





# Members of Consortium, AERC Board of Directors and AERC Programme Committee as at March 2023

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- Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)\*
- The African Export Import Bank
- The AERC African Central Bank Governors' Forum\*\*
- The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- The National Treasury, Government of Kenya
- The Trade and Development Bank
- The World Bank (IBRD)

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- International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
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- Bank of Ghana
- Central Bank of Kenya
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- Banco de Moçambique
- Central Bank of Nigeria
- National Bank of Rwanda
- South African Reserve Bank
- Bank of Tanzania
- Bank of Uganda
- Bank of Zambia
- Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe

## Members of the AERC Board of Directors

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Ex-officio member; Acting Chair of the AERC Programme Committee;
  - **Théophile Azomahou\*\*\***  
Ex-officio member; Acting Executive Director, African Economic Research Consortium
  - **Njuguna Ndung'u\*\***  
Ex officio member; Executive Director, African Economic Research Consortium
- \*From December 2022*  
*\*\*Up to 31 October 2022*  
*\*\*\*From 1 November 2022*

## Members of the AERC Programme Committee

- **John Mukum Mbaku\***  
Acting Chair of the AERC Programme Committee; Presidential Distinguished Professor of Economics, Weber State University, USA
  - **Bernadette Dia Kamgnia**  
Professor, CAPEC, Côte d'Ivoire
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Professor, Department of Economics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
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Chair in Development Policy, University of Konstanz, Germany
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Ambassador of Malawi to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Italy, Monaco, Andorra and Luxembourg, EU and FAO. Brussels, Belgium
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Executive Director, Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis
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Ex officio member; Executive Director, African Economic Research Consortium
  - **Théophile Azomahou\*\*\***  
Ex-officio member; Acting Executive Director; African Economic Research Consortium
- \*From December 2022*  
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*\*\*\*From 1 November 2022*

# Foreword

The African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) began this fiscal year with optimistic enthusiasm, as it sought to accelerate the pace of activities; being the third year of the strategic period 2020-2025. The year can easily be counted as one of the more difficult ones since AERC's inception – with exhilarating successes juxtaposed against intimidating challenges. Both extremes provided valuable lessons that we would carry into the future.

The details of the programmatic activities presented in this report are a testimony to both the promise and the problems – and to the rewards of a tireless pursuit of excellence. It is thus my pleasure to share with you this account of AERC's accomplishments during the period. As chronicled herein, those activities have advanced the objectives of our Strategic Plan on many fronts, but most significantly in the areas of outreach to policy makers and under-represented groups and countries.

By dint of concerted effort, we have seen more high-level policy maker participation in AERC events this year than ever before. We have also welcomed policy makers, universities, think tanks, researchers and students from a number of countries, which have seldom been involved in AERC activities – Chad, The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Burkina Faso, Congo (Brazzaville), Niger, Togo, and many others participated in AERC events.

Among the year's successes, we are proud to report that the structure of the AERC Collaborative PhD Programme (CPP), with its combination of course work and thesis has become a model for doctoral programmes around the continent. And not only in economics – in some universities doctoral programmes in other disciplines are also being modelled on the CPP structure. This exciting development has vastly improved PhD studies in Africa. Other programme activities continued apace. Two biannual research workshops, graduate training programmes, a senior policy seminar and several major conferences (e.g., the 2023 edition of the African Meeting of the Econometric Society) reflected the quality and experience that have long characterised our quest for excellence.

The Training Programme virtually delivered the 2022 Joint Facility for Electives (JFE) and the Shared Facility of Specialisation and Electives (SFSE), as the impacts of the COVID-19 and post-COVID recovery strategies to manage the sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) economic crisis continued to be felt in the 2022/23 fiscal year. Though the restrictions on domestic and/or international travel have now drastically eased, funding challenges continue on. This is because current and potential funding institutions have adjusted their funding commitments in response to governments' priorities.

As most economies open up and drop stringent international travel restrictions, the AERC is gradually adopting a hybrid approach, combining virtual and in-person delivery of its programmatic activities, including the flagship Biannual Research Workshop, meetings of the Academic Advisory Boards of the Training Programme and other international consultative meetings.

We are encouraging our valued partners and calling upon other interested institutions and organisations to join in partnership, as the AERC expands capacity for economic policy making across the region for improved policy impact resulting in positive development outcomes in sub-Saharan Africa economies.

The groundwork for the future has been laid; we should therefore capitalise on our strengths to take AERC in new directions to serve the training, research and policy interests of Africa. Key among those strengths are our dedicated staff, donor partners, the network and other stakeholders who share our vision and accompany us on our mission. Hence, we proceed with confidence into the future, even as we invite you to share in this account of AERC's activities of the past year.

**Prof. Dominique Njinkeu**

Executive Director (Interim),  
African Economic Research Consortium (AERC)

# Executive Director

AFRICAN ECONOMIC RESEARCH CONSORTIUM (AERC)

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Prof. Dominique Njinkeu





# 2020 - 2025

## Strategic Themes

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# 1

### IMPROVE QUALITY:

Transforming the AERC capacity building model to strengthen the quality of research and training outputs.

# 2

### ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY:

Building strong institutions, diversified resource base and inclusive participation in AERC research and training activities will create a momentum for sustainability.

# 3

### EXPAND INFLUENCE:

Fostering the uptake of economic policy research, knowledge sharing and dialogue by working with National Think Tanks and other regional institutions to create a platform for policy influence.

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The 2022/2023 fiscal year marks 34 years since the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) was established as a premier capacity building network in the advancement of research and graduate training in economics to inform economic policies in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The AERC began the year with great enthusiasm to accelerate the pace of activities, especially with it being the third year of the 2020-2025 strategic period.

The AERC Strategic Plan 2020-2025 is anchored on three key themes of improving quality that will create its momentum for sustainability and expanding policy influence. Each of these three themes provide a new and dynamic structure for how research, training and policy engagement will address the capacity building developments and the emerging constraints over the five-year planning cycle. Additionally, the strategy seeks to respond to pressing issues facing the region - increasing youth unemployment, widening inequality and persistent poverty - as stated by Ernest Aryeetey and Frances Stewart in the 2015-2020 AERC Strategic Evaluation Report. The AERC has had great achievements in the last 34 years by bringing rigour and evidence to policy making. However, it is imperative to change the delivery along the research and policy value chain by opening up to new approaches to enhance relevance, building upon the unique convening power of the organisation and scaling up AERC's services to support policymakers in their efforts to build a stronger economic foundation and future, both nationally and regionally. By becoming a valued partner and encouraging other interested institutions and organisations to join up, the AERC is expanding capacity for economic policy making across the region as well as policy impact for positive development outcomes in SSA economies.

While implementing the 2020-2025 strategy, the AERC has adopted a new approach for capacity building, which

has fundamentally changed its operations by moving from an objectives-based approach to a theme-based approach and focused on outcomes and impact measurement in both the short and long-term.

In the 2022/2023 fiscal year, the AERC continued to implement capacity building activities of the three training programmes, CMAP, CMAAE and the CPP while the Collaborative Research implemented the Framework and Country Case Study research. The Thematic Research Programme continued to implement its activities under the following five research themes:

1. Poverty, Labour Markets, and Income Distribution
2. Macroeconomics Policy and Growth
3. Finance and Resource Mobilisation
4. Production, Trade and Economic Integration
5. Agriculture, Climate Change and Natural Resource Management

The impacts of the COVID-19 and post-COVID recovery strategies to manage the sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) economic crisis continued to be felt in the 2022/2023 fiscal year. Though the restrictions on domestic and/or international travel were easing, there were still bottlenecks to movement as countries had varying COVID-19-related travel barriers. This phenomenon continued to affect the implementation of activities that could not be conducted virtually. Funding challenges continued to be felt as current and potential funding institutions adjusted their funding commitments in response to the continuous impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukrainian conflict. Furthermore, the funding environment continued to be one where funders preferred project funding to core funding. This calls for even greater efforts at diversifying the resource base to reduce the risk of exposure due to the dependence on relatively few long-term donors as well as designing project funding that also supports core activities.



Poverty, Labour Markets, and Income Distribution



Macroeconomics Policy and Growth



Finance and Resource Mobilisation



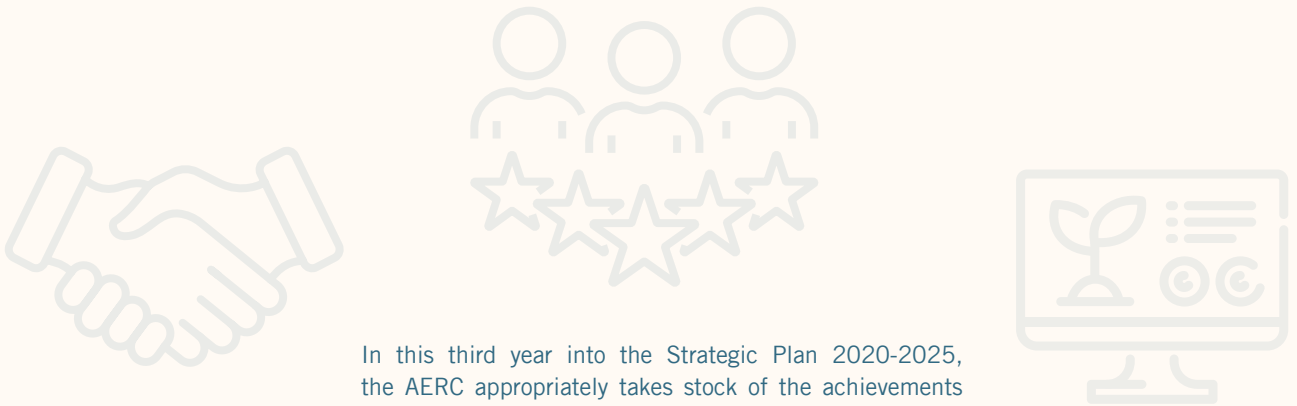
Production, Trade and Economic Integration



Agriculture, Climate Change and Natural Resource Management

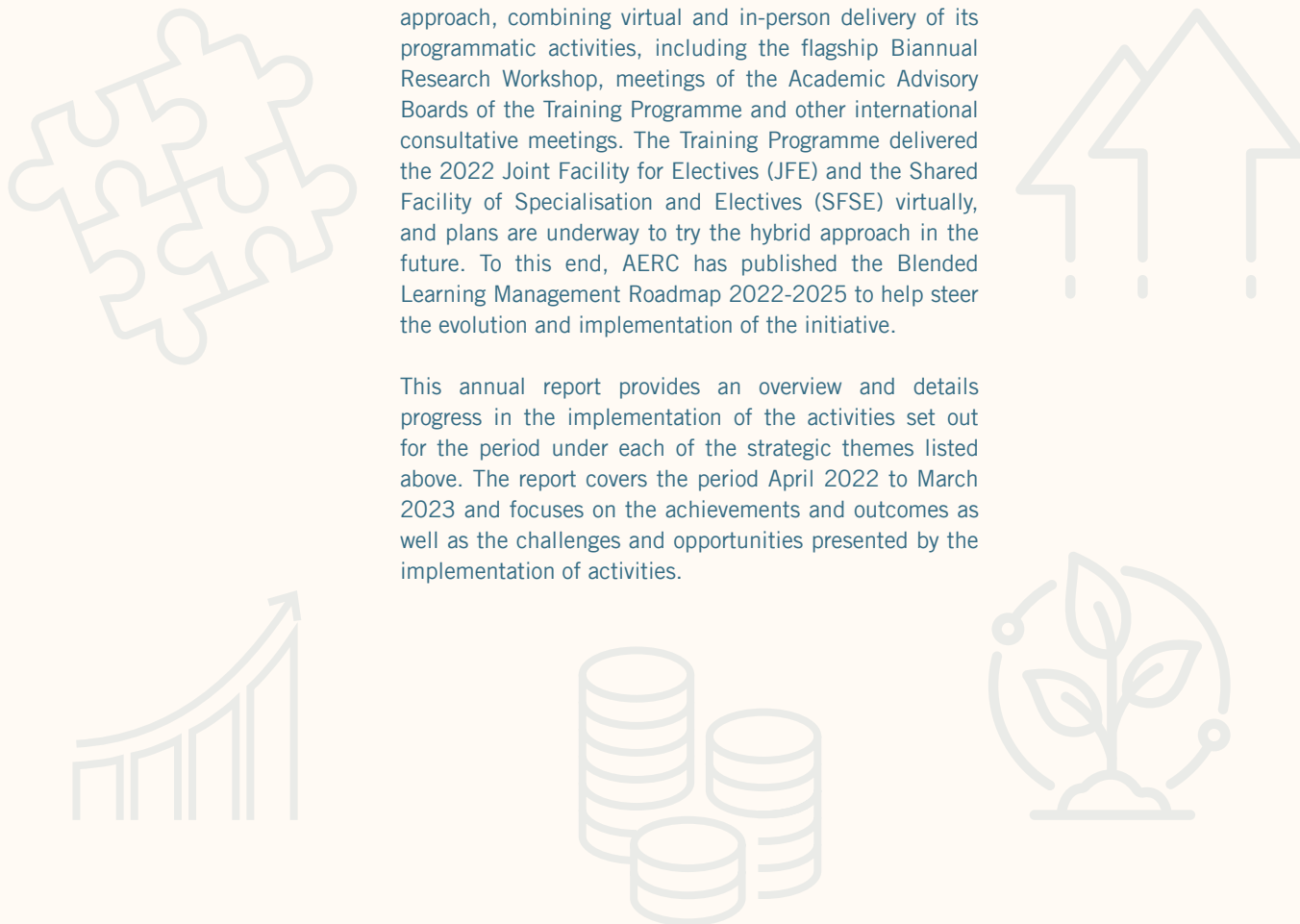
# Programme Progress

FOR CURRENT REPORTING PERIOD: **APRIL 2022 – MARCH 2023**



In this third year into the Strategic Plan 2020-2025, the AERC appropriately takes stock of the achievements made, not only during the current planning phase, but also over the past strategic plan periods. Accordingly, this report provides cumulative statistics of the outcomes of activities in the last strategy as the baseline for the results measurement framework tables provided at the end of each theme. The year was particularly crucial as economies opened up and stringent international travel restrictions to deal with the COVID-19 outbreak were eased in most countries. The AERC is gradually adopting a hybrid approach, combining virtual and in-person delivery of its programmatic activities, including the flagship Biannual Research Workshop, meetings of the Academic Advisory Boards of the Training Programme and other international consultative meetings. The Training Programme delivered the 2022 Joint Facility for Electives (JFE) and the Shared Facility of Specialisation and Electives (SFSE) virtually, and plans are underway to try the hybrid approach in the future. To this end, AERC has published the Blended Learning Management Roadmap 2022-2025 to help steer the evolution and implementation of the initiative.

This annual report provides an overview and details progress in the implementation of the activities set out for the period under each of the strategic themes listed above. The report covers the period April 2022 to March 2023 and focuses on the achievements and outcomes as well as the challenges and opportunities presented by the implementation of activities.





# STRATEGIC THEME 1

## **IMPROVE QUALITY: TRANSFORMING THE AERC CAPACITY BUILDING MODEL TO STRENGTHEN THE QUALITY OF RESEARCH AND TRAINING OUTPUTS**

At the end of the strategic period, the AERC anticipates achieving the following three key outcomes whose progress will be tracked periodically against set targets:

- 1.1 Improved enabling environment for high-quality policy-oriented research**
- 1.2 Improved researchers' capability and dissemination capacity**
- 1.3 Improved quality of graduate students**

In line with the strategic plan, the following is an update of progress made in the 2022/2023 fiscal year.



# Improved Synergy Between Collaborative and Thematic Research

## COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS

The AERC seeks to improve synergies by encouraging resource persons in each of the five thematic research groups to develop a collaborative research project, and identify new ideas and areas that thematic researchers should engage in. During the year under review, the AERC has embarked on the following collaborative research projects:

### 1. AERC-ERF Disruptive Technologies Project

The AERC and the Economic Research Forum (ERF) are collaborating on a project funded by the Carnegie Corporation, which seeks to assess the impact of disruptive technologies in Africa. This project is informed by accelerations in technological progress over the past few decades, which are affecting the future of work across the globe. These innovations and applications include artificial intelligence, robotics, digital finance, e-government, big-data, and blockchain technology, among others. The AERC commissioned country case studies in four SSA countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal, and South Africa) under the co-ordination of Dr. Shahrokh Fardoust (ERF). Five policy briefs and five AERC working papers published from the project were presented at a hybrid regional policy forum in September 2022 in Nairobi where over 20 policy makers attended in person and about 200 virtually.

### 2. The Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Livelihoods in Africa

This project is jointly implemented by the AERC and Oxfam, with funding from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and comprises country case studies conducted in six African countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, and Zambia. The project is co-ordinated by Dr. Sara Stevano (SOAS, University of London) and supported by a Steering Committee comprising Dr. Marzia Fontana (Institute for Development Studies, University of Sussex, & IDRC), Prof. Femi Ayadi (University of Houston Clear Lake), and Dr. Manasi Kumar (Department of Psychiatry at the University of Nairobi).

