC Channel 1 on 27th July 2018
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zYLyOlWcSZM

**State Banks on M&E Bill for Targeted Development**

People Daily Monday July 30th 2018 Business Hub Page 16
http://epaper.peopledaily.co.ke/?iid=160603&startpage=page000030#folio=16

**Kenya’s Monitoring and Evaluation department to get Sh6b in new policy shift**

Capital FM on July 26th 2018

**1st African Evidence to Action Conference Newspaper feature**

Daily Nation 26th July, page 22 and 23

**Kenya’s Monitoring and Evaluation Department to Get Sh6 Billion in New Policy Shift**

AllAfrica 26th July 2018
https://allafrica.com/stories/201807270050.html

**Evaluation and Policy: Linkages between information and policy | Business Today**

KTN NEWS on 20th July 2018
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hjbal5DH1Kk

**Nairobi to host evaluation conference**

Kenya News Agency on 13th July 2018
http://kenyanewsagency.go.ke/en/?p=126733

**Prince Netherlands Visit Kenya July Evidence Action Conference The Money Series**

Kenyan Collective 12th July 2018

**Kenya to host inaugural Africa monitoring and evaluation conference**

Capital FM on 12th July

**African Day of Anti-Corruption**

K24 TV The Daily Brief 11th July 2018
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CTezBjyVmXY

**Treasury to hold conference to find ways to combat graft**

By Lee Mwiti, Standard Digital Friday 6th July
https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/business/article/2001287001/treasury-to-hold-conference-to-find-ways-to-combat-graft
Treasury to hold forum on combating graft
The Standard 11th July, The Business section page 31

Kenya hosts meeting on corruption fight
Business Daily Newspaper 25th July

National Treasury Launches National Monitoring and Evaluation Policy
KTN News on 28th August 2018

Launch of the 1ST Evidence to Action Conference 2018 Report
Business New Full Bulletin 28th August 2018
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMMtHJvkzBw&feature=youtu.be

Launch of the 1ST Evidence to Action Conference 2018 Report
KBC Channel 1, 29th August 2018
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XajoUkSNdd0

Low performers could face budget penalties
By Cynthia Ilako, The Star on 29th August 2018
ANNEX 6: EVALUATION OF POST CONFERENCE SURVEY

Background
As part of the Evidence to Action post conference evaluation, the E2A organizing committee undertook a survey to assess the impact of the convening amongst delegates. This is a short summary presenting the major findings from the survey of delegates opinions on the conference. Further details are available on request.

Respondents
The main purpose of the survey was to find out what delegates thought of the conference and included over 300 policy-makers, academia, researchers, private sector, students, and development partners from more than 14 countries. Figure 1 displays sector representation from the conference.

Results from the survey
Visibility
When asked how delegates became aware of the conference, 35.7% of respondents heard about it through referral from colleagues and partners closely followed by 33.9% receiving the information via email invitation or newsletters from the conference secretariat as displayed on Figure 2.

![Figure 1: Sector representation at the E2A Conference and Exhibition 2018](image)

![Figure 2: How did you hear or learn about the conference?](image)
**Interest**
Delegates were asked to give reason to why they attended the conference based on areas of interest. 64.25% of respondents were interested in advancing their personal development and growth while 17.88% were interested in the program content from the event. 12.5% of delegates attended the conference for the opportunity to network while 5.3% attended to hear specific speakers as shown in Figure 3.

![Figure 3: The main reason for attending the conference](image)

**Impact**
When asked to identify which areas of the conference were of greatest impact, learning about monitoring and evaluation, the research presentations, pre-conference training sessions and the breakout sessions were the most impactful areas as shown in Figure 4.

![Figure 4: Areas that were most impactful to delegates](image)
Overall Rating
39.29% of the delegates rated the event as excellent while 41.07% rated the conference as very good. As shown in Figure 5.
In summary the conference was very good as rated by the highest percent of the delegates. When asked 94.6% of the delegates would attend future Evidence to Action conferences.
CONTACTS US

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E-mail: info@iced-eval.org