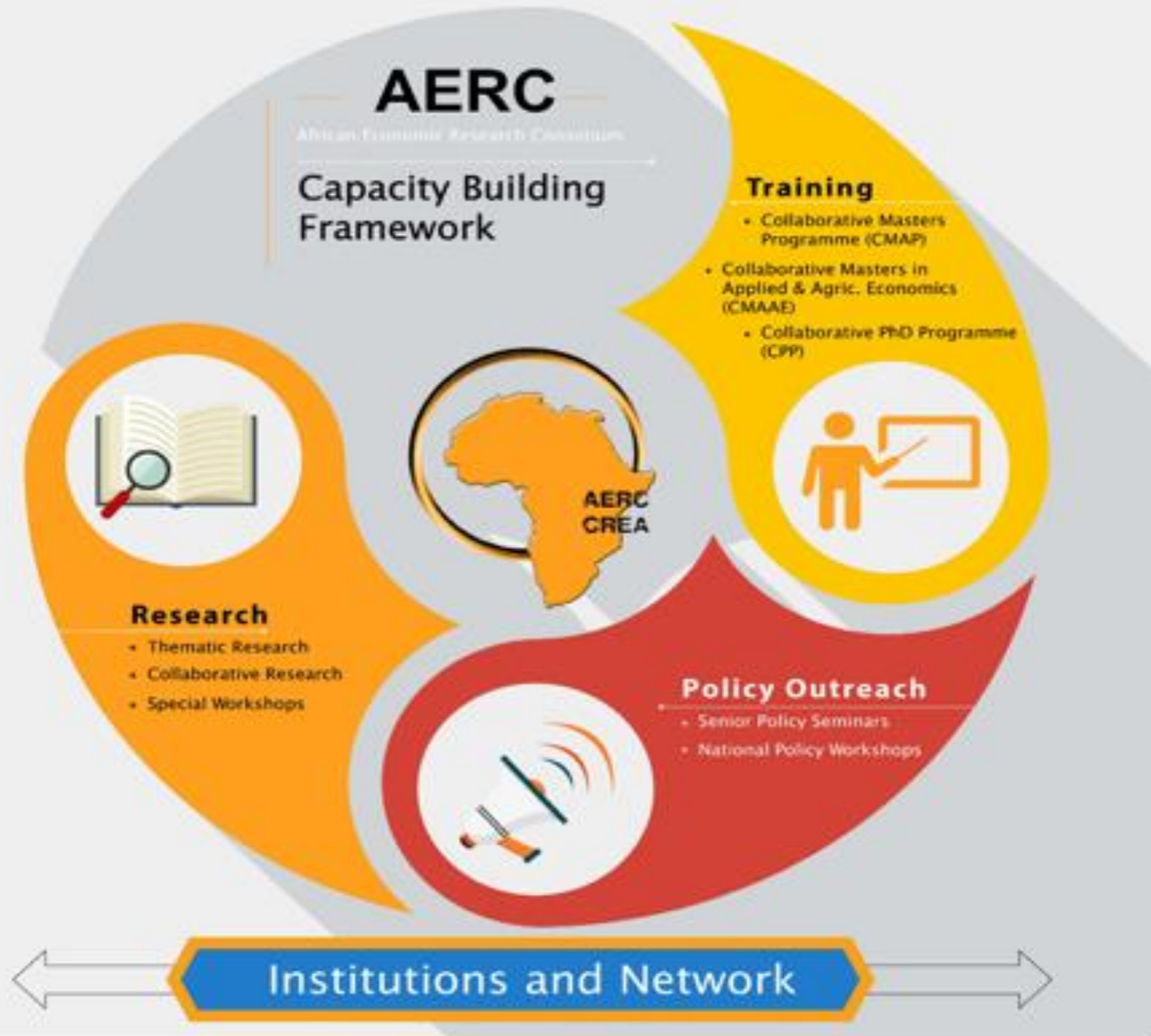


African Economic Research Consortium

Capacity Building in SSA





Our Approach



Capacity Building through Research: Africa's Story = AERC's Story Over 30 years

2019

1988

- High inflation
- Macro-instability
- Brain drain
- Weak institutions
- Weak graduate training in economics and poor academic infrastructure
- Capacity constraint and poor policy response

- Macro stability
- Institutional strength (Ministries of Finance, Central Banks)
- Capacity in public institutions and think tanks
- A period of policy clarity – National Visions and clear strategic directions
- Digital revolution/evolution

What is African Economic Research Consortium, AERC?