The final review workshop was held at the end of March 2022, followed by a policy brief training workshop in May 2022. Thereafter, several dissemination and advocacy events were carried out during the reporting period. In July 2022, Oxfam in partnership with AERC hosted an AU Mid-Year High Level Summit Side Event on Gender Inequality

and Food Systems in Africa Dialogue in Lusaka, Zambia. As part of the Advocacy activities for the Gendered Impact of COVID-19 on Livelihood in Africa project, Oxfam hosted a virtual three-day Researchers Digital Accelerator Training hands-on training on digital campaigns and digital media for African researchers in September 2022. In addition, Oxfam, AERC and Gender Is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC) co-convened a hybrid High-Level Regional Policy Forum on “The Gendered Impact of COVID-19 on Livelihoods in Africa” in November 2022 in Addis Ababa Ethiopia, where findings from six research case studies were disseminated. The evaluation for this project was carried out between October and November 2022. All papers from this project have been published as AERC working papers and policy briefs. Two of the papers have been published in refereed journals, while the remaining four are going through the review process.

### 3. Inclusive Finance in Fragile and Post Conflict States in Africa

This IDRC-funded project is supported by a Steering Committee comprising of Prof. Issouf Soumare (Université Laval, LABIFUL), Dr. Christine Awiti (The Commonwealth), and Prof. Charles Adjasi (University of Stellenbosch). Prof. Anke Hoeffler (University of Konstanz) is the Project Co-ordinator, while Dr. Elizabeth Nanziri (University of Stellenbosch) is the project Co-Coordinator. A hybrid Policy Brief training workshop was held in May 2022 in Nairobi. This was followed by in-country dissemination workshops. The papers are under review for publication in a special issue journal of the Review of Development Economics.

### 4. Building Policy Research Institutions to Support Human Capital in Africa (HCA)

This BMGF-funded collaborative research project covers seven SSA countries - Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, Senegal, and Uganda. The AERC is collaborating with eight national think tanks in these countries to deliver on African policy research institutions

country case studies in terms of generating ideas for policy analysis and research as well as conducting various policy engagement activities geared towards influencing public policy and practises in government and private sector. The country case study phase for both institutions and individual researchers is co-ordinated by Prof. Lant Pritchett (Centre for Global Development & Harvard University).

In June 2022, the AERC conducted monitoring and evaluation of the Policy Studies Institute (PSI) in Ethiopia and the Nigerian Economic Summit Group (NESG) in Nigeria. In order to ensure that the researchers produce a paper of high quality that is publishable in highly-ranked international journals, a hybrid master class to build capacity for advanced research was held for both think tanks and individual country case study researchers in July 2022 in Nairobi. The class was moderated by Prof. Lant Pritchett, RISE Research Director at the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford; Prof. Yaw Nyarko, Professor of Economics at New York University (NYU) and the Director of NYU Africa House, the Center for Technology and Economic Development (CTED), and Co-Director of the Development Research Institute (DRI) and Prof James Robinson, University of Chicago; Harris School of Public Policy. A total of 38 participants (15 females and 23 males) attended the hybrid HCD Master class training with 19 researchers attending in person and 19 virtually.

The AERC then held a postmaster class proposal presentation workshop for the researchers in September, followed by a specialised technical workshop on Agent-Based Modelling of Educational and Social Systems in Nairobi in October 2022, which was moderated by Prof. Abbi Kedir. The mid-review workshop for both individual and think tanks country case studies was held in November 2022 in Nairobi. The aim of this meeting was to have the researchers present their proposals after taking into consideration their learning in the Master class. The Final review workshop was held back-to-back with policy brief training workshop at the beginning of March 2023 in Dakar, Senegal for both individual and institution researchers. The AERC hosted the flagship Senior Policy Seminar under the theme of this project on 29th – 30th March 2023 in Nairobi.

For the thematic research phase, a call for proposals made in March 2022 yielded 31 proposals. Eleven selected proposals and two papers from a think tank from fragile and post conflict states (Cameroon Policy Analysis and Research Center -CAMERCAP-PARC) were presented at a workshop held back-to-back with the December 2022 Biannual Research Workshop in Nairobi. A technical training workshop on “Advanced Analytical Methods for Human Capital Modelling” was held in Kampala, Uganda, from 13th – 17th March 2023. The facilitator of the workshop was Dr. Abbi Kedir, an Associate Professor at Sheffield University. The workshop imparted 27 thematic research participants with advanced theoretical, empirical models and estimation methods used in human capital development studies.

## 5. Advancing Digital Financial Services for the Poor in the East African Community Region (DFSP-EAC)

This project seeks to build a facility that leverages AERC's network of institutions and policy outreach as well as (a) Study and detail financial inclusion and market development in the East African region, which can be used to advance knowledge base and policy drive for SSA economies and (b) Characterise financial market developments as well as electronic payments interoperability for lessons that can guide policy drive. A call for country case studies was made in March 2022 and the AERC received about 41 proposals, which were both internally and externally reviewed. Subsequently, the shortlisted researchers were invited to an inception workshop that was held in April 2022 where they presented their proposals and received approval from the Project Steering Committee. The inception workshop for the institutional country case studies was held in May 2022. The AERC conducted a gender and mainstreaming technical workshop in July 2022 in Kigali, Rwanda to build the researchers' capacity to integrate gender into research and policy. A total of 26 researchers (11 women) attended the workshop, which was facilitated by Prof. Janet Adelegan (Aalto University School of Business, Finland). The Mid-review Workshop for both Institutional and Individual Researchers was held in Dar es Salaam in November 2022. The framework papers are under consideration for publication as an AERC book volume.

## 6. Re-Examining the Growth, Poverty, Inequality and Redistribution Relationships in Africa (GPIR)

This AERC collaborative research examined how the growth-poverty-inequality nexus in sub-Saharan Africa is affected by redistributive policies and strategies. The Project co-ordinator of the country case studies phase is Prof. Erik Thorbecke (Cornell University), with Yusi Ouyang (University of Tulsa), Prof. Finn Tarp (University of Copenhagen), Miguel Nino-Zarazua (UNU-WIDER) and Prof. Carlos Gradín (UNUWIDER) being the project steering committee members. Under the country case studies phase, the AERC received and reviewed 143 proposals internally. Up to 52 proposals were sent out for external review out of which 23 proposals were selected and subjected to further review by the project steering committee members, leaving 13 proposals from which five were funded (Cohort I). To increase the number of papers being funded, a second call was made whereby a total of 15 proposals were received and eight selected. The inception workshop for the second call for papers was held in June 2022. Out of this, six proposals were funded (Cohort II). This brings the total funded for the GPIR Country Case Studies Phase to 11 papers. The Mid-Review Workshop for the GPIR (1) Cohort was held virtually in October 2022, and the virtual Mid-Review Workshop for Cohort II was held in January 2023. The Final review workshop and policy brief training was planned for April 2023.



## 7. Addressing Health Financing Gaps and Vulnerabilities in Africa due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

This AERC-SIDA collaborative research project aims to examine the multidimensional impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic starting from the macroeconomic tremors it has already caused, and tracing them to the household and individual levels, with a focus on the health and healthcare for poor and vulnerable populations. Prof. Germano Mwabu (University of Nairobi) is the co-ordinator of the framework research phase of the project. The final review workshop for the framework phase was held in May 2022. The country case study phase is ongoing and is supported by a steering committee made up of a multi-disciplinary team of senior researchers, including Prof. Germano Mwabu, (Prof. Emeritus University of Nairobi), Prof. Tomson Ogwang (Department of Economics, Brock University), Prof. Ingrid Woolard (Dean at Stellenbosch University's Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences; and Professor of Economics at Stellenbosch University) and Prof. Bernadette Kamginia (CAPEC), Côte d'Ivoire. A call for proposals made in April 2022 yielded 48 proposals from which 18 were selected after an external review. The inception workshop was held in May 2022 where 12 proposals were selected to proceed. The in-person Mid-Review Workshop was held in January 2023 in Nairobi. The final review workshop will be held in July 2023.

## 8. Climate Change and Economic Development in Africa (CCEDA)

The project was launched in December 2019 with support from NORAD with the goal to radically improve the capability of the continent (and its policy makers) to confront climate and environmental change, and leverage the opportunities they present, as it confronts its development challenges. The co-ordinator of the project is Prof. John Asafu-Adjaye (University of Queensland, Australia). A policy brief training workshop was held in May 2022 with the final review workshop for the country case studies papers being held virtually in May 2022. This was followed by several in-country dissemination workshops between June and August 2022. All the 14 country case study papers have been published as AERC working Papers with 10 of these being published in the *Sustainability journal* and one (1) in *World Development Perspectives journal*. The Burkina Faso paper was disseminated on 15th March 2023, at the University of Ouagadougou, while the Benin paper was scheduled for dissemination on 25th April 2023 by the Laboratory of Applied Ecology (LEA) in the University of Abomey-Calavi. The Malawi paper dissemination was scheduled for 16th May 2023.

## 9. Climate Change and Central Banking in Africa

The AERC, with funding from Boston University's Global Development Policy Center, is undertaking a study on climate change and central banking in Africa. This is an offshoot to the Climate Change and Economic Development in Africa

(CCEDA) project with the South African Reserve Bank and International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) taking the lead, while the AERC is working with the IMF and Boston University. Specifically, under this collaboration, the AERC will write three-four papers over a two-year period and engage in collective meetings with other members of the Task Force to advance collective and individual policies toward a development centred climate agenda at the International Monetary Fund. Two papers have already been completed. These are: (1) Asafu-Adjaye, J.; Ndung'u, N.; and Shimeles, A. 2022. "Macroeconomic Consequences of Climate Change in Africa and Policy Implications." Working Paper. Task Force on Climate, Development, and the IMF, and (2). Asafu-Adjaye, J.; Ndung'u, N.; and Shimeles, A. 2022. "Climate Change Risks and Consequences on Growth and Debt Sustainability in Africa." Working Paper. Task Force on Climate Development and the IMF. The third paper for this project was completed, and the project wrapped up in April 2023.

## 10. Value Chain Development, Trade and Economic Transformation in Africa

The project aims to explore global and regional value chains' development dynamics in terms of upgrading opportunities for African countries and the development policy implications and imperatives for economic transformation. The project co-ordinator for both framework and country case study phase is Prof. Jaime De Melo (University of Geneva). The project steering committee members for the framework phase include Dr. Dominique Njinkeu (African Trade and Sustainable Development) and Prof. Marcelo Olarreaga (University of Geneva), while the project steering committee members for the country case study phase include Dr. Dominique Njinkeu (African Trade and Sustainable Development); Prof. Marcelo Olarreaga (University of Geneva) and Prof. Tabitha Kiriti Ng'ang'a, Associate Professor, Department of Economics and Development Studies, University of Nairobi, Kenya and WTO Chair for Kenya.

The final workshop for the framework phase was held virtually in April 2022. The 12 framework papers were published as AERC working papers out of which eight were considered for publication in a special issue journal. The GVC country case studies call for proposals was circulated in June 2022 and readvertised in November - December 2022. A total of 57 proposals were received from both calls and reviewed separately by the committee members out of which 12 proposals have been accepted to proceed to the inception stage to be held virtually from May 2023.

## 11. African Public Service Delivery Index (PSDI)

This project is funded by the Ford foundation and seeks to conduct a survey in Africa to build a composite indicator (PSDI) that covers the full stream of public services that can help to enhance transparency and accountability in public service delivery across all the sectors in Africa. Following the



change of scope of the project, a pilot survey was conducted between September and October 2022 and the report shared with the AfDB in November 2022. The AfDB has expressed interest in having the AERC implement some activities arising from outcomes of the survey. Discussions on the next steps are ongoing.

## 12. Data Governance and Policy in Africa Phase II

The AERC has commenced implementation of the Data Governance and Policy in Africa Phase II titled 'The Political Economy and Institutional Structure of Data Policy and Governance in Africa: Opportunities, Challenges and Risks'. The project has five themes: Benchmarking Africa against global best-practice on data policy and data governance; Identifying institutional structures for data policy and governance frameworks that can be replicated across sub-Saharan African countries; Exploring data interoperability platforms in Africa, and related policy making opportunities and risks; Exploring gaps, priorities, and opportunities in digital revolution, digital technology, and the efficiency of data governance in Africa; Strengthening the prevailing weak cultural predispositions, data centrality, and governance – how users can start to see the link between using data to solve problems and innovation, and how they can act on fresh concepts and provide value in the process. Calls for Framework Papers and Country Case Studies were circulated in January 2023, attracting 19 proposals. The inception workshop was scheduled for June 2023 for the 16 shortlisted proposals. The Project Steering Committee members are Prof. Izak Atiyas, Associate Professor of Economics, formerly of Sabanci University in Turkey; Prof. Caroline Ncube, Professor of Law, Department of Commercial Law at University of Cape Town; Prof. Ogundiran Soumonni, Associate Professor of Innovation Management and Policy, University of Witwatersrand and Dr. Miriam Omolo, Executive Director of The African Policy Research Institute.

## 13. Exploring the Impacts of the War in Ukraine on Lower-Income Countries

The objective of this joint collaborative study between AERC, ERF and Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) is to examine the macroeconomic channels, impacts, and potential responses to the Russian-Ukrainian War (RUW) shock both in the short to medium run and in the long run under alternative scenarios of the shock's size and duration. The kick-off meeting between the institutions was held in October 2022. A preliminary finding workshop was held virtually on 14 March 2023 to discuss the three components of the project among authors and research experts in the field to improve the final output.

## 14. Evidence to Drive Reforms for SDR Financing in SSA Economic Recovery

The BMGF awarded the AERC a grant to support research into Special Drawing Rights financing, facilitate the dissemination of that research to policymakers and the

public, and strengthen the capacity of African policy research institutions. The plan is to undertake a set of reinforcing activities alongside the papers on countries that have high potential to use SDR allocations for development, but currently face serious debt issues. These include Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Senegal. The kick-off meeting was held in November 2022. A Project Co-ordinator, Prof. Abebe Shimeles, has been appointed. An introductory meeting with the four Think Tanks was held on 10 March 2023 to guide them on the project milestones and how to write the concept notes for their country case studies and dissemination forums. A virtual inception workshop is planned in May 2023 to present the initial proposals.

## 15. PROPEL Health (ProHLTH)

In September 2022, the USAID awarded the Palladium Group Consortium a grant to implement the PROPEL Health as one of the partners from 2022-2025. The kick-off meeting was held on November 3, 2022. The project has USAID/Washington funding for population and reproductive health, HIV, maternal and child health, health systems strengthening, and global health security. PROPEL Health aims to improve the enabling environment for equitable and sustainable health services, supplies, and delivery systems through: Policy – policy development and implementation; Financing – adequate, predictable, and sustainable health financing; Governance – enhanced government stewardship, transparency and accountability; and Advocacy – use of evidence-based advocacy approaches at global, national and subnational levels to promote best practices. The AERC in partnership with Palladium US Group and funding from the USAID is implementing a project 'PROPEL Health in Botswana' in 2023. The PROPEL Health project in Botswana will focus on Human Resources for Health (HRH) with interest in labour market assessment for healthcare system and capacity building through the Ministry of Health (Policy and Planning Department) and the Ministry of Finance. The AERC, after a series of virtual meetings, shared a concept note with the Botswana team with information regarding the AERC collaborative Palladium/USAID funded PROPEL Health Project in Botswana. A work plan and budget have been drawn for the 'PROPEL Health in Botswana'.

## 16. Policy Analysis for Sustainable and Healthy Foods in African Retail Markets (PASHFARM)

In October 2022, AERC signed a project grant with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) to implement the Policy Analysis for Sustainable and Healthy Foods in African Retail Markets (PASHFARM) project. The project utilises lessons learnt in the project, Agricultural and Food Policies Analysis for Nutrition Outcomes (AFPON) and focuses on frontiers in nutritious foods research revolving around the food environment, the roles of markets, pricing, affordability, and access to nutritious foods by households in sub-Saharan Africa. The project kicked off in October 2022 and is expected to run until December 2025. It is co-ordinated

by Prof. Harounan Kazianga, Oklahoma State University, with the support of gender and nutrition experts, Dr. Lanoi Maloiy and Dr. Maureen Cheserek, respectively. On March 27-29, 2023, two AERC project staff participated, alongside other 70 BMGF project staff in the Nutritious Foods Systems (NFS) grantee convening held at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, London.

### 17. The AERC – World Bank Kenya Analytical Programme on Forced Displacement (KAP-FD)

The World Bank, in collaboration with the AERC, is implementing a thematic research project - KAP-FD. The project seeks to promote empirical research on forced displacement in Kenya using selected datasets. The target of the project are graduates with Master's degree or PhD students studying Economics, Sociology, Demography, Migration or closely-related courses, who are enrolled in Kenyan Universities. The broad themes of the project are employment and livelihoods, education, migration and social cohesion, vulnerability and resilience to shocks in terms of gender, age, and diversity. The datasets associated with this call include the SESS, RRPS and KCHS integrated

survey. Comparisons may also be made with other surveys produced by KNBS, particularly the KCHS for nationals and the Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey (KIHBS). The SESS, RRPS, and KCHS Integrated Survey data can be accessed from the World Bank's or UNHCR's microdata library using the Central Data Catalogue, while the KCHS for nationals and KIHBS datasets can be obtained from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS).

### 18. The AERC-UCPH-DERG-GOK Project Domestic Resource Mobilisation: Tax Reforms in Kenya

The work on domestic resource mobilisation is one among other several research projects planned to be undertaken in a three-year phase commencing in July 2023. This is collaborative research work between the AERC and the University of Copenhagen-Development Economics Research Group (UCPH-DERG), supported by the Danish Government, to assist the Republic of Kenya in policy framing and decision making. Prior to this, a three-month pre-investigative period is planned for, from March 15th to June 15th, 2023.





