

CONCEPT NOTE

LAUNCH OF THE CONTEXTUALIZING IMPACT EVALUATION PEDAGOGY IN AFRICA (CIPA) PROJECT

DATE: 29th JULY 2021

TIME: 11AM – 12:50PM (NAIROBI TIME)

Background:

The “**Contextualizing IE Pedagogy in Africa (CIPA) project**” is a joint initiative between the [Utrecht University Centre for Global Challenges \(UGlobe\)](#) and the [Network of Impact Evaluation Researchers in Africa \(NIERA\)](#) based at the [United States International University - Africa](#). The project was conceived against evidence that academics from the global south have limited technical capacity to apply Impact Evaluation (IE) research in informing public policy. Further, a [2019 study](#) conducted by NIERA to determine the demand and supply side of IE in East Africa (EA) disclosed limited capacity to undertake these vital studies.

The CIPA project therefore aims to equip the next generation of African researchers and policy makers with solid knowledge of rigorous IE methods and their use for policy. The projects’ objective is to develop and implement a scalable model that embeds rigorous training of IE methods in the curricula of selected institutions.

To achieve this – over a two-year period - the project has partnered with 12 fellows selected from eight universities and two research institutions across Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Ethiopia to design IE materials and embed the course curriculum into programs at these institutions.

Objectives of the Launch:

NIERA in partnership with UGlobe will on **29th July 2021** from **11am to 12:45pm (Nairobi time)** host a virtual launch of the CIPA project.

The key objectives of the launch are to:

- Enhance awareness of the role of IE methods in influencing policymaking in Africa.
- Provide key stakeholders including academia, policymakers, researchers and donors, with a platform to explore areas of collaboration in the IE ecosystem as well as networking.
- Promote uptake of IE research evidence in the design, implementation and monitoring of development programs and policies across Africa.
- Build a community of practice of influencers with a common endeavor to support the uptake of IE research evidence in policymaking across Africa.

Outcomes:

- Shared vision, goal and objectives of the CIPA project among stakeholder and partner organizations.
- Key conclusions and action-oriented recommendations from stakeholders including academia, policymakers and researchers.

Participants:

The launch will bring together different actors involved in academia, policymaking, grant funding, program design and implementation and media among others. Participants will comprise of representatives from academic institutions, government agencies, donors, researchers and foundations.

AGENDA

SESSION		DURATION (Nairobi Time)
Welcome Note	<i>Dr. Christine Simiyu</i> Head of Department Department of Accounting, Finance & Economics KCA University	11:00am-11:05am (5 minutes)
Opening Remarks	<i>Suleiman Asman</i> Regional Director, East Africa Innovations for Poverty Action	11:05am -11:10am (5 minutes)
Special Remarks	<i>Prof. Tavneet Suri</i> Scientific Director J-PAL Africa	11:10am - 11:15am (5 Minutes)
	<i>Prof. Michael Kremer</i> 2019 Nobel Laureate and University Professor in Economics And Public Policy at the University of Chicago	11:15am – 11:20am (5 Minutes)
Introduction to NIERA, the Knowledge Centre and Rapid Needs Assessment findings	<i>Prof. Amos Njuguna</i> Chair, NIERA Dean, School of Graduate Studies, Research & Extension, USIU-Africa	11:20am -11:30am (10 minutes)
CIPA project and the rise of Impact Evaluations globally: An overview	<i>Prof. Joost De Laat</i> Director, Utrecht Centre for Global Challenges	11:30am -11:40am (10 minutes)
Announcement of fellows	<i>Jennifer Nyakinya</i> Program Manager, NIERA	11:40am -11:45am (5 minutes)
HEALTH BREAK		11:45am-11:55am (10 minutes)
Plenary session & Open Discussion	Topic “Equipping the next generation of African Impact Evaluation scholars” Panelists representing academia, research institutions & policy makers	11:55am- 12:35pm (40 minutes)
Closing Remarks	<i>Dr. Samuel Oti</i> Secretary General, NIERA	12:35pm-12:40pm (5 minutes)
Networking & Social	<i>Anne Maina</i> Program Assistant, NIERA	12:40pm-12:50pm (10 minutes)