- AERC is a highly integrated knowledge organization spanning research, collaborative graduate training in economics and policy outreach, It was established in 1988.
- Its **mission** is to strengthen local capacity for conducting independent, rigorous inquiry into the problems facing the management of economies in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Its mission rests on **two basic premises**:
 1. That development is more likely to occur where there is sustained sound management of the economy.
 2. That such management is more likely to happen where there is an active, well-informed cadre of locally-based professional economists to conduct policy-relevant research.
- It is a vast network of researchers, educators, students, universities, policy makers and international resource persons.
- AERC is was ranked 1st in the category of the Most Significant Impact on Public Policy in Africa and ranked amongst the top 28 development think tanks globally.

Building Capacity in Africa



AERC Capacity Building Programs: Thematic Research



- Building capacity in 5 thematic areas, the entry point - meets twice every year
 - ✓ Poverty, Labour Markets and Income Distribution
 - ✓ Macroeconomic Policy and Growth
 - ✓ Finance and Resource Mobilization
 - ✓ Production, Trade and Economic Integration
 - ✓ Agriculture, Climate Change and Natural Resource Management
- The objective is to strengthen capacity for early career African researchers who will provide a supply of policy analysts, Thought and Policy Leaders in the public sector

AERC Capacity Building Programs: Collaborative Research



- Collaborative Research (CR) addresses topical policy concerns – Designed in three phases
- **Phase 1** – Framework Research Papers: Covers cross-national and/regional studies seeking to develop and/or apply analytical methodologies on the issue under investigation
- **Phase 2** – Country Case Studies: Seeks to deepen understanding of in selected African countries (or group of countries)
- **Phase 3** - Dissemination Strategy: Publications; National Policy Workshops; Regional Policy Forums; Senior Policy Seminars
- Ongoing CR Projects:
 - ✓ Financial Sector Development and Inclusion in Africa (focus on agric. finance)
 - ✓ Growth in Fragile and Post-Conflict States in Africa
 - ✓ Healthcare Financing in Sub-Saharan Africa
 - ✓ Re-thinking Regional Integration in Africa
 - ✓ Impact of Agricultural and Food Policies on Nutrition Outcomes
 - ✓ Re-examining Growth, Poverty, Inequality & Redistribution Nexus in Africa

AERC Capacity Building Programs: Collaborative Training Programs



- Graduate Training at Collaborating Universities in SSA
 - ✓ Collaborative Masters programme in Economics
 - ✓ Collaborative Masters in Agricultural and Applied Economics
 - ✓ Collaborative PhD programme in Economics
 - Joint Facilities for Electives and Specializations
 - ✓ **Offers** a high-quality teaching environment.
 - ✓ **Prepares** students for future high-level research.
 - ✓ **Provides** lecturers with access to recent teaching materials and offers unique networking opportunities.
 - ✓ **Enables** students to take wider menu of electives.
- **The objective is to train and retain African professional Economists in institutions to make a difference.**



The Impact: AERC Capacity Building and Policy Outreach



Research

Over 3,400 African economic researchers
Projects on: Growth, Poverty and Income distribution, Institutions & Service Delivery; Capital flight, Health care financing, etc

Training

Over 3,200 master's graduates
400 PhDs
40% female participation in training
Graduation of mature universities

Policy Outreach

AERC Alumni serve as mid to senior level policy makers
Senior Policy Seminars
High-level policy network of more than 1,200 senior African policy makers (ministers, governors and deputies, etc.)

Participating Researchers

40 per year in 1988

120 per year in 2018

From 7 countries to 41





AERC Strategic Roadmap

AERC Strategic Directions for 2020-2025



1. Scale up inclusive capacity building in economic policy research and graduate training to build a critical mass of economists in sub-Saharan Africa;
2. Strengthen and deepen national, regional and global linkages and partnerships for leadership in economic policy research and capacity development in Sub-Saharan Africa;
3. Diversify resource and stakeholder-ship base of AERC for long-term sustainability in capacity building in sub-Saharan Africa;
4. Enhance AERC's brand visibility and policy outreach to broaden reach and impact.

CONFERENCE ON AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION IN AFRICA - CAPACITY STRENGTHENING IN POLICY RESEARCH.

November 13, 2019

Future Africa Campus, University of Pretoria



As Prof has indicated All of AERC's programmes aim to strengthen capacity

- Collaborative research – technical training & country case studies

(Directly taken to Policy makers)

- Thematic Research – learning-by-doing peer review policy research
- Collaborative Masters in Economics - 24 Universities
- Collaborative Masters in Ag and Applied Economics – 17 Universities
- Collaborative PhD Programme –

AERC's Approach

Collaborative in nature

AERC/CMAAE's inclusive CB agenda

- Student and Institutional support to universities amongst underrepresented groups
- Curriculum strengthening eg. Land and Governance, Climate change economics and ag development
- Development and implementation of bridging training and research programmes
- Technical training to build capacity of both researchers and research institutions
- Strengthen CMAP and CMAAE universities

Objective

Enhance capacity building for economic policy research and graduate training in Sub-Saharan Africa

Introduction.....