# Improved Incentives for Thematic and Collaborative Research

## THEMATIC RESEARCH

The AERC thematic research modality of “learning-by-doing” research remains a key avenue for enhancing the pool of locally based economists in sub-Saharan Africa with improved skills and competencies to conduct economic policy-relevant research. Thematic research features the biannual research workshop, which is the main vehicle for a peer review process intended to maintain and yield high quality research output on topical African economic development issues.

### The Biannual Research Workshops

The AERC held the June 2022 biannual research workshop on a virtual platform with the concurrent and technical sessions featuring a presentation of 80 reports (38 thematic research proposals, 16 interim reports, 22 final reports and 4 CPP best chapter papers from PhD thesis). In total, 110 researchers (of whom 4 were CPP students) drawn from 23 African countries and 81 thematic resource persons were in attendance. There were 26 women (24%) among the participating researchers. Out of the 110 thematic researchers and CPP students, 53 (48%) were from 10 Francophone countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo DR, Côte d'Ivoire, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo) and 1 (0.01%) from Lusophone (Mozambique).

With the COVID-19 pandemic gradually abating, the AERC held the first hybrid biannual research workshop at the end of November 2022 in Nairobi. A total of 111 researchers (of whom 10 were CPP students) drawn from 24 African countries, and 87 thematic resource persons were in attendance. A total of 47 (42%) of the participating researchers were women. The outcome of the proposal development workshop held in June 2022, culminated in the trained researchers joining the thematic research pipeline. Out of the 37, who received the proposal development grants, 14 have joined the thematic research pipeline and presented papers in the respective groups.

Table A1 in the Annex A shows the distribution of researchers (including CPP students) and research reports for both June and November/December 2022 Biannual by thematic group, nationality, and gender. Notably, during the 2022/2023 fiscal year, a total of 23 thematic research grants were awarded to researchers with approved project proposals.

### The Plenary Sessions

The 56th plenary session was held virtually on May 30th, 2022, on the theme Poverty, Growth, Redistribution, and

Social Inclusion in Times of COVID-19 pandemic in Africa with a total of 309 participants in attendance. The session provided a forum for updating researchers on innovations in their disciplines, and for deepening thematic areas through paper presentations, keynote address and/or policy round table discussions. Prof. Léonard Wantchekon from Princeton University delivered a keynote address, while Prof. Finn Tarp from the University of Copenhagen served as the Chair of the plenary session. The welcoming remarks were delivered by the Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u, the Executive Director, AERC. The plenary session also featured a high-level policy panel moderated by Dr. Jane Kiringai, the Chairperson of the Commission on Revenue Allocation, Kenya. The distinguished panellists in the policy panel included: Hon. Prof. Mthuli Ncube, Minister of Finance and Economic Development in Zimbabwe; Dr. Denny Kalyalya, Governor, Bank of Zambia; Dr. Wilson T. Banda, Governor of the Reserve Bank of Malawi; and Dr. Rose Ngugi, Executive Director, Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis. Table A2 in Annex A provides details of the key participants in the plenary session.

The 57th plenary session was held in a hybrid modality in Nairobi on 27th November 2022 on the theme African economies: recovery agenda from multiple shocks. A total of 210 and 120 participants attended physically and virtually, respectively. The opening session of the plenary was graced by the keynote speaker, Prof. Stephen A.

**Table 1: Thematic Research Areas**

1. Poverty, Labour Markets, and Income Distribution
2. Macroeconomic Policy and Growth
3. Finance and Resource Mobilization
4. Production, Trade and Economic Integration
5. Agriculture, Climate Change and Natural Resource Management

O'Connell (Gil and Frank Mustin Professor of Economics at Swarthmore College) and the plenary session Chair, Prof. Ernest Aryeetey (Chair of the AERC Board). The session also featured a high-level policy panel moderated by Hon. Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u, Cabinet Secretary, National Treasury and Economic Planning, Government of Kenya. Other distinguished panellists included: Dr. Situmbeko Musokotwane, Minister of Finance and National Planning, Zambia; Dr. Anthony Simpasa, Lead Economist and Acting Manager, Macroeconomic Policy, Debt Sustainability and Forecasting Division – Research Department, AfDB; Mr. Olivier Ramandrisoa, Director General of Economy and Planning, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Madagascar; Mrs Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi, Executive Vice President, African Centre for Economic Transformation (ACET), Accra, Ghana; and, Dr. Rose Ngugi, Executive Director, Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis. Table A3 in Annex A provides details of the key participants in the plenary session.

### Award of Publication Prizes

One of the key pillars of AERC's five-year strategy (2020-2025) is the emphasis on achieving excellence in the various work streams. In that light, the Research Department has provided concrete guidance that has been adopted to incentivise researchers who publish their work in refereed journals. The publications are systematically tracked by the AERC and uploaded on the website, thus providing a public record of all thematic research publications. An annual budget of \$20,000 has been approved for the award of prizes. A total of 36 publications have been fully evaluated and considered for prize awards, with the prize money totalling \$16,050. This factors in the Publication Price Incentive Criteria that was approved in January 2023. The papers have been published in reputable journals with their ranking in Ideas/Repec taken into consideration.

## 1.4 STRENGTHENING TECHNICAL CAPACITY

The AERC continues to improve the skills and capacity of individual researchers to carry out policy relevant research and influence policy through technical research workshops and visiting scholars exchange and mentorship programmes.

### TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS

#### Regulations on Agent Banking and Digital Financial Services Workshop

The AERC conducted a three-day hybrid training workshop on policies and regulations on Agent Banking and Digital Financial Services in October 2022 in Nairobi. The workshop was attended by 34 researchers and technical personnel (14 women) with 26 researchers attending in person and eight virtually from Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan,

Tanzania and Uganda. The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Samuel Kiemo and Camilla Talam of the Central Bank of Kenya.

#### Agent-Based Modelling of Educational and Social Systems Technical Workshop

In October 2022, a three-day hybrid technical workshop was conducted on Agent-Based Modelling of Educational and Social Systems in Nairobi. The workshop, under the BMGF-funded Human Capital Development project, aimed at equipping researchers and technical staff from Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, Senegal, and Uganda. The Hybrid workshop was attended by 31 researchers (7 women) with 25 researchers attending in person and six virtually. Prof. Abbi Kedir, Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor in International Business, Management School, University of Sheffield, UK facilitated the technical workshop.

#### Summer Master Class on Advanced Research Methods

Summer Master Class on Advanced Research was held in June 2022 in Nairobi. A total of 24 participants (12 virtually) were in attendance, with 10 being women. The Summer Master Class was facilitated by Prof. James Robinson and Prof. Maria Bautista of Harris School for Public Policy, University of Chicago. Table A4 in Annex A shows the number of participants in the Master Class by nationality and gender.

#### BMGF Technical Workshop for Thematic Researchers

To complement Collaborative Research, the Thematic Research Programme made a call to researchers in sub-Saharan Africa to carry out research on Human Capital Development in Africa. The aim of the workshop was to enhance research capacity for the early career researcher in the sphere of human capital formation as catalysts for SSA development. The workshop was held in November 2022 back-to-back with the biannual research workshop in Nairobi, Kenya. As shown in Table A5 in Annex, a total of 13 lead researchers (3 women) attended the workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to provide mentorship and expert review of the proposals by the researchers in the BMGF Human Capital Development Thematic Project. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Miracle Benhura and facilitated by Prof. Kedir, Prof. Magejo and Prof. Anthony Wambugu. After shortlisting seven proposals that were viable for funding, four of them were awarded grants to conduct research in the area of human capital development.

A five-day technical training Workshop on Advanced Analytical Methods for Human Capital Development Modelling for sub-Saharan Africa Researchers was held in March 2023 in Kampala, Uganda. A call for participation yielded 72 applications. A total of 29 researchers attended

the training of which 11 were male and 18 were female. The objective of this course was to enhance competencies of the BMGF Human Capital Development Thematic Researchers.

### The Structural Transformation of African Agriculture and Rural Spaces (STAARS)

The STAARS fellowship programme, a collaboration of the AERC, Cornell University (USA) and University of Sussex (UK) sponsored six research fellows for the year 2022/2023. Each research fellow has been allocated a mentor and co-mentor to guide them through the research process during the one-and-a-half-year period to June 2023. In this model, three fellows are stationed at the Cornell University and the other three at the University of Sussex for three weeks of mentorship by professors from the respective universities. At the same time, the fellows have other ongoing virtual activities throughout the year with another set of mentors and co-mentors who are appointed by Cornell University. The expectation is that the fellows will publish their research in refereed journals. To date, a total of nine fellows have been sponsored under the STAARS programme since its inception in 2021. The fellowship programme provides a valuable opportunity for first-hand experience in raising the research and publication profile of AERC researchers. In September 2022, the fellows presented their papers at their respective universities in a hybrid workshop. Details of the 6 fellows under the 2022/2023 programme are provided in Table A6 in Annex A.

### The Visiting Scholars Programme

With the gradual receding of the bottlenecks arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, the AERC/World Bank visiting scholars' programmes has resumed. The programme started in January 2023 for the period 2022/2023 with two researchers, Monica Kauky and Kenneth Kigundu, being competitively selected to participate.

### Institutional Attachment Grants

A total of 12 think tanks and individual researchers have been awarded the institutional attachment grants under the BMGF/AERC Human Capital Development project agreement (see Table A7 in Annex A for details). The grants allow the researchers to visit other think tanks and leading research centres around the world for a short period of time to work on their AERC-sponsored human capital research.

### Centre for the Study of African Economic (CSAE) Conference.

Three AERC thematic researchers attended the Centre for the Study of African Economic (CSAE) Conference at St. Catherine College, Oxford University in the UK from 19th – 21st March 2023. The AERC special session was themed 'Financial Development, Industrialisation, Migration, and Productivity in SSA'. Three papers were presented at the conference by the AERC researchers: Adedeji Adeniran, Dieudonné Mignamissi and Blaise Gnimassoun.



# Improved Quality and Delivery of University-Graduate Level Economics Curriculum

In the 2022/2023 fiscal year, several activities were undertaken to ensure that quality and delivery of the collaborative training programmes at partner universities improve and keep up with global standards.

## Enriching the Learning Experience: Joint Facility for Electives (JFE) and Shared Facility for Specialisation and Electives (SFSE) 2022

The CMAP and CPP Joint Facility for Electives (JFE) and the CMAAE Shared Facility for Specialisation and Electives (SFSE) were successfully delivered virtually for the third year since 2020 via the AERC Learning Management System (LMS) with an embedded Zoom for synchronous lectures. For the CMAAE, the University of Pretoria's Blackboard-based Click-up LMS was used to complement the AERC LMS and both systems were available to the visiting lecturers. Final examinations were administered and invigilated at the respective home universities of the students.

## The CMAP Joint Facility for Electives 2022

The virtual CMAP JFE commenced on 18th July and ended on 28th October 2022. A total of 95 (36 female – 38%) students drawn from 10 African nationalities were in attendance. In comparison, a total of 120 and 105 students participated in the second and first virtual CMAP JFE held in 2021 and 2020 respectively. The distribution of students by gender and university over the period 2015-2022 is presented in Table A8 in Annex A.

There have been significant improvements made in female enrolments in the programme over the years, with the average over the last 10 years (2013-2022) standing at a respectable 39%. This could partly be attributed to AERC's continuous application of affirmative action in the award of scholarships to qualified female students as well as implementation of other female/family friendly initiatives.

A total of seven elective courses were taught by 14 visiting lecturers (one lecturer per course per semester).

## The CMAAE Shared Facility for Specialization and Electives 2022

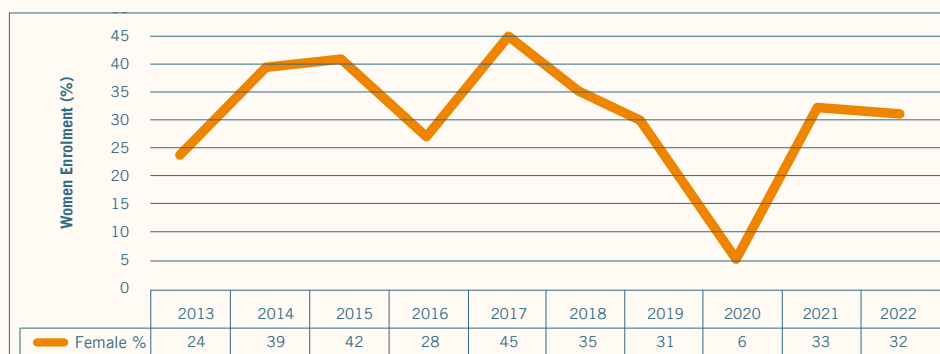
The CMAAE 2022 virtual SFSE commenced on 1st August and ended on 30th November 2022. A total of 96 students drawn from eight CMAAE accredited universities (Egerton, Haramaya, LUANAR Bunda Campus, Makerere, Sokoine, Nairobi, Pretoria, and Zimbabwe) participated. This was lower than the participation of 102 and 117 students in the 2021 and 2020 virtual SFSEs respectively. In terms of gender distribution, of the 96 CMAAE students, 39 (41%) were female. Table A9 in Annex presents the gender distribution of students by university. The average percentage of female enrolment over the last 10 years (2013-2022) is 40%. During the virtual SFSE 2022, a total of 14 courses were offered by a team of 14 visiting lecturers.

## The CPP JFE 2022

At the same time, the CPP JFE 2022 ran virtually from 18th July to 18th November 2022 with a total of 25 students drawn from nine African nationalities in attendance. This was significantly lower than the 47 students who completed the JFE in 2021, which was one of the highest enrolments in the programme so far. The reduction in the number of students in 2022 was largely because there were fewer non-CPP universities participating compared with 2021, while enrolments in the current cohort among the traditional CPP universities were significantly lower. The PhD students in the 2022 JFE were drawn from seven CPP universities (Cape Town; Benin; Dar es Salaam; Ibadan; Nairobi; the Witwatersrand; and Yaoundé II) and one non-CPP university (Cape Coast). Notably, 32% (8 out of the 25) of the students were female, a marginal decline over the 33% female participation in 2021. Table A10 in Annex A presents the distribution of students by gender and university, while Figure 1 presents a trends analysis of enrolment of female students at the CPP JFE over the period 2013-2022.

The enrolment of female students into the CPP averaged a respectable 31% over the last 10 years. The AERC 2020-2025 Strategic Plan envisages inclusion and equal opportunity of which gender mainstreaming remains an important component. It is envisioned that the ongoing development and implementation of a gender inclusive strategy will positively impact the current trends.

Figure 1: Trend of Female Enrolment into the CPP JFE (2013-2022)





## Digital Transformation in Delivery of Training Programme

One of the key recommendations in the evaluation report of the 2015-2020 strategic plan was more use of digitisation and blended learning to broaden reach and enhance efficiency in the delivery of elective courses at the JFE/SFSE. Emphasis on digitisation and blended teaching methods was on the agendas of the 2010-2015 and 2015-2020 Strategic Plans. The gains of implementing e-learning were seen to include: (1) enhancing efficiency and reducing unit cost in the delivery of elective courses at the JFE/SFSE without compromising its quality; (2) making participation at JFE/SFSE more affordable to self-sponsored students and organisations wishing to support their staff to enrol into the programme; and (3) harmonising course content across the AERC network universities and upholding quality of the programme. For three years running, the AERC has delivered the JFE and the SFSE via the Zoom platform and AERC's Learning Management System (LMS), complemented by the AERC online library (eLibrary). The introduction of the AERC eLibrary has ensured that students and lecturers across all the network universities have access to e-resources to facilitate learning and research from wherever they are.

The next focus for the AERC is to soon move into blended learning, which is a pedagogical approach combining online and face-to-face learning and incorporating a range of learning materials, resources, various types of assessments, and in-class activities to enhance the learning

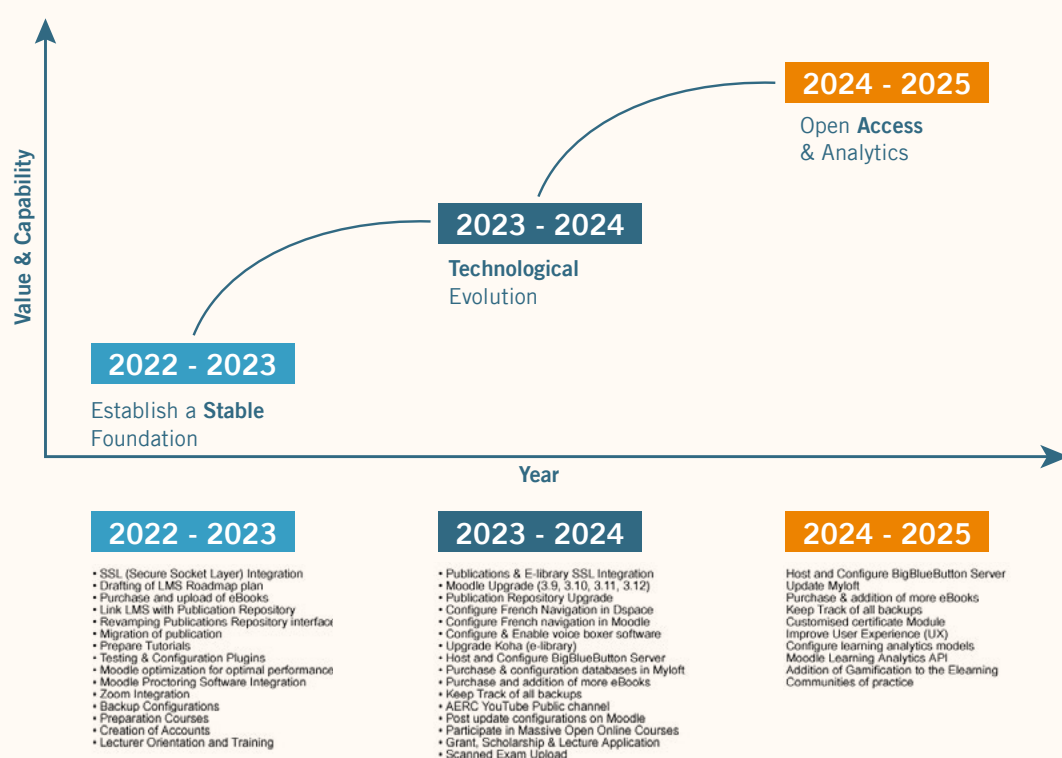
process. This to some extent will help mitigate some of the challenges identified during the virtual hosting of the JFE/SFSE virtually, including:

Internet challenges and power outages.

- Large class sizes for some courses for effective class participation to take place.
- Class attendance and level of commitment of students being lower compared with when face-to-face teaching was conducted at common facilities in Nairobi and Pretoria.
- Quantitative aspects of the courses being difficult to demonstrate online without proper tools and equipment such as a camera or an iPad/notebook to demonstrate mathematical derivations.
- Quality assurance through invigilated examinations at the Joint/Shared Facilities for Electives.

A blended learning roadmap (*AERC Blended Learning Management Roadmap.pdf* ([aercafricalibrary.org](http://aercafricalibrary.org))) has been developed with the sole aim of ensuring sustainability, quality, and wider reach. From a technical standpoint, the roadmap for blended learning will be implemented in three phases. The first phase will focus on creating stable infrastructure and getting the best value from existing systems. The second year will improve IT infrastructure, harmonise the systems, and improve the user experience. The third year will focus on data analytics and machine learning to improve the prediction ability of the Learning Management System.

Figure 2: AERC Roadmap Phases



### CPP Thesis Proposals and Best Chapters Presentations at the Biannual Research Workshop

Presentations of PhD thesis research work by CPP students in the concurrent thematic groups at the biannual research workshops has remained a key component of strengthening quality as students benefit from the peer review mechanism and from the large pool of international resource people. At the June and December 2022 Biannual Research Workshops, a total of nine PhD thesis research proposals and five best chapter papers were presented in the concurrent thematic groups as summarised in Table A11 in Annex A.

### Award of Thesis Research Grants

A total of nine PhD thesis research grants were awarded to the CPP students after obtaining favourable comments from the resource persons during their proposal presentations at the concurrent sessions. The AERC also awards PhD thesis research grants to support non-CPP Africans studying for PhD degrees in economics in recognised universities within or outside Africa. A total of 15 PhD thesis research grants were issued in the 2022/2023 fiscal year. Masters' students are also eligible for award of thesis grants to undertake field work after successfully participating in the JFE/SFSE. A total of 126 Masters' thesis research grants (32 CMAP and 94 CMAAE) were issued in the 2022/2023 fiscal year.

### CMAP, CMAAE and CPP Admissions and Scholarships

A total of 37 new CMAP scholarships (5 full and 32 partial tuition and fees in-country) were awarded (21 (57%) to females) to first year students between August and December 2022. Out of the five full scholarships, four were awarded to students from fragile and post-conflict countries Rwanda (1) and Liberia (2) and Sierra Leone (1) admitted to the University of Nairobi, Ghana, and Cape Coast. A total of 20 (11 full and 9 partial tuition and fees in-country) new CPP scholarships were awarded to first year students in 2022/2023. In terms of gender distribution, 9 (45%) of the 20 CPP scholarships were awarded to women in 2022/2023, compared with 60%, 63%, 42% and 23% in 2021/2022, 2020/2021, 2018/2019 and 2017/2018, respectively. In 2022/2023, fewer female students enrolled for doctoral studies at the CPP degree awarding universities. This limited the number of qualified female students to be awarded CPP scholarships compared with previous years. A total of 48 new CMAAE scholarships (12 full and 36 partial tuition and fees in-country) were awarded (26 (54% to females) to first year students in September 2022. A total of 14 DAAD scholarships to eight students admitted in 2021/2022 and six in 2020/2021 were renewed in August 2022. The process of selecting students for the PhD DAAD Agricultural Economics scholarship awards involved an AERC/DAAD joint review of the shortlisted candidates in April 2022. Three new DAAD scholarships were awarded in September 2022, marking the last round of awards of in-country-in-region PhD scholarship awards under the completed AERC-DAAD agreement.

### Monitoring and Evaluation Missions to Universities

The Training Department conducted three monitoring and evaluation missions to the University of Yaoundé II (a CPP Degree-Awarding University) in Cameroon in August 2022, to Haramaya University (a CMAAE accredited university) and Addis Ababa University (a CMAP Category C university) in Ethiopia in September 2022, to evaluate the status of implementation of the programmes. Another three monitoring and evaluation missions were conducted in October 2022 to Stellenbosch University, in November 2022 to University of eSwatini and to Makerere University in February 2023.

### Maturation and Admission of Universities

Maturation of Universities remains an important area of focus in the current AERC Strategic Plan 2020-2025, with a target of having 35 universities (15 Collaborative Master's Programme (CMAP), nine Collaborative Masters in Agricultural and Applied Economics (CMAAE) and 11 Collaborative PhD Programme (CPP) with the capacity to offer Master's and PhD programmes respectively. Priority has been given to Francophone countries in the maturation to increase to four universities out of the targeted 11 universities under the CPP.

### The Collaborative PhD Programme in Economics (CPP)

For purposes of implementing the CPP, the continent is subdivided into four regions, Southern Africa, Eastern Africa, Anglophone West Africa, and Francophone Africa. The universities are classified into two main categories: The Host-Degree Awarding universities that have been assigned the responsibility of teaching courses in core fields; and the Non-Host Degree Awarding universities that admit and send students to regional host universities to take core courses and thereafter to the Joint Facility for Electives (JFE) to take elective courses, organise the supervision and production of student PhD theses, and award the degrees to successful students. The University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC) in Bénin is the newly admitted CPP Non-Host Degree Awarding University, while the University Félix Houphouët-Boigny (UFHB) in Côte d'Ivoire has been graduated into CPP Host Degree Awarding University. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the two universities was signed in May 2022. The other Host Degree Awarding University in the Francophone countries is the University of Yaoundé II in Cameroon.

The University Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD), Sénégal is the fourth Francophone University that has been positively evaluated and recommended to the AERC Executive Director for admission as a CPP Non-Host Degree Awarding University by the Academic Advisory Board at its meeting held in March 2023. Also, under consideration for admission into CPP as a Host Degree-Awarding University as well as a possible hosting facility for the CMAP and CPP Joint

Facility for Electives (JFE) is the University of Pretoria. Once approved by the Executive Director, this would increase the total number of CPP Degree Awarding Universities to 11.

### Collaborative Masters in Agricultural and Applied Economics (CMAAE)

Four universities applied for accreditation to the CMAAE programme, three of them (Stellenbosch University, Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources-BUAN, and the University of Eswatini) into category “B” to admit students and offer the programme, while one applied to be admitted into Category “A” (University of Buea, Cameroon). Responses to accreditation questions were received from three universities, BUAN, eSwatini and Stellenbosch, while responses from Buea were being awaited.

Two monitoring and evaluation missions were undertaken at the end of October 2022 to the Stellenbosch University and the University of eSwatini to assess their preparedness to become accredited universities offering the CMAAE programme. The evaluation reports were tabled before the CMAAE Academic Advisory Board in January 2023, which recommended to the Executive Director the accreditation of the two institutions to admit students and offer the CMAAE programme. Memoranda of Understanding between the AERC and each of the two Universities, Stellenbosch and eSwatini, elevating them to category “B” have been

developed, bringing the total number of CMAAE accredited universities to 10.

### Academic Advisory Board Meetings

The CMAP-CPP Academic Advisory Board and its sub-Committee meetings were held virtually in May 2022 to approve the CPP JFE 2021 and comprehensive examination results for CPP Class of 2020 students and the venue and elective courses for the CMAP and CPP JFE 2022. The CMAAE Academic sub-Committee also met in May 2022 to approve the 2021 SFSE special and supplementary examinations, and the 2022 SFSE elective courses and visiting lecturers. Other meetings of the CMAAE Academic sub-Committee and the Academic Advisory Board were held in Kampala, Uganda on 30th – 31st January 2023 to approve the CMAAE SFSE 2022 examination results. The meeting also considered and endorsed the evaluation reports from the Adhoc Committee on accreditation of the Stellenbosch University in South Africa and the University of eSwatini. The CMAP-CPP Academic Advisory Board and its sub-Committee of the Programme Evaluation and Institutional Development, and the Executive Committee held meetings virtually on 27th – 28th February 2023 to approve the CMAP JFE 2022 and the supplementary comprehensive examination results for CPP Class of 2020 students. The meeting also considered and endorsed the evaluation report on admission of the University Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD), Sénégal as a CPP Non-Host.



Table 2: Outcomes Resulting from Implementation of Strategic Theme 1 on Improving Quality

End of Strategy	Outcome	Baseline	Actual	Target	Actual
Outcomes	Indicator	2019/20	2021/22	2022/23	April 2022 - March 2023
1.1 Improved enabling environment for high quality policy-oriented research and graduate training in sub-Saharan Africa	1.1(a) Number of AERC alumni engaged in relevant policy formulation and research within policy making institutions (Cumulative)	1,020	1120	1,150	1261
	1.1(b) Number of policies informed by AERC research (Cumulative)	0	5	5	8
1.2 Improved researchers' capability and dissemination capacity	1.2(a) Number of collaborative research framework and country case studies published in internationally refereed journals (Cumulative)	270	290	300	321
	1.2(b) Number of thematic and graduate students' research papers published in internationally refereed journals (Cumulative)	243	270	288	289
1.3 Improved quality of graduate students	1.3(a) Percent of graduates in economics & agricultural economics working as teaching faculties, researchers, policy analysts and policy makers in universities, government institutions and policy research institutes	76%	84%	83%	84%
	1.3(b) Number of CMAP, CMAAE and CPP alumni produced with competencies to conduct economic policy research and graduate training in SSA (Cumulative)	CMAP-3,151 CMAAE-910 CPP-249	CMAP-3,355 CMAAE-1,011 CPP-286	CMAP-3,527 CMAAE-1,132 CPP-303	CMAP-3,486 CMAAE-1088 CPP-292
Intermediate	Outcome	Baseline	Actual	Target	Actual
Outcomes	Indicator	2019/20	2021/22	2022/23	April 2022 - March 2023
1.4 Improved synergy between collaborative and thematic research	1.4(a) Number of collaborative research projects done by the five thematic research groups (Cumulative)	0	3	4	5
	1.4(b) Number of thematic research papers generated from the broader themes of collaborative research (Cumulative)	0	12	15	19
1.5 Improved incentive for thematic and collaborative research	1.5(a) Number of early career researchers (ER) conducting thematic research (Cumulative)	4,520	4,636	4,970	4,694
	1.5(b) Number of senior researchers participating in AERC research (Cumulative)	540	648	620	678
1.6 Improved quality and delivery of university graduate level economics curriculum	1.6(a) Number of Master's and PhD students registered for online JFE/SFSE (annually)	80	269 (CMAP-120; CMAAE-101; CPP-48)	240	216 (CMAP-95; CMAAE-96; CPP-25)
1.7 Improved due diligence and quality assurance by AERC	1.7(a) Percent of research proposals out of the total peer reviewed and presented that proceed to interim report	65%	67%	80%	83%





## STRATEGIC THEME 2

### **ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY: BUILDING STRONG INSTITUTIONS, DIVERSIFIED RESOURCE BASE AND INCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION IN AERC RESEARCH AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES**

To expand access to AERC's research and training programmes as well as policy outreach during the strategic period 2020-2025, the AERC will seek to broaden its resource base, harness robust support systems coupled with competent human capital, sound policies and procedures and governance structure. At the end of the five-year strategic phase, the AERC anticipates achieving the following three long-term outcomes:

- 2.1 Improved organisational performance.**
- 2.2 Diversified financial resource base supporting AERC activities.**
- 2.3 Increase participation of under-represented countries and groups in economic policy – Institutional strengthening.**

In the 2022/2023 fiscal year, the AERC has undertaken various activities to support institutional capacity building in the region with the aim of achieving targets set for several outcomes that are summarised in Table 3.

# Improved Collaboration With Economic Policy Decision-Making Institutions

During the period under review, the AERC partnered with several institutions of governments, foundations, non-state actors and regional institutions to jointly undertake policy research to inform policy on the continent.

## Enhancing African Stakeholdership

Long-term sustainability depends on the AERC diversifying its partnership with African governments, like the Government of Kenya Capacity Building for Policy Analysis Project. The Government of Kenya (GoK) funded capacity building project, which has been implemented over a period of 11 years since January 2011, was designed with the primary objective of strengthening economic policy analysis and financial management capabilities in the National Treasury. To date, the project has supported 108 Masters and 80 PhD Kenyan students admitted to various CMAP, CMAAE and CPP universities, of whom 89 Masters and 35 PhD have successfully graduated. Another component of the project is the placement of PhD and Master's Programme sponsored students as graduate trainees upon successfully completing their studies. So far, 89 Masters' graduates have been attached to the National Treasury as graduate trainees to serve their training bond of three years upon graduation. So far, 55 graduate trainees have successfully served their three-year internship, with 25 of them being employed by the National Treasury as Economist I. A total of 18 Master's graduates are continuing with their internship. However, two interns formally terminated their internship at the National Treasury earlier in the year to take up jobs elsewhere and reimbursed costs in lieu of the remaining 1-3 months they would not be serving their training bonds.

## Institutional Collaborations

The AERC has fostered and continues to develop critical institutional partnerships for the purpose of utilising comparative advantages, convening power and policy outreach to critical policy publics. Key among the partnerships include the following:

### AERC and the T20

The AERC is a member of the T20 Think Tanks – a select group of think tanks associated with the G20 platform. The T20 think tanks serve as one of the technical arms of the G20, generating research for policy making by the G20 countries through the G20 platform. The AERC is one of the few institutions from Africa participating in the T20. The idea

is to bring African voices, based on rigour and evidence, to bear on deliberations in the G20. During the reporting period, the AERC sustained the collaboration with the T20 network for international development and participated in an IMF task force meeting in Geneva in October 2022.

## Inclusive Development Knowledge Platform Project

In the period under review, the AERC continued its institutional collaboration with the Dutch-supported Knowledge Platform on Inclusive Development Policies (INCLUDE). The Platform's goal is to encourage the use of research evidence in policy making and implementation to address poverty and inequalities to attain inclusive development objectives in Africa and the Netherlands. In the period under review, the following activities took place:

Research: In the period under review, six reports on the research programme “digital divides or dividends? Including basic services in Africa's digitalisation agenda” were finalised. The reports present case studies from Benin, Uganda, Ghana, Mauritius, and Rwanda.

In August 2022, INCLUDE presented a short report with ideas for the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Africa Strategy. In September and November 2022, African Policy Dialogues (APD) in Uganda, Mozambique, Mali, and Ghana held high level meetings with senior policy makers to conclude their activities.

INCLUDE Platform had a meeting in March 2023 in Kigali, Rwanda, to plan for the new phase (2023-2026). At the same time, the APD session in Kigali was also held to share common knowledge and successes from the past phases and to reflect on how to improve their impact in the new phase.

## Institutional Partnerships with National Think Tanks

During the 2022/2023 fiscal year, two institutional partnership grants were issued to the Cameroon Policy Analysis and Research Center (CAMERCAP-PARC) and the Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER).