<i>No</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>University</i>
1	Botswana	Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources
2	Ethiopia	Haramaya
3	Kenya	1. Egerton, 2. JKUAT, 3. Moi, 4. Nairobi
4	Malawi	LUANAR
5	Mozambique	Eduardo Mondlane
6	Rwanda	University of Rwanda
7	South Africa	Pretoria, Stellenbosch
8	South Sudan	Juba
9	Swaziland	University of Swaziland
10	Tanzania	Sokoine University of Agriculture
11	Uganda	Makerere
12	Zambia	University of Zambia
13	Zimbabwe	University of Zimbabwe

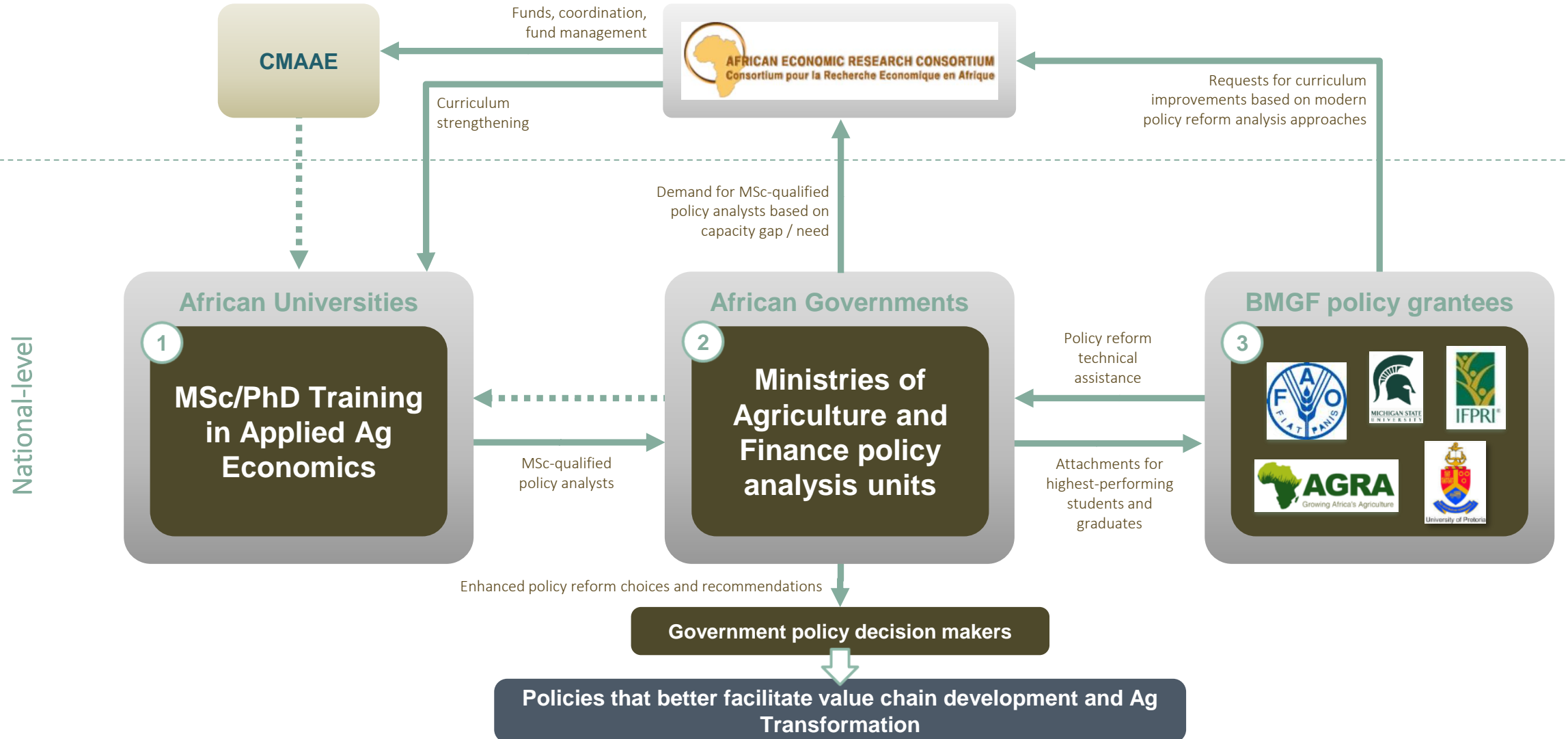
AERC/CMAAE's inclusive CB agenda

- ◆ AERC, through its multiple arms, has mobilised effort to build inclusive capacity for economic policy making through:
 - Institutional strengthening to create a conducive environment for individuals to flourish locally
 - International RPs and Peer Learning
 - Institutional/operating/research grants
 - Faculty research- grants
 - More nuanced targeting of groups and individuals
 - Expanding the source of funding to influence societal engagement in enhancing the type of capacity that the economy needs – public, private, religious and other non-state actors