## ENHANCED CAPACITY TO DIVERSIFY FUNDING BASE

The funding environment for non-for-profits has shifted, donors' funding strategies are changing and donors are taking a different approach to funding various organisations. The AERC needs to take an aggressive approach to realise the required funds to support the strategy. The following fundraising efforts were made over the reporting period:

- The AERC has received confirmation of a five-year USAID funded project through the Palladium International on Health Promoting Results and Outcomes through Policy and Economic Levers (HEALTH PROPEL). The project brings together various partners implementing specific aspects of the project under Palladium. The AERC looks to partner with various think tanks and affiliate universities as well as researchers.
- The AERC signed a renewed contract as one of the partners in the INCLUDE programme for another period of four years (January 2023 to December 2026). The INCLUDE programme, which has been running since 2014, has led to the establishment of African Policy Dialogues and in synthesising existing and generated knowledge and sharing this knowledge in accessible and desired ways in consultation with stakeholders.
- The AERC received a grant approval in October 2022 by IDRC for the project Exploring the Impacts of the War in Ukraine on Lower-income Countries. This is a one-year project that will be implemented in partnership with the Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) and the Economic Research Forum (ERF.)
- The AERC received a grant approval in October 2022 by the BMGF on the project Evidence to drive reforms for Special Drawing Rights (SDR) financing in SSA economic recovery. This is a one-year project that will be implemented in partnership with think tanks in Ghana, Kenya, Ethiopia and Senegal.
- The BMZ reached out to the AERC with continued six-month support to the Program of Accompanying Research for Agricultural Innovation (PARI). The funding has been used to support seven CMAAE students' thesis research and dissemination activities. The PARI project supported by the BMZ was initiated in March 2019 and by December 2021 when the first phase of the project came to an end, a total of 31 research grants (15 MSc, 11 faculty and 5 PhD) had been issued.
- The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) awarded the AERC a grant in support of the project on Policy Analysis for Sustainable and Healthy Foods in African Retail Markets (PASHFARM). The project, which will run from October 2022 to December 2025, utilises lessons learnt in the Agricultural and Food Policies Analysis for Nutrition Outcomes (AFPON) project to focus on frontiers in nutritious foods research revolving around the food environment, the roles of markets, pricing, affordability, and access to nutritious foods by households in sub-Saharan Africa.
- In September 2022, the Hewlett Foundation awarded the AERC a grant that is building on the completed scoping study on Data Governance and Sound Policy for Africa. The project seeks to broaden the focus on data governance and policy in Africa to address digital evolution, accelerating recovery from COVID-19, benchmarking Africa in the global practise on data policy and governance frameworks and mapping data interoperability in Africa, among other aspects.
- During the fiscal year, the AERC submitted a concept note to the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) on "Integration of Evidence in Food System Policies in sub-Saharan Africa".
- The AERC submitted a concept note to the French Development Agency (AFD) on Trade, Integration, Climate Change and Food Security in Eastern Africa.
- The AERC submitted a funding proposal on the Africa Data Governance Opportunity Fund (ADGOF), a joint project of the Niyel, Hewlett Foundation and Ford Foundation. The proposed research project on data governance will prioritise cross-country/regional initiatives, focus on policy change, and encourage collaboration between research and advocacy institutions.
- The AERC submitted a proposal to the Trade Development Bank for capacity building, technical assistance, and collaborative research. The proposed project seeks to identify capacity gaps and provide technical training and support to stakeholders involved in conducting sustainable development impact appraisals and monitoring of investment projects. The AERC will provide technical support in the development of evaluation tools that capture the ex-ante and ex-post developmental impacts of investment projects.



## IMPROVED ORGANISATION SUPPORT SYSTEM

Organisational effectiveness of the AERC will create a platform to facilitate delivery of the strategy. Various activities have been carried out in the current fiscal year to enable the governance and systems to facilitate AERC's effectiveness.

- The AERC held Programme Committee meetings in June and December 2022. The Programme Committee approved the award of a total of 23 thematic research grants upon recommendation of the resource persons following thematic research papers presentations made at the June and December biannual research workshops. Also approved was the award of 15 PhD thesis research grants to African graduate students registered in non-CPP doctoral degree programme in Economics at institutions within or outside Africa, whose thesis proposals were positively reviewed by two external reviewers.
- The AERC annual audit was undertaken between May and June 2022, with a clean audit report obtained. The audited financial statements together with the Management Letter were presented to the Executive Committee in July 2022 and approved. The reports were subsequently shared with the funders.
- The annual Internal Revenue Service (IRS) returns were filed as required, after the audited accounts were approved.
- The PROPEL Health project under USAID conducted an award assessment in January 2023 to ascertain the AERC systems were adequate to undertake the successful implementation of the awarded grant.
- The internal auditors, Matengo Githae and Company conducted and completed several assignments during the year. These include financial reporting, payroll management, compliance, budget management and risk management. The internal audit reports are presented to the Audit and Risk Committee in its quarterly meetings every year.
- An in-depth gender analysis and gender audit of the AERC as an organisation and of its core activities (research, graduate training, and policy outreach) was conducted in September 2022 by the Nordic Consulting Group (NCG) appointed by the AERC's funding partner, the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida). A report of the audit has been produced and the next step is to develop action plans for the gender mainstreaming process. The NCG will support the development of the AERC gender inclusive strategy and an approach to integration of the gender dimension into the AERC programme activities.
- The Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation (Norad) commissioned a financial due diligence and programmatic review as required in the signed funding agreement between Norad and AERC. The appointed consultants were Deloitte & Touché and Prof. Mbogo respectively, who successfully concluded the exercise and submitted a mid-term review report in November 2022.
- The Training Department conducted two monitoring visits to the University of Yaoundé II (a CPP Degree-Awarding University) in Cameroon in August 2022, and to Addis Ababa University (a CMAP Category C university) in Ethiopia in September 2022, to evaluate the status of implementation of the programmes. An aide memoire was signed thereafter.
- The Training Department appointed Prefix Research Limited to conduct a tracer study on graduates of the AERC's collaborative training programme. The tracer study was conducted over the period March – August 2022 with the primary aim of providing a gendered perspective of an independent, systematic, and objective assessment of the whereabouts and overall performance of the alumni in the labour market.
- Competency-based development training has been provided for staff and 27% of staff have gone for training. The individual training was to build competencies for staff on areas in finance, Information Technology (ICT), Human Resource, and administration.
- In September 2022, the AERC provided staff training on building personal effectiveness and identifying behaviours that hinder team efficiencies. The training culminated by synergizing team efforts that promote inter and intra departmental synergies. Follow up sessions with teams reveal there is improved communication and synergies within and between departments resulting from increased self-awareness and personal responsibility for team cohesion and effectiveness.
- About 91% of the performance appraisals were completed for the fiscal year 2021/2022 and performance objectives for the year 2022/2023 developed.
- Staff welfare initiatives for the year included various talks. The AERC women went through a session on how to live purposefully, love passionately and thrive unapologetically. The men also had a session where they addressed mental wellness and societal challenges from a male perspective. We were also able to organise an annual staff seminar since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic two years back.
- Before the holiday festivities in December, a staff end-of-year get together was organised, where staff appreciated each other and reflected on gains made in the year.
- An office move committee was appointed to oversee the AERC's move to its new office premises. It is anticipated that the AERC will move to its new premise at the end of the 2023/2024 fiscal year.
- During the fiscal year, the research management system (RMS) was upgraded to improve compatibility and programme features, such as user registration, and the research paper vetting and reviewing processes. The upgrade also allowed for improvements in the application platform regarding performance, security,

- and scalability as well as support for cross-platform development needs. In February 2023, a series of user training sessions were held with the expectation that the system will be fully utilised by the end of the year.
- The server infrastructure has been upgraded and the core systems operationalised within the new environment.
- An extended detection and response (XDR) security system has been identified and vendor selection exercise completed to deliver a security system that collects and automatically correlates data across multiple security layers.

- Engagement of vendor inputs into the ERP upgrade has begun through scope assessment of work, associated costs, and version licencing model.
- The Training Department has successfully operationalised a Training Management Portal that digitises all training programme processes, including applications for scholarships, JFE/SFSE visiting lectureships, faculty exchange programme, and various training grants.

## ENHANCED VISIBILITY AND OPPORTUNITY IN UNDER-REPRESENTED REGIONS OF AFRICA

One of the key components of the AERC strategic plan 2020-2025 is inclusiveness in its research and capacity building initiatives, with great emphasis on enhancing participation of women and individuals from fragile and post-conflict countries. This is achieved through targeted specialised technical workshops and research mentorships, teaching faculty retooling workshops and application of affirmative action in the award of scholarships as highlighted in the sections that follow.

### PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

The AERC conducted three concurrent Proposal Development Workshops for Women and Fragile and Post Conflict State Researchers in June 2022 as a side event of the June 2022

biannual research workshop to support and mentor the researchers and ensure that they participate in thematic June and December 2022 biannual workshops. A total of 37 participants (see Table A12) from the three research methods and proposal writing technical workshops for Women and Fragile State held between January and February 2022 were in attendance. The distribution of women participants by nationality is as shown in Table A13, while the distribution of participants from fragile State and post conflict states is shown in Table A14.



Table 3: Outcomes Resulting from Implementation Of Strategic Theme 2 on Ensuring Sustainability.

End of Strategy	Outcome	Baseline	Actual	Target	Actual
Outcomes	Indicator	2019/20	2021/22	2022/23	April 2022 -March 2023
2.1 Improved organisational performance	2.1(b) Number of empirical policy research papers produced by policy analysts and researchers of government institutions, national think tanks, and research institutes technically equipped through research mentorship and specialised technical trainings.	0	23	20	152
2.2 Diversified financial resource base supporting AERC activities	2.2(a) Funding concentration-reliance ratio, which measures funding share of five largest funders (gives awareness of the risk of reliance on few funders)	83%	70%	80%	81%
2.3 Increased participation of underrepresented countries and groups in economic policy institutional strengthening	3.3(a) Annual percentage of thematic researchers who are from fragile and post-conflict countries	33%	33%	38%	34%
	3.3(b) Number of thematic research papers produced and co-authored by women researchers (Cumulative)	200	221	240	257
Intermediate	Outcome	Baseline	Actual	Target	Actual
Outcomes	Indicator	2019/20	2021/22	2022/23	April 2022 -March 2023
2.4 Improved collaboration with economic policy decision making institutions	2.4(a) Affiliation of AERC with national, regional, and international organisations (National Think Tanks (NT), Central Banks (CB), African Governments (AG) and Regional Institutions (RI))	NT (12) CB (14) AG (1) RI (4)	NT (14) CB (12) AG (1) RI (4)	NT (12) CB (17) AG (3) RI (4)	NT (12) CB (12) AG (1) RI (5)
2.5 Enhanced capacity to diversify funding base	2.5(a) Cumulative Number (CN) and mix of funding partners supporting AERC	CN (16) Mix (5)	CN (16) Mix (5)	CN (20) Mix (7)	CN (17) Mix (5)
2.6 Improved organisation support system	2.6(a) Percentage of technical staff retained	50%	90%	75%	54%
	2.6(b) Programme efficiency ratio calculated as programme expenses divided by total expenses (Measures how much of an organisation's expenses are being spent on programmes versus overhead costs)	74%	75%	75%	89%
2.7 Enhanced visibility and opportunity in underrepresented regions of Africa	2.7(a) Percentage of participants taking part in research and graduate training activities that are from Francophone and Lusophone countries	40%	48%	46%	60%
	2.7(b) Percentage of AERC-sponsored Master's and PhD graduates who are women.	MA (34%) PhD (24%)	MA (36%) PhD (23%)	MA (40%) PhD (27%)	MA (36%) PhD (24%)

\* Policy research papers expected later in the year from policy workshops such as the Senior Policy Seminar and regional/national policy workshops.



## STRATEGIC THEME 3

### **EXPAND INFLUENCE: FOSTERING THE UPTAKE OF ECONOMIC POLICY RESEARCH, KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND DIALOGUE THROUGH NETWORKING WITH NATIONAL THINK TANKS TO CREATE A PLATFORM FOR POLICY INFLUENCE**

During the strategic period 2020-2025, the AERC will foster the uptake of economic policy research knowledge sharing and dialogue through the creation of a knowledge centre, policy advisory centre and networks. These efforts will be supplemented by developing a policy communications programme at the national and regional level that will support the alignment of policy outreach initiatives in the region. By 2025, the AERC anticipates achieving the following two long-term outcomes:

- 3.1 Improved co-operation and information sharing on economic policy issues across Africa.**
- 3.2 Improved proactive policy engagement and outreach.**

In the 2022/2023 fiscal year, the AERC has undertaken various activities to support institutional capacity building in the region with the aim of achieving targets set for several outcomes that are summarised in Table 3.

# Enhanced Platforms for Co-operation and Information Sharing

The AERC has taken proactive steps towards improving dissemination of its research findings to its stakeholders. During the period under review several activities were undertaken:

- The AERC had 181 campaigns and five Executive Director's Opinion Editorial (Op-eds) and other articles on thought leadership disseminated globally. These also found placements in other media outlets during the reporting period.
- The AERC continues to experience improvements in terms of growth in its external channels. The AERC is active on social media accounts like Facebook (33,612), Twitter (6,939), Instagram (1,356) and LinkedIn (45,222), which have been used regularly and intensified during major events.
- Promotional materials produced include 48 weekly updates, and four quarterly AERC Newsletters (INSIGHT). The AERC Annual Report 2021/2022 was also published and distributed in August 2022.
- The AERC also provided a grant to the University of Cape Coast, Ghana, to host a National Policy Workshop on the theme "Ghana Beyond Aid: Some Reflections and Implications", in May 2022. In addition, Kenneth Kigundu Macharia, a CPP student from University of Nairobi, was supported with a grant to present a paper titled "Energy Efficiency in Kenya's Manufacturing Sector", during the third International Conference on Research and Social Science held in June 2022 in Manchester, United Kingdom. The Ethiopian Economic Association was supported by a grant to organise the 2022 Africa Meeting of the Econometrics Society (AFES 2022) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2nd – 4th June 2022. Prof. Germano Mwabu, of the University of Nairobi, Kenya, was supported to participate in the National Transfer Accounts (NTA) Conference held in February 2023.
- To share best practises from thesis research with small-scale farmers, agricultural extension, and policy practitioners, the CMAAE convened four thesis dissemination workshops for graduates of University of Nairobi, in Kenya, on 19th July 2022; Haramaya University in Ethiopia on 7th September 2022; University of Eswatini in Eswatini on 15th November 2022; and Makerere University on 1st February 2023. An average of 40 stakeholders attended each of the workshops whose composition included smallholder farmers, academia, agricultural extension staff and non-governmental organisations.
- The Training Department conducted four farmer training workshops in Nairobi, Kenya in July 2022, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in September 2022, in Mbabane, Eswatini in November 2022, and in Kampala, Uganda in February 2023. The objective was to equip small-scale farmers attending the thesis dissemination workshops with entrepreneurship skills to enable the transformation of African agriculture from subsistence to a vibrant, commercialised enterprise.
- Professor Lemma W. Senbet, the former Executive Director of AERC, was inducted as a fellow and had a speaking opportunity as an AERC-featured expert at the Academy of International Business (AIB) following his career-long distinguished scholarship and professional service at the interface of finance and international business.
- Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u, the immediate former AERC Executive Director, and Prof. Théophile Azomahou, the current Executive Director had speaking opportunities as official AERC spokespeople at the "Green Transitions Authors Workshop" organised by The Brookings at The Bellagio Centre in Italy, where experts in the field discussed "The Green Transition Imperative and Implications for Developing Countries".
- Dr. Scholastica Odhiambo, the AERC Research Manager, participated in a panel discussion as an AERC spokesperson on "Time Poverty: Unpaid Care and Domestic Work Impact on Food Production, Nutrition, and Women Economic Empowerment," organised by OXFAM in partnership with Gender is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC). The event was held in Lusaka, Zambia.
- A hybrid policy reflection and review meeting for the framework authors was held on 25th July 2022, at Trademark Hotel, Nairobi. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss gaps in the critical policy issues in Human Capital Development. The policy reflection meeting was opened by Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u,

immediate former Executive Director, AERC, while the keynote speech was given by Simon Chelugui, Cabinet Secretary, Labour and Social Protection, Kenya. The policy reflection meeting was followed by a review meeting with the framework authors who attended in person.

- The AERC - ERF-Disruptive Technologies project held a hybrid regional policy forum in Nairobi in September 2022. The regional policy forum was attended by over 20 policy makers in person, and there were about 200 virtual participants.
- The AERC held hybrid Regional Policy Forum on “Inclusive finance for fragile and post conflict states in Africa” on 27th October 2022. Over 70 participants attended virtually and about 60 in-person. The keynote speech was delivered by Ms. Nnenna L. Nwabufo, Director-General, East Africa Regional Development and Business Delivery Office, African Development Bank Group. The policy forum featured a policy round table moderated by Amadou N.R. Sy, Assistant Director in the IMF African Department and Mission Chief for Angola.
- The OXFAM, in conjunction with the AERC and Gender is my Agenda Campaign (GIMAC), held a High-Level Regional Policy Forum on the Gendered Impact of COVID-19 on Livelihoods in Africa in November 2022 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The theme of the meeting was ‘For a Feminist, Just and Equitable Post Covid Recovery in Africa’. The Conference hosted African Union and regional economic Communities departmental experts, Ministers responsible for Gender, Agriculture and Health in selected African countries that have been part of the Gendered Impact of COVID-19 in Africa, WROs and CSOs, and African researchers and academics and development Partners. The three-day forum was organised around a series of multiple configurations including roundtable, panel discussions and networking event. A total of 210 policy makers attended the conference (67 in-person and 143 virtually).
- The AERC, in collaboration with the Editor-in-Chief, Food Policy, published a Special Issue of the Food Policy journal containing 21 papers, of which eight came from the AERC-BMGF project, Agricultural Policy Analysis for Nutrition Outcomes (AFPON). The special issue titled “Role of Policy in Reducing Malnutrition in sub-Saharan Africa” <https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/food-policy/vol/113/suppl/C> showcases papers clustered in eight policy domains, agricultural extension, input subsidy, output price policy, and nutrition, among other policy domains. The AERC appreciates the Guest Editors; Prof. Chris Barret, the Editor-in-Chief, Food Policy; and Dipusan Dipudass, the Journal Manager for the technical support throughout the paper review and journal production.
- The AERC, in partnership with International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), hosted a regional conference on “COVID-19 Responses for Equity” (CORE) in January 2023 in Dakar, Senegal. This conference attracted 40 policy makers. The overall goal

of this event was to identify key messages and support evidence emerging from COVID-19 in Middle East & North Africa (MENA) and East Africa, and how these could be framed for policy and practitioner audiences.

- The AERC convened the twenty fifth series of the Senior Policy Seminar on the theme Human Capital Development in Africa on 9th – 30th March 2023. The Seminar drew from the framework and collaborative research papers under the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) project on Building Policy Research Institutions to Support Human Capital Development in Africa (HCD). Four papers were presented followed by a policy roundtable that involved a mix of policy makers, paper presenters, non-state, and private sector actors. This hybrid conference attracted a total of 598 participants (131 physical and 467 online) drawn from 43 countries across Africa. A total of 1,909 participants had registered online to participate in the event.
- Honourable Eliud Owalo, EGH, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Information Communications & Digital Economy, Kenya was the Guest of Honour at the official opening of the Seminar, and he delivered a keynote speech. The welcoming remarks were by Prof. Théophile Azomahou, AERC Executive Director. The conference was also graced by Hon. Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u, Cabinet Secretary, National Treasury & Economic Planning, Kenya, Hon. Bangasi J. Bakosoo, Minister for Public Service & Human Resource Development, South Sudan, Hon. Mbaigolmem Mbaïoundabie, Ministre, Ministère de l'Environnement, de l'Eau et de la Pêche, Tchad, Hon. Kobygda Larba Issa, Ministre, Ministère de l'Economie, des Finances et du Développement, Burkina Faso, Dr. Wilson T. Banda, Governor, Reserve Bank of Malawi, H. E. Dr. Kerfalla Yansane, Ambassador of Guinea to the USA/ Former Minister for Mining & Geology, H.E. Dr. Kheswar Jankee, Ambassador of Mauritius in Russia, Dr. Donald Kaberuka, former President of the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Her Royal Highness (HRH), Queen Nozizwe Mulela, Kingdom of Eswatini, among other high level policy makers.

### 3.3 Improved strategic communication capability

- The virtual AERC biannual research workshop held in May/June 2022 and the hybrid meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya in November/December 2022 as well as the AERC senior policy seminar were promoted to the global, Pan-Africa and local media before, throughout and after the events. Leading international media outlets, local newspapers, television, and FM radio stations, besides online channels allocated considerable space and time to the event. Media outlets that promoted these events include the East Africa Business Week, Economic Confidential, CNBC Africa, Vanguard, eNCA, Africa.Com, Tech Economy, Modern Ghana, Xinhua, China, Swahili-CRI, CIO. Other media outlets included The Star; Intellinews; NewKe; Capital FM; Kenya Online News; Taarifa News; Citizen; KSN Media; Kenya Digest;

- Femmehub; Hustle Mag; and Africa Times, Africa Brief; The Times; Nature News; Financial Fortune; and The Sharp Daily.
- The revamped AERC website was launched in June 2022, making a positive step towards improving the institution's online reputation and credibility. The website is AERC's main vehicle for communicating and engaging with a wide range of audiences, thus the refurbished website will offer a more audience-friendly experience, attractively showcase AERC's activities, provide high-quality promotional materials to meet international stakeholder expectations and ultimately increase the average time spent on the website.
- A spokesperson network of 100 speakers from among the members of the AERC network has been built to take advantage of some of the media opportunities in a timely and effective manner. The positive outcome is that the media is yearning to hear the AERC's interpretation of global, regional, and national economic issues and trends.
- Ms. Vivien Talam, who is an AERC Alumni, was interviewed about her CMAAE experience as well as on trending economic issues and how to make an impact on the society. Dr. Saidu Swaray, an AERC Alumni who was also interviewed, is the first and only Sierra Leonean to have benefitted from all the three AERC sponsorship schemes to pursue the Bridge Fellowship Programme, CMAP and CPP. He is currently a Manager at the Bank of Sierra Leone Research Department.
- The AERC has been implementing a strategic Branding and Communication approach to ensure maximum visibility and good reputation through wider recognition and understanding of the operations of the AERC among all identified stakeholders, both across Africa and at the global level. This approach is expected to help build a strong AERC brand by conveying quality and world class practise in economic research, capacity building and policy analysis and formulation.

Table 4: Outcomes Resulting from Implementation of Strategic Theme 3 on Expanding Influence.

End of Strategy	Outcome	Baseline	Actual	Target	Actual
Outcomes	Indicator	2019/20	2021/22	2022/23	April 2022 - March 2023
3.1 Improved co-operation and information sharing on economic policy issues across Africa	3.1(a) Monitoring and Evaluation on impact of policy briefs within policy arena, one country as a pilot (as a measure of impact of policy briefs within the policy arena where AERC policy briefs are disseminated)	5%	18%	20%	25%
3.2 Improved proactive policy engagement and outreach	3.2(a) Number of policymakers participating in AERC's events such as Senior Policy Seminars (Cumulative)	1,300	1,724	1,600	3,414
Intermediate	Outcome	Baseline	Actual	Target	Actual
Outcomes	Indicator	2019/20	2021/22	2022/23	April 2022 - March 2023
3.3 Enhanced platforms for co-operation and information	3.3(a) Number of impactful information sharing tools developed (Cumulative)	5	7	7	11
3.4 Improved strategic communication capability	3.4(a) Number of strategic policy communication programmes developed and used effectively (Cumulative)	1	3		6

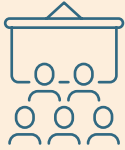


**African Economic  
Research Consortium**

# **CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES**

## CHALLENGES

Three years on, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have demanded for continuous change in the operations of the AERC activities. Some of the challenges experienced are listed below:



The AERC has innovatively established online delivery of its training and research activities. However, the process of doing so has occasioned some delays in implementation. In several cases, the smooth virtual delivery of research and training programmes continues to be hampered by frequent power failures and unstable Internet connectivity across countries.



As the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic ease with gradual lifting of travel restrictions across countries, the AERC has introduced a hybrid modality of hosting workshops. This has introduced a new challenge regarding travel as different countries enforce varied travel restrictions. Additionally, there is an increase in the programme costs due to COVID-19 related expenses, such as the mandatory testing prior to travel.



Funding commitments have been slowed by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the funding institutions as well as the competition of resources.



The Ukrainian crisis has also created a new set of constraints as funds are diverted to cater for the refugee crisis in some of our funding countries.

## OPPORTUNITIES



The demands for studies and policy directions on the impact of war in Ukraine, Special Drawing Rights Reforms and Health pandemic on the SSA economies continue to present the AERC with new avenues of funding and an effective platform for policy influence.



The gradual introduction of a hybrid modality of hosting meetings and workshops presents a greater opportunity to streamline and implement this mode of delivery that helps with reducing the costs of bringing all participants to the meeting location. Secondly, a hybrid modality provides an opportunity for participation for those unable or unwilling to travel to the meeting location.



Developing and packaging on-demand online courses for research technical workshops and collaborative training programmes to be delivered through the AERC e-learning site and Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) platforms for broader reach and cost-effective delivery. This has enhanced AERC's capacity-building efforts and leverage AERC's core strengths as an integrated knowledge organisation.



Using e-learning platforms, the collaborative training model can further be expanded to include partnerships with universities across the globe that offer frontier online courses within the repertoire of AERC training courses. These can be made available to students and faculty within the AERC network. This would enhance both quality and improve the overall sustainability of the Training programme through cost efficiency in line with AERC's 2020-2025 strategic themes.



Implementation of a constituent relationship management (CRM) system across Research, Collaborative graduate training, and policy outreach. The integrated platform will generate a common view of stakeholders, products, and services improving stakeholder engagement facilitating co-creation and mentoring through the open sharing of knowledge and expertise.

# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



In March 2022, the Board approved the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) for 2022/23, the third year of the AERC Strategic Plan, 2020-2025, with programme financial requirements of **US\$10.79 million**. This was to be financed by **US\$8.44 million** projected to be received from various funders. There was an anticipated deficit of **US\$2.35 million**, which was to be funded from funds carried over from 2021/22.



Subsequently, the Secretariat presented to the Executive Committee in July 2022 budget revisions projecting a budget of **US\$11.49 million**, an increase of **6% (US\$0.7m)** from the March 2022 approved level of **US\$10.79 million**. In November 2022, the level of Programme requirements was projected at **US\$12.83 million**, an increase of **19% (US\$2.04m)** from the March 2022 approved level of **US\$10.79 million**. Finally in March 2023, the Secretariat presented a projected budget expenditure of **US\$10.26 million**, a decrease of **5% (US\$0.54m)** from the March 2022 approved level of **US\$10.79 million**., informed by the changes in projected activities for the end of the fiscal year.



At the end of the fiscal year 2022/23 in March, the actual audited expenditure was **US\$ 9.21 million** which represented a 10% decrease from the March 2023 projections of **US\$ 10.26m**. The actual income achieved was **US\$ 7.73 million** which was 18% decrease from the March 2023 projected income of **US\$ 9.44 million**.

This report represents the actual financial out turn based on the audited financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2023



**African Economic  
Research Consortium**

# **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AFRICAN ECONOMIC RESEARCH CONSORTIUM INC.

### REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### *Opinion*

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of African Economic Research Consortium Inc. (the "Consortium") set out on pages 8 to 31 which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2023, the statement of activities and changes in net assets, statement of expenditure per objective, statement of functional expenditure and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Consortium as at March 31, 2023, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

#### *Basis for Opinion*

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Consortium in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Kenya, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### *Other Information*

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises organizational information, report of the directors and statement of director's responsibilities but does not include the financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information; we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### *Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Statements*

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Consortium's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Consortium or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so. The directors are responsible for overseeing the Consortium's financial reporting processes.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

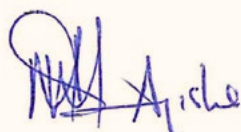
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Consortium's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Consortium's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Consortium to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The engagement partner responsible for the audit resulting in the independent auditor's report is CPA Denis Mugisha - Practicing Certificate Number 2773.



**For and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP**  
**Certified Public Accountants**  
**Nairobi, Kenya**

17 August 2023



## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

	Note	2023 US\$	2022 US\$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and bank balances	5	2,240,759	2,455,940
Short-Term Investments	6	12,651,687	13,633,384
Grants Receivable	7	1,025,060	1,568,723
Other Receivables	8	<u>215,146</u>	<u>154,455</u>
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>16,132,652</u>	<u>17,812,502</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Long-Term Investments	6	13,503,496	13,606,753
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	9	<u>152,310</u>	<u>114,283</u>
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>13,655,806</u>	<u>13,721,036</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>29,788,458</u>	<u>31,533,538</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Accruals		362,524	335,275
Sundry Creditors & Others		142,153	198,994
Withholding Tax and Valued Added Tax Payable		86,020	79,169
Grants payable-Grantees	10	<u>4,265,056</u>	<u>4,505,297</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>4,855,753</u>	<u>5,118,735</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
Unrestricted Donor Net Assets	11	9,404,848	9,182,285
Donor Restricted Net Assets	12	<u>15,527,857</u>	<u>17,232,518</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>24,932,705</u>	<u>26,414,803</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		<u>29,788,458</u>	<u>31,533,538</u>

The financial statements on pages 8 to 31 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on ..... 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Dr. Keith Jefferis  
Treasurer of the Board

Théophile Azomahou  
Executive Director



## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSET FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

	Note	Without Donor Restrictions Reserve US\$	With Donor Restrictions Reserve US\$	Total 2023 US\$	Total 2022 US\$
<b>Support and Revenues</b>					
Grant from Governments	7	3,323,818	709,620	4,033,438	6,619,652
Grants from Foundations	7	-	3,300,492	3,300,492	1,281,891
Grants from international organizations and others	7	300,000	123,178	423,178	825,186
Investment income	13	(60,102)	3,368	(56,734)	267,767
Other Incomes	14	12,620	-	12,620	6,471
		3,576,336	4,136,658	7,712,994	9,000,967
<b>Net Assets Released from Restriction</b>					
Satisfaction of Program Restrictions		5,855,278	(5,855,278)	-	-
Grants forfeited		-	13,959	13,959	126,880
		5,855,278	(5,841,319)	13,959	126,880
<b>Total Support and Revenues</b>		9,431,614	(1,704,661)	7,726,953	9,127,847
<b>Expenditure</b>					
General administration		543,095	-	543,095	706,470
Research Program		4,691,060	-	4,691,060	4,356,250
Communications		919,816	-	919,816	793,031
Masters Program		493,900	-	493,900	531,256
CMAAE Program		1,203,487	-	1,203,487	1,593,172
Doctoral Program		1,357,693	-	1,357,693	1,372,224
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		9,209,051	-	9,209,051	9,352,402
Change in Net Assets		222,563	(1,704,661)	(1,482,098)	(224,555)
Net Assets at the beginning of the year		9,182,285	17,232,518	26,414,803	26,639,358
<b>Net Assets at the end of the year</b>		9,404,848	15,527,857	24,932,705	26,414,803

# ANNEX A:

## AERC RESEARCH AND TRAINING PROGRAMME STATISTICS, 2022/2023

**Table A1:** June and December 2022 Biannual Research Papers and CPP Theses by Gender and Thematic Group

June 2022										
Thematic Group	M	F	Total	FR	WIP	NP	RNP	CPP	Total Papers	RP's
Group A - Poverty, labour markets and income distribution	15	10	25	2	4	8	1	3	18	23
Group B - Macroeconomic policy and growth	23	4	27	7	4	6			17	13
Group C - Finance and resource mobilisation	23	2	25	5	4	7			16	16
Group D - Production, trade, and economic integration	12	4	16	4	3	5			12	14
Group E - Agriculture, climate change & natural resource management	11	6	17	4	1	10	1	1	17	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>81</b>
December 2022										
Thematic Group	M	F	Total	FR	WIP	NP	RNP	CPP	Total Papers	RP's
Group A - Poverty, labour markets and income distribution	10	11	21	4	4	4	2	3	17	21
Group B - Macroeconomic policy and growth	21	8	29	2	-	11	1	2	16	18
Group C - Finance and resource mobilisation	12	12	24	3	6	6	1	-	16	15
Group D - Production, trade, and economic integration	13	6	19	4	3	6	-	3	16	14
Group E - Agriculture, climate change & natural resource management	8	10	18	-	3	8	2	2	15	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>87</b>

Key: NP = new proposal; RNP = revised new proposal; WIP = work in progress; FR = final report; CPP = PhD thesis.

**Table A2:** AERC 56th Plenary Session, 30 May 2022 – Virtual session

Sessions	Title of paper/activity	Speakers
Opening Session	Welcome remarks	Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u, Executive Director, AERC
	Official opening and keynote speech 'Political distortions and economic development'	Prof. Leonard Wantchekon, Princeton University
	Chair	Prof. Finn Tarp, University of Copenhagen
Presentation 1	Poverty reduction through growth, redistribution, and social inclusion in times of COVID-19 pandemic in Africa: the underlying mechanisms	Prof. Germano Mwabu, University of Nairobi, Kenya Prof. Carlos Gradín, Research Fellow UNU-WIDER
	Discussant	
Presentation 2	Revisiting poverty trends and the role of social protection systems in Africa during the COVID-19 pandemic	Dr. Kibrom Abay, Country Program Leader and Research Fellow, IFPRI Prof. Björn Nilsson, Institut de recherche pour le Développement (IRD)
	Discussant	
Presentation 3	The labour market impact of COVID-19 lockdowns: Evidence from Ghana	Dr. Simone Schotte, Research Associate, UNUWIDER Prof. Anthony Wambugu, University of Nairobi
	Discussant	
Presentation 4	What can Africa learn from a better understanding of the interaction among growth, inequality, and poverty in its fight against the COVID-19 pandemic?	Prof. Emeritus Erik Thorbecke, Cornell University Dr. Christian Ebeke, Senior Economists, IMF
	Discussant	

**Table A3:** AERC 57th Plenary Session, 27 November 2022 – Hybrid session

Sessions	Title of paper/activity	Speakers
Opening Session	Welcome remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prof. Théophile Azomahou, Ag. Executive Director, Ag. Director of Research and Director of Training, AERC</li> <li>Prof. Ernest Aryeetey, Chair of the Board, AERC</li> <li>Hon. Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u, Outgoing Executive Director, AERC and Cabinet Secretary, National Treasury and Planning, Government of Kenya</li> </ul>
	Keynote speech 'Prof. Benno Ndulu Memorial Lecture'	Prof. Stephen O'Connell, Gil and Frank Mustin Professor of Economics, Swarthmore College, USA
	Resource Abundance and the Inclusive Growth Challenge in Africa	
Presentation 1	The Impact of the War in Ukraine on the Recovery and Resilience of African Economies	Dr. Hanan Morsy, Deputy Executive Secretary and Chief Economist, UNECA, Addis Ababa
Presentation 2	Development Narratives and the Political Economy of Development in sub-Saharan Africa.	Prof. Stefan Dercon, Director, Center for the Study of African Economies and Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford, England
Presentation 3	Accelerating climate action and sustainable development in Africa: meeting the financing challenge	Dr. Amar Bhattacharya, Senior Fellow Brookings Institution, Washington DC, USA
Presentation 4	External Shocks and Fiscal Space for Climate-Resilient Development in sub-Saharan Africa	Prof. Kevin Gallagher, Director, Global Policy Center, Boston University, USA.