- ◆ **But this is not enough, without strengthening Institutional capacity**



Linking to African Governments and Policy Making



- Core courses at home universities
- Specialization and elective courses - SFSE
- Thesis research
- Technical & Subject specialist Workshops
- Dissemination Workshops & Farmer training
- Internships in Policy and research institutions to imbed capacity at an early age
- Faculty and thematic research
- Regional Policy Forums
- Senior Policy Seminars

CMAAE unique elements

Cost effective joint setting of standards and quality enhancement
(Binswanger et al, 2016)

In total over the last 4 years CMAAE graduated over 330 students (38% female)

Retention rate in African governments & universities is 72%

Alumni in:

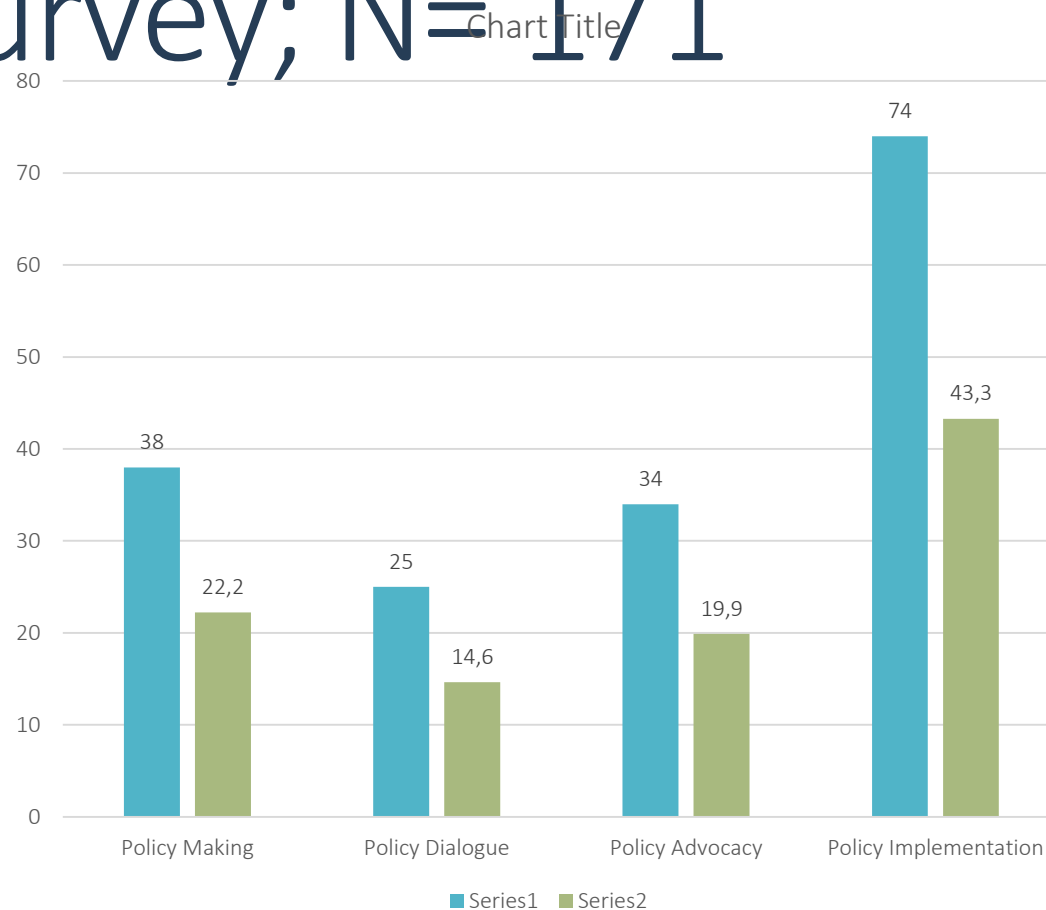
- International and regional research institutions
- Governments at various levels
- Central banks
- Universities
- Think tanks

Alumni

7. Policy Engagement by CMAAE Alumni

2019 Alumni Survey; N=171

Policy Engagement	No Alumni	%
Policy Making	38	22.2
Policy Dialogue	25	14.6
Policy Advocacy	34	19.9
Policy Implementation	74	43.3
TOTAL	171	100



AERC Ag Research Across SSA

Purchase for progress – Rwanda, Ghana eg.

Land economics and governance – NEPAD, WB

Employment along beef value chains – IFPRI (USAID)

Program of Accompanying Research for Agricultural Innovation - BMZ

Agricultural and food policies for nutrition (AFPON) – also cross disciplinary

Examples of Cross regional research

Capacity gaps are many & include:

Land analytics and data

Policy action on ag innovation

Ag policy for +ve nutritional outcomes

Digitalization in food and agriculture