**Table A4:** Distribution by Nationality and Gender of Participants in the Master Class on Advanced Research Methods June 13-24, 2022

No	Nationality	Number of Participants	Female	Male
1	Nigeria	6	1	5
2	DR Congo	3	1	2
3	Togo	1	1	
4	Burkina Faso	1	1	
5	Ethiopia	1		1
6	Kenya	8	5	3
7	Uganda	2	1	1
8	Tanzania	2	1	1
		<b>24</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>

**Table A5:** Distribution by Nationality and Gender of Participants from the BMGF Human Capital Development (HCD Thematic) workshop, November 2022

No	Nationality	Number of Participants	Female	Male
1	Benin	1	1	
2	Cameroon	2		2
3	Ethiopia	2		2
4	Kenya	1	1	
5	Nigeria	3	1	2
6	Senegal	1		1
7	Togo	1		1
8	Turkey	1		1
9	Zimbabwe	1		1
		<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>

**Table A6:** Structural Transformation of African Agriculture and Rural Spaces (STAARS) Research Fellows 2022

	Name	Nationality	University
1	Taye Tesfaye Fisiha	Ethiopia	Cornell University
2	Gowo Chirwa	Malawi	Cornell University
3	Nneka Esther Osadolor	Nigeria	Cornell University
4	Gildas Magbonde	South Africa	University of Sussex
5	John Maara	Kenya	University of Sussex
6	Muhammed Usman	Ethiopia	University of Sussex

**Table A7: Institutional Attachments**

Ref:	Name	Host Institution	Proposed Dates for attachment
RI18518	Prof. Yelwa Mohammed	Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER) in Nigeria	March 1-May 31 2023
RI18519	Dr. Adewole Adeolu Musiliu	Nigerian Institute for Social and Economic Research (NISER)	3 April -June 30 2023
RI22520	Ms. Mafang Lionie	Consortium pour la Recherche Economique et Sociale (CRES) in Senegal	1 April -June 30 2023
RI18521	Dr. Ololade Grace Adewole	Consortium pour la Recherche Economique et Sociale (CRES) in Senegal	5th Jan-April 30 2023
RI18522	Bonface Munene Mujuri	Policy Studies Institute (PSI) in Ethiopia	April -June 30 2023
RI18523	Dr. Anthony Orji	Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) in Uganda	1 April -June 30 2023
RI18524	John Murimi Njoka	Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) in Uganda	March 1-May 31 2023
RI18525	Dr. Moses Kinyanjui Muriithi	Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) in Uganda	April 16-June 16 2023
RI18526	Melap Sitati	Policy Studies Institute (PSI) in Ethiopia	21 February -May 21 2023
RI22527	Paul Kuria Kamau	Centre de Recherche pour le Développement (CRD) in Madagascar	April 1-June 30 2023

**Table A8: CMAP JFE distribution of students by gender and university (2015-2022)**

No.	University	Gender		Total 2022	Female %							
		Female	Male		2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
1	Addis Ababa	-	-	-	-	11.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Botswana	12	7	19	63.2	46.2	66.7	55.6	33.3	66.7	77.8	80.0
3	Cape Coast	2	17	19	10.5	8.3	31.3	23.1	41.7	10.0	8.3	6.7
4	Makerere	2	3	5	40.0	40.0	55.6	25.0	25.0	50.0	10	16.7
5	Malawi	5	6	11	45.5	30.0	30.0	0.0	60.0	58.3	41.7	46.7
6	Mauritius	-	-	-	-	55.6	-	-	85.7	61.5	80	42.9
7	Namibia	2	6	8	25.0	46.2	55.6	40.0	80.0	50.0	40	100.0
8	Zimbabwe	3	1	4	75.0	40.0	20.0	30.0	25.0	20.0	20	25.0
9	Kwame Nkrumah	-	-	-	-	22.2	23.1	-	-	-	-	-
10	Lesotho	8	11	19	42.1	45.5	52.4	-	-	-	-	-
11	Zambia	2	8	10	25.0	31.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>37.9</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>38.4</b>	<b>42.7</b>

**Table A9: CMAAE SFSE distribution of students by gender and university (2017-2022)**

No.	University	Gender		Total 2022	Female %					
		Female	Male		2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
1	Egerton	2	3	5	40.0	77.8	62.5	58.33	45.45	63.64
2	Haramaya	1	6	7	14.3	14.3	20.0	18.18	22.22	57.14
3	LUANAR	6	17	23	26.1	28.6	57.9	41.67	36.36	-
4	Makerere	5	13	18	27.8	9.1	23.5	-	-	75.00
5	Sokoine	3	4	7	42.9	39.1	71.4	58.33	38.89	36.36
6	Nairobi	12	9	21	57.1	44.4	55.2	30.43	56.25	50.00
7	Pretoria	5	1	6	83.3	30.0	35.7	20.00	20.00	20.00
8	Zimbabwe	5	4	9	55.6	27.3	15.4	33.33	50.00	16.67
	<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>40.6</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>42.7</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>39.43</b>

**Table A10:** CPP JFE 2022 distribution of students by gender and university

	University	Gender		Totals	Female %	Male %
		Female	Male			
1	Cape Coast	0	4	4	0.0	100.0
2	Cape Town	0	2	2	0.0	100.0
3	Benin	1	0	1	100.0	0.0
4	Dar es Salaam	2	7	9	22.2	77.8
5	Ibadan	2	1	3	66.7	33.3
6	Nairobi	1	0	1	100.0	0.0
7	Witwatersrand	1	0	1	100.0	0.0
8	Yaoundé II	1	3	4	25.0	75.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>68.0</b>

**Table A11:** List of CPP proposals and best chapter presented at the June and December 2022 biannual research workshops

Name of Student	Gender	Nationality	Degree-Awarding University	Title of Paper	
<b>June 2022</b>					
Zeh Inhes Perolde	F	Cameroon	Yaoundé II, Cameroon	Facteurs explicatifs de la discrimination de genre dans l'offre salariale au Cameroun	Best Chapter Paper
Lydia Cheruto Pkaremba	F	Kenya	Nairobi, Kenya	Contraceptive Use Among Homeless Women in Kenya: A Case of Nairobi County	Best Chapter
Cedric Jean Oyono	M	Cameroon	Yaoundé II, Cameroon	Institutions and Gender Gap in Entrepreneurial Entry in Developing Countries	Best Chapter
Solomon Aboagye	M	Ghana	Cape Town	Assessing the impact of access to electricity on the profit of non-farm enterprises beyond connections	Best Chapter
<b>December 2022</b>					
Letsie Mohatonyane	M	Lesotho	Witwatersrand, South Africa	Household Balance Sheet Structures and Position on the Wealth Distribution	Best Chapter Paper
Liberatus Robert	M	Tanzania	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	Understanding Sluggishness of Poverty Reduction in Tanzania	Proposal
Stephen Adusei	M	Ghana	Kwame Nkrumah University, Ghana	Studies on Informality, Institutions and Economic Performance in sub-Saharan Africa	Proposal
Dopé Madeleine Adjor	F	Togo	Yaoundé II, Cameroon	Self-Employment, Vulnerability to Poverty and Self-Reported Health in Rural Togo	Proposal
Samuel Mukuka Mulenga	M	Zambia	Zambia	Tax Compliance in Zambia: Evidence from a quasi – experimental econometric approach	Proposal
Raphael Aderopo Adediyin	M	Nigeria	Benin, Nigeria	Insurgency, Macroeconomic Instability and Agricultural Commodity Exports in Emerging Markets: A Case of sub-Saharan Africa	Proposal
Michael Tutu Boadu	M	Ghana	Cape Coast, Ghana	Essays on International Trade and Environment in sub-Saharan Africa	Proposal
Mgeni E. Msafiri	F	Tanzania	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	Economic Diplomacy, Foreign Direct Investment and Exports Dynamics: Empirical Evidence for the Case of Tanzania	Proposal
Francis Ainoo	M	Ghana	Cape Coast, Ghana	Preferences and Evaluation of Fish Stock Recovery in Ghana	Proposal
Gloria Benedict Mapunda	F	Tanzania	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	Climate Variability and Implication of Non-Farm Participation in Rural Tanzania	Proposal



**Table A12:** Distribution by Nationality and Gender of Participants from the Proposal Development Workshop, June 13 - 14, 2022

Title	Author	Series
La Politique de Gratuité des Soins de Santé Maternelle et Infantile au Burkina Faso: Effets et Pérennité de l'Intervention	Patrick Ilboudo and Alain Siri	HC-001
Assurance Maladie et État de Santé au Kenya : Vers une Couverture Sanitaire Universelle	Mercy Mugo	HC-002
Effets Directs et Indirects de l'Agriculture sur la Santé et la Nutrition au Kenya : Cadres, Méthodes et Preuves	Germano Mwabu Anthony Wambugu	HC-003
Les Dépenses de Santé Publique Agissent-Elles sur la Santé Maternelle et Infantile à Madagascar ?	Andrianantoandro VoahiranaTantely, Razakamanana Marilys Victoire et Ramiandrisoa Tiarinisaina Olivier	HC-004
Frais d'Utilisation, Accès et Délai d'Attente au Nigeria	Noah Olasehinde, Uche Abamba Osakede Abdulfatai Adekunle Adedeji	HC-005
Révision des Déterminants et de l'Impact des Dépenses de Santé à la Charge des Ménages au Soudan	Mohammed Elhaj Mustafa Ali Ebaidalla Mahjoub Ebaidalla	HC-006
Dans Quelle Mesure les Sources de Financement Publiques et Privées Affectent-Elles l'Accès et la Qualité des Soins de Santé? Expériences du Système de Santé Ougandais	Judith Kabajulizi, Qiaoyuan Lin et Fred Matovu	HC-007

**Table A13:** Distribution by Nationality of Women Participants in the Proposal Development Workshop held on 13-14 June 2022

	Country	Total
1	Kenya	2
2	Senegal	1
3	Benin	4
4	Burkina Faso	4
5	Cameroon	4
6	Malawi	2
7	Nigeria	3
8	Tanzania	1
9	Madagascar	6
10	Mali	1
11	Congo, Brazaville	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>

**Table A14:** Distribution by Nationality of Fragile and Post Conflict States Participants in the Proposal Development Workshops 13-14 June 2022

	Nationality	Female	Male	Total
1	Sudan		1	1
2	Somalia	1		1
3	Congo		2	2
4	Senegal	1		1
5	Burkina Faso	1		1
6	Cote d'Ivoire		1	1
7	Guinea		1	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>

# ANNEX B:

## AERC PUBLICATIONS

**Table B1: AERC Research Papers Series**

Title	Author	Series/Link
Technology Adoption and Access to Credit in Tanzania: A Spatial Econometric Analysis	Ariane Amin, Eric Dago, Erick Kere and Thierry Yogo	Research Paper 519
The role of mobile money in international remittances: Evidence from sub-Saharan Africa	Benard Kipyegon Kirui	Research Paper 518 November 2022
How Does Adoption of Mobile Money Technology Affect Child Labour and School Enrolment?	Joseph B. Ajefu and Falecia Massack	Research Paper 517 October 2022
Financial Openness and Remittances: Evidence from sub-Saharan Africa	Ekpeno L. Effiong and Emmanuel E. Asuquo	Research Paper 516 October 2022
A Re-Evaluation of Fiscal Cyclicity in WAEMU Countries	Bezeme Yves Valéry Franck	Research Paper 515 September 2022
The Effect of Fertility on Women's Labour Supply in West Africa	M. Kenneth C. Kponou	Research Paper 514 August 2022
The role of energy price shocks in the transmission of monetary policy in an inflation targeting country: The case of Ghana	Simon K. Harvey and Bernard J. Walley	Research Paper 513 July 2022
Quality of Employment in the Private Sector in Côte d'Ivoire	Antoine N'Gratier	Research Paper 512 July 2022
Socio-Economic Status and Children's Schooling Outcomes in Mozambique	Munguni Bongai	Research Paper 511 July 2022
The FDI-Growth Nexus: A Comparative Analysis of Resource-Rich and Resource-Scarce African Economies	Addis Yimer	Research Paper 510 July 2022
Symmetric and Asymmetric Responses of Consumer Prices Index Inflation to Exchange Rates in Nigeria	Perekunah B. Eregba	Research Paper 509 June 2022
Spatial Analysis of Climate Effect on Agriculture: Evidence from Smallholder Farmers in Côte d'Ivoire	Fabrice Esse Ochou & Pierre Dignakouho Ouattara	Research Paper 508 June 2022
Maternal Labour Force Participation in Cameroon: The Role of Children's Health	Nchinda Pechue Melie & Mbu Daniel Tambi	Research Paper 507 June 2022
Poverty in Togo between 2006 and 2011: Accounting for Differences in Poverty Rates and the Role of Economic Growth	Golo Yao Nukunu	Research Paper 506 June 2022
What Explains Provisioning Behaviour in the Banking Industry? Evidence from an Emerging Economy	Peter Muriu	Research Paper 505 June 2022
Political Instability and Firm Performance in the Democratic Republic of Congo	Benjamin Kanze Muhoza and Socrates Kraid Majune	Research Paper 504 June 2022
Pass-Through from Policy Rate to Retail Interest Rates in Zambia	Cleopatra Ngoma and Cosam Chanda	Research Paper 503 June 2022
Recapitalisation and Competition of Commercial Banks: Evidence from Selected sub-Saharan African Countries	Marcellus Ifeanyi Attama and Denis Nfor Yuni	Research Paper 502 June 2022
Crop Commercialisation and Nutrient Intake Among Farming Households in Uganda	Nicholas Kilimani Faisal Buyinza & Madina Guloba	Research Paper 501 June 2022
Export Efficiency and Diversification in Ghana	Camara K. Obeng	Research Paper 500 May 2022
Climate Change and Agricultural Trade in sub-Saharan Africa	Godfrey Mahofa	Research Paper 499 May 2022

Title	Author	Series/Link
Understanding the Dynamics of the Fiscal Deficit and Economic Performance in Zimbabwe	William Kavila	Research Paper 498 April 2022
Natural Resources and Economic Growth in sub-Saharan Africa: Does Corruption Matter?	Tsopmo, Pierre Christian Messy, Martin Ambassa	Research paper 497 April 2022
The Influence of Women Empowerment on Child Nutrition in Rural Nigeria	M.B., Salawu, K.K, Salman Rufai, A.M & I., Ogunniyi	Research paper 496 March 2022
Gender and Firms' Performance in Cameroon	Steve Douanla Meli & Clément Nodem Meli	Research paper 495 March 2022
Formalisation of companies in Senegal, Benin, and Burkina Faso: An approach by segmenting informal entrepreneurs.	Abdou Khadre Dieng	Research Paper 494

**Table B2:** Re-Examining the Growth, Poverty, Inequality and Redistribution (Working Paper)

Title	Author	Series
Re-Examining The Growth, Poverty, Inequality and Redistribution Relationships in Africa	Miguel Niño-Zarazúa Francesca Scaturro Vanesa Jordá and Finn Tarp	GPRI-001

**Table B3:** Inclusive Finance for Fragile and Post Conflict States (Working Papers)

Title	Author	Series
Gendered Effects of Climate Shock, Formal and Informal Financial Institutions, and Welfare in Post-Conflict Somalia	Hiwot Mesfin and Musa Hasen Ahmed	IF-009
Does Mobile Money Adoption and Credit Access Improve Innovation and Performance of Enterprises in Sierra Leone?	Gbetoton Nadege Djossou, Jacob Novignon and James Fomba Sandy	IF-008
Inclusive Finance and the Welfare of Women and the Youths in Fragile States: Evidence from Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of Congo	Lwanga Elizabeth Nanziri, Martin Limbikani Mwale and Tony Mwenda Kamninga	IF-007
Financial Inclusion, Gender Gaps and Agricultural Productivity in Mali	Babajide Fowowe	IF-006
Impact of Financial Inclusion on Household Welfare in Liberia: A Gendered Perspective	Francis F.B. Mulbah, Dennis E. Olumeh, Vida Mantey and Billy Okemer Ipara	IF-005
The Impacts of Access to Finance on Household Welfare: A Mixed Methods Approach for Women and the Youth in The Gambia	Laston Petro Manja and Isatou A. Badjie	IF-004
Informality and Financing of Small and Medium Enterprises in Eswatini	Ajetomobi Joshua Olusegun, Dlamini Sotja Graham, Dlamini Daniel Vusanani and Dlamini Bongiwe Porrie	IF-003

**Table B4: Inclusive Finance for Fragile and Post Conflict States (Policy Briefs)**

Title	Author	Series
Gender Perspective in Building Resilience Through Financial Inclusion	Hiwot Mesfin and Musa Hasen Ahmed	IF-009
Financial Inclusion for Sustainable Innovation and Performance of Enterprises in Sierra Leone	Gbetoton Nadège Djossou, Jacob Novignon and James Fomba Sandy	IF-008
Targeted Household Credit Reduces School Dropout for Girls in Fragile States	Lwanga Elizabeth Nanziri, Martin Limbikani Mwale and Tony Mwenda Kamninga	IF-007
Boosting Agricultural Productivity in Mali Through Financial Inclusion and Gender Equality	Babajide Fowowe	IF-006
Gender and Household Welfare Through Financial Inclusion in Liberia	Francis F.B. Mulbah, Dennis E. Olumeh, Vida Mantey and Billy Okemer Ipara	IF-005
Improved Welfare for Women and Youths in Gambia Through Access to Finance	Laston Petro Manja and Isatou A. Badjie	IF-004
Sustainable Financial Inclusion for Women owned Firms in Eswatini	Ajetomobi Joshua Olusegun, Dlamini Sotja Graham, Dlamini Daniel Vusanani and Dlamini Bongiwe Porrie	IF-003
Financial Exclusion in Central African Republic	France Jésus Jackson Yoko-Mokobongo, Nerry Urbain Cyrille Mballa, Alain Douath Koyongozo, Georgette Dacko and Michael Emmanuel Gonessa	IF-002
Improving Women's Welfare in Burundi through Inclusive Finance	Jonathan Atta-Aidoo, Ester Cosmas Matthew, Abdulkarim Onah Saleh and Saidi Bizoza	IF-001

**Table B5: Global Value Chain (GVC) French Project Working Papers**

Title	Author	Series
Participation à la Chaîne de Valeur Mondiale et Innovation: Preuves au Niveau des Entreprises de l'Afrique	Elvis K. Avenyo, Emmanuel B. Mensah, Gideon Ndubuisi et Daniel Sakyi	GVC-012
Une Analyse Macro et Micro du Commerce en Chaîne de Valeur en Afrique	Angella Faith Montfaucon, Natnael Simachew Nigatu et Socrates Majune	GVC-011
L'essor de la Participation aux Chaînes de Valeur Mondiales: Éléments Catalyseurs et Impacts Macroéconomiques en Afrique Subsaharienne	Christian Ebeke	GVC-010
Le Commerce des Services en Afrique: Structure et Croissance	Andrea Ariu et Laura Ogliari	GVC-008
Accord Commercial Régional Approfondi Comme Moteur des Chaînes de Valeur Mondiales en Afrique: Le Cas de la Région de la CEDEAO	Afi Balaki et Essotanam Mamba	GVC-006
Connectivité Numérique et Mise à Niveau des Exportations: l'Afrique sub-Saharienne Arrive-t-elle à Rattraper son Retard?	Joël Cariolle et Camille da Piedade	GVC-005
Commerce et Participation à la Chaîne de Valeur: Entreprises Nationales et Retombées des IDE en Afrique	Bernard Hoekman et Marco Sanfilippo	GVC-004
Le Paysage des Émissions de CO2 à Travers l'Afrique: Une Perspective Comparative	Jaime de Melo et Jean-Marc Solleder	GVC-003
Participation aux Chaînes de Valeur Mondiales et Pollution Environnementale dans les Pays en Voie de Développement: La Numérisation est-elle Importante?	Essossinam Ali, Hodabalo Bataka, Nadège Essossolim Awade et Nalewazou Neme Braly	GVC-002
Intégration Régionale et Services dans les Chaînes de Valeur Africaines: Rétrospective et Perspective	Ben Shepherd	GVC-001

**Table B6: AERC-IDRC-OXFAM (Impact of COVID-19 on Livelihoods Working Papers)**

Title	Author	Series
Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on Rural Livelihoods in Zambia: A Gender and Wellbeing Perspective	Simon Manda	IDRC/OXFAM-006
Labour Market and Unpaid Childcare Trajectories by Gender During the COVID-19 pandemic in South Africa: Lessons for Policy	Jacqueline Mosomi and Amy Thornton	IDRC/OXFAM-005
Gender Differentials in Access to Medical Services During COVID-19 Lockdown: Insights from Nigeria	Ololade G. Adewole and Kehinde O. Omotoso	IDRC/OXFAM-004
Gendered Socioeconomic and Health Effects of COVID-19 in Informal Settlements in Kenya	George K. Kosimbei, Jacob O. Omolo, Gladys J. Rono, Peter K. Musyoka and Perez A. Onono	IDRC/OXFAM-003
Leaving No Women Behind: Evaluating the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Livelihood Outcomes and Inequities in Access to Health Services and Necessities in Kenya and Ethiopia	Marshall Makate and Clifton Makate	IDRC/OXFAM-002
Gendered Impacts of COVID-19 on Income, Coping Strategies and Food Stockpiling: The Case of Ethiopia	Sindu W. Kebede, Admasu A. Maruta and Nigatu R. Geda	IDRC/OXFAM-001

**Table B7: WIDER Working Paper 2022/101**

Title	Author	Series
Fintech in sub-Saharan Africa	Njuguna Ndung'u	WIDER Working Paper 2022/101

**Table B8: Climate Change and Economic Development in Africa (CCEDA Policy Briefs)**

Title	Author	Series
Climate change impact on Meteorological hazards in the Volta River Basin, West Africa	Andrew Manoba Limantol, Isaac Larbi and Sam-Quarcoo Dotse	CCEDA-014
Climate Variability, Temporal Migration and Welfare among Agricultural Households in Tanzania	Martin J. Chegere and Theresia L. Mrosso	CCEDA-013
Anthropogenic Land Use Change and Adoption of Climate Smart Agriculture in sub-Saharan Africa	Sarah Tione	CCEDA-012
Understanding Gender Differences on the Choices of a Portfolio of Climate-smart Agricultural Practices in sub-Saharan Africa	Hailemariam Teklewold	CCEDA-011
The Transition to Renewable Energy in sub-Saharan Africa	Mbaye Diene	CCEDA-010
Climate Change and Economic Development in Africa	Nicholas Ngepah and Regina Conselho Mwiinga	CCEDA-009
The Necessity to Account for Air Quality in Climate Change Strategies in Africa	Sokhna Mbathio Diallo and Abdoulaye Seck	CCEDA-008
Do Smallholder Farmers in Heterogeneous Settings in Malawi Use Commercial Input Purchasing to Adapt to Recurrent Weather Shocks?	Clifton Makate and Marshall Makate	CCEDA-007
Sustainable Scaling of Climate Smart Agricultural Technologies and Practices in Africa: The Case of Kenya, Nigeria and Malawi	Austin T. Phiri, Sarah Edore Edewor, Miriam Karwitha Charimbu and Elias Gaveta	CCEDA-006
Extreme Climate Events and Conflicts in the G5 Sahel Countries	Isaac Larbi	CCEDA-005
Climate-Smart Agriculture, Welfare, and Income Risk Management in Ethiopia	Eleni Yitbarek and Wondimagegn Tesfaye	CCEDA-004
Climate Change Impacts on Food and Overall Inflation	Maureen Odongo	CCEDA-003
Drought Impacts on Crops Sector and Adaptation Options in Burkina Faso: A Gender Focused Computable General Equilibrium Analysis	Boureima Sawadogo	CCEDA-002

**Table B9: Global Value Chain (GVC) Project Working Papers**

Title	Author	Series
Regional Integration and Services in African Value Chains: Retrospect and Prospect	Ben Shepherd	GVC-001
Global Value Chains Participation and Environmental Pollution in Developing Countries: Does Digitalisation Matter?	Essossinam Ali, Hodabalo Bataka, Nadege Essossolim Awade and Nalewazou Neme Braly	GVC-002
The Landscape of CO2 Emissions Across Africa: A Comparative Perspective	Jaime de Melo and Jean-Marc Solleder	GVC-003
Trade and Value Chain Participation: Domestic Firms and FDI Spillovers in Africa	Bernard Hoekman and Marco Sanfilippo	GVC-004
Digital Connectedness and Exports Upgrading: Is sub-Saharan Africa Catching Up?	Joël Cariolle and Camille da Piedade	GVC-005
Deep Regional Trade Agreement as a Driver for Global Value Chains in Africa: The Case of ECOWAS Region	Afi Balaki and Essotanam Mamba	GVC-006
Integration of African Countries in Regional and Global Value Chains: Static and Dynamic Patterns	Emmanuel B. Mensah and Johannes Van Biesebroeck	GVC-007
Services Trade in Africa: Structure and Growth	Andrea Ariu and Laura Ogliari	GVC-008
African Firms in Global Value Chains: What Can We Learn from Firm-Level Data in Cameroon and Côte d'Ivoire?	Romarc Coulibaly, Heddie Moreno, Akiko Suwa-Eisenmann, and Nouhoum Traore	GVC-009
Surges in Participation in Global Value Chains: Drivers and Macroeconomic Impacts in sub-Saharan Africa	Christian Ebeke	GVC-010
A Macro and Micro Analysis of Value Chain Trade in Africa	Angella Faith Montfaucon, Natnael Simachew Nigatu and Socrates Majune	GVC-011
Global Value Chain Participation and Innovation: Firm-Level Evidence from Africa	Elvis K. Avenyo, Emmanuel B. Mensah, Gideon Ndubuisi and Daniel Sakyi	GVC-012

**Table B10: Growth Sectors for Youth Employment (GSYE) Working papers**

Title	Author	Series
Supporting Jobs for Young Women and Men in Africa: A Framework for Country Level Analysis	Dirk Willem te Velde	GSYE-001
Using Output and Labour Multipliers to Target Incentives for Fast Economic Recovery: The Cases of Ethiopia and Kenya	Max Mendez-Parra	GSYE-002
Potential Sectors for Greater Employment Generation in the MENA Region: The Case of Tunisia and Egypt	Chahir Zaki	GSYE-003
Growth Sectors, Youth and Employment: Challenges and Way Forward: A Synthesis Paper of Ethiopia, Mali and Nigeria Country Case Studies	Jacob Omolo	GSYE-004
Income and Work for Young Men and Women in Africa: A Political Economy and Social Equity Approach to the Employment Potential of Specific Sectors and sub-Sectors in African Economies	John Mutenyo	GSYE-005
Work and Income for Young Men and Women in Africa: Employment Potential of Specific Sectors and sub-Sectors in African Economies: A synthesis	Rolph van der Hoeven	GSYE-006
Identifying Activities for Greater Employment Generation in Egypt: An Input-Output Analysis	Iman Al-Ayouty	GSYE-007
The Challenge of Unemployment and Youth Unemployment amid Fast Economic Growth in Ethiopia	Alemayehu Geda	GSYE-008
Employment Creation Potential for Youth in the Kenyan Economy	Eldah Onsomu, Boaz Munga, Violet Nyabaro and Bonface Munene	GSYE-009
The Potential for Women and Youth Employment in Mali's Economic Sectors	Ousmane Z. Traoré, Lansine Sountoura and Aoua Saran Dembélé	GSYE-010
Sectoral Development: Assessing the Conditions that Drive Youth Employment in Key Sectors of the Nigerian Economy	Sarah Edore Edewor and Genesis Bhenda Kolie	GSYE-011
Support Programmes for Youth Employment and Employability in the Job Sectors in Senegal	Tsambou André Dumas, Thierno Malick Diallo and Fomba Kanga Benjamin	GSYE-012
Structural Change, Productivity and Job Creation: Evidence from Tunisia	Mohamed Amara, Faycel Zidi and Hela Jeddi	GSYE-013
Work and Income for Young Men and Women in Africa: The Case of Uganda	John Mutenyo, Faisal Buyinza, Vincent F. Ssenono and Wilson Asiimwe	GSYE-014
<b>Policy Briefs</b>		
Supporting Jobs for Young Women and Men in Africa: A Framework for Country-Level Analysis	Dirk Willem te Velde (ODI)	GSYE009
Structural Change, Productivity, and Jobs Creation: Evidence from Tunisia	Mohamed Amara, Faycel Zidi and Hela Jeddi	GSYE008
Programmes d'Appui à l'Emploi et Employabilité des Jeunes dans les Secteurs de Croissance au Sénégal	Tsambou André Dumas, Thierno Malick Diallo Et Fomba Kanga Benjamin	GSYE007
Le Potentiel d'Emploi des Femmes et Jeunes dans les Secteurs et Branches d'Activités Économiques au Mali	Ousmane Z Traoré, Lansine Sountoura Et Aoua Saran Dembélé	GSYE006
Travail et Revenus pour les Jeunes Hommes et Femmes en Afrique: Le Cas de l'Ouganda	John Mutenyo, Faisal Buyinza, Vincent, F. Ssenono Et Wilson Asiimwe	GSYE005
Quels sont les Secteurs Économiques qui Favorisent l'Emploi des Jeunes au Nigeria?	Sarah Edore Edewor Et Genesis Bhenda Kolie	GSYE004
Pourquoi une Approche Multisectorielle est Importante pour la Création D'emplois au Kenya	Eldah Nyamoita Onsomu, Boaz Omori Munga Et Bonface Munene Mujuri	GSYE003
Comment Cibler les Industries en Vue de Promouvoir la Création d'Emplois Pour les Jeunes	Iman Al-Ayouty	GSYE002
Le Défi du Chômage et le Chômage Chez les Jeunes dans un Contexte de Croissance Économique Rapide en Éthiopie	Alemayehu Geda	GSYE001

**Table B11: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) Working Papers**

Title	Author	Series
Determinants and Effects of Rural Households' Participation in Land Markets on Agricultural Output and Food Security in Siaya County, Kenya	David Jakinda Otieno	GIZ-001
Land Inequality, Gender Land Disparity and Poverty in Rural Zimbabwe	Carren Pindiriri and Benson Zwizwai	GIZ-002

**Table B12: Healthcare Financing and COVID-19 in Africa Working Papers**

Title	Author	Series
La Politique de Gratuité des Soins de Santé Maternelle et Infantile au Burkina Faso: Effets et Pérennité de l'Intervention	Patrick Ilboudo and Alain Siri	HC-001
Assurance Maladie et État de Santé au Kenya : Vers une Couverture Sanitaire Universelle	Mercy Mugo	HC-002
Effets Directs et Indirects de l'Agriculture sur la Santé et la Nutrition au Kenya : Cadres, Méthodes et Preuves	Germano Mwabu Anthony Wambugu	HC-003
Les Dépenses de Santé Publique Agissent-Elles sur la Santé Maternelle et Infantile à Madagascar ?	Andrianantoandro VoahiranaTantely, Razakamanana Marilys Victoire et Ramiandrisoa Tiarinisaina Olivier	HC-004
Frais d'Utilisation, Accès et Délai d'Attente au Nigeria	Noah Olasehinde, Uche Abamba Osakede Abdulfatai Adekunle Adedeji	HC-005
Révision des Déterminants et de l'Impact des Dépenses de Santé à la Charge des Ménages au Soudan	Mohammed Elhaj Mustafa Ali Ebaidalla Mahjoub Ebaidalla	HC-006
Dans Quelle Mesure les Sources de Financement Publiques et Privées Affectent-Elles l'Accès et la Qualité des Soins de Santé? Expériences du Système de Santé Ougandais	Judith Kabajulizi, Qiaoyuan Lin et Fred Matovu	HC-007

**Table B13: AERC-OXFAM Covid-19 & Livelihoods Project (Policy Briefs)**

Title	Author	Series
Gendered Impacts of COVID-19 on Income	Sindu W. Kebede, Admasu A. Maruta and Nigatu R. Geda	IDRC/OXFAM-001
COVID-19, Livelihoods, and Inequality: Poor Female Headed Families Fare Worse in Kenya and Ethiopia	Marshall Makate and Clifton Makate	IDRC/OXFAM-002
Gendered Socio-economic and Health Effects of COVID-19 in Informal Settlements in Kenya	George K. Kosimbei, Jacob O. Omolo, Gladys J. Rono, Peter K. Musyoka and Perez A. Onono	IDRC/OXFAM-003
COVID-19 and Gendered Access to Medical Services in Nigeria	Ololade Grace Adewole and Kehinde Oluwaseun Omotoso	IDRC/OXFAM-004
Labour Market and Unpaid Childcare Trajectories by Gender During the COVID-19 pandemic in South Africa: Lessons for Policy	Jacqueline Mosomi and Amy Thornton	IDRC/OXFAM-005
Mainstreaming Gender for Enhanced COVID-19 Rural Livelihood Recovery in Zambia	Simon Manda	IDRC/OXFAM-006

**Table B14: Disruptive Technology Project Policy Briefs**

Title	Author	Series
The Growth Effect of Disruptive Technology in Ethiopia: With a Case Study of Digitalisation in the Financial Sector	Alemayehu Geda	DT-001
Role of Disruptive Technologies in Enhancing Agricultural Productivity and Economic Performance in Kenya	Eldah Onsomu, Boaz Munga, Boniface Munene, John Macharia and Violet Nyabaro	DT-002
Impact of Digital Technology Adoption on Employment in Senegal	Thierno Malick Diallo, Tsambou André Dumas, and Fomba Kanga Benjamin	DT-003
Digital Technology Adoption and Performance in South African Manufacturing Firms: Early Evidence for Policy	Elvis Korku Avenyo and Jason F. Bell	DT-004
Disruptive Technologies in South Africa and sub-Saharan Africa: The Case of Mobile Telecommunications Services	Prof. Lukasz Grzybowski	DT-005

**Table B15: Data Governance in Africa (Policy Briefs)**

Title	Author	Series
A Prototype Data Governance Framework for Africa	Bitange Ndemo and Aaron Thegeya	DG-001
A Value Chain Approach to Data Production, Use and Governance for Sound Policy Making in Africa	Zachary Mwangi Chege and Peter Maina Wanjohi	DG-002
Legal Regime on Data Protection in Africa	Olumide Babalola	DG-003
Data regulation in Africa: Free flow of data, open data regimes and cyber security	Hanani Hlomani and Caroline B. Ncube	DG-004
Digitalization and Financial Data Governance in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities	Bitange Ndemo and Ben Mkalama	DG-005
More than just a policy - Day to day effects of data governance on the Data Scientist	Vukosi Marivate	DG-006
The Economics of Blockchain: Opportunities, Risks and Regulation in Africa	Aaron Thegeya	DG-007



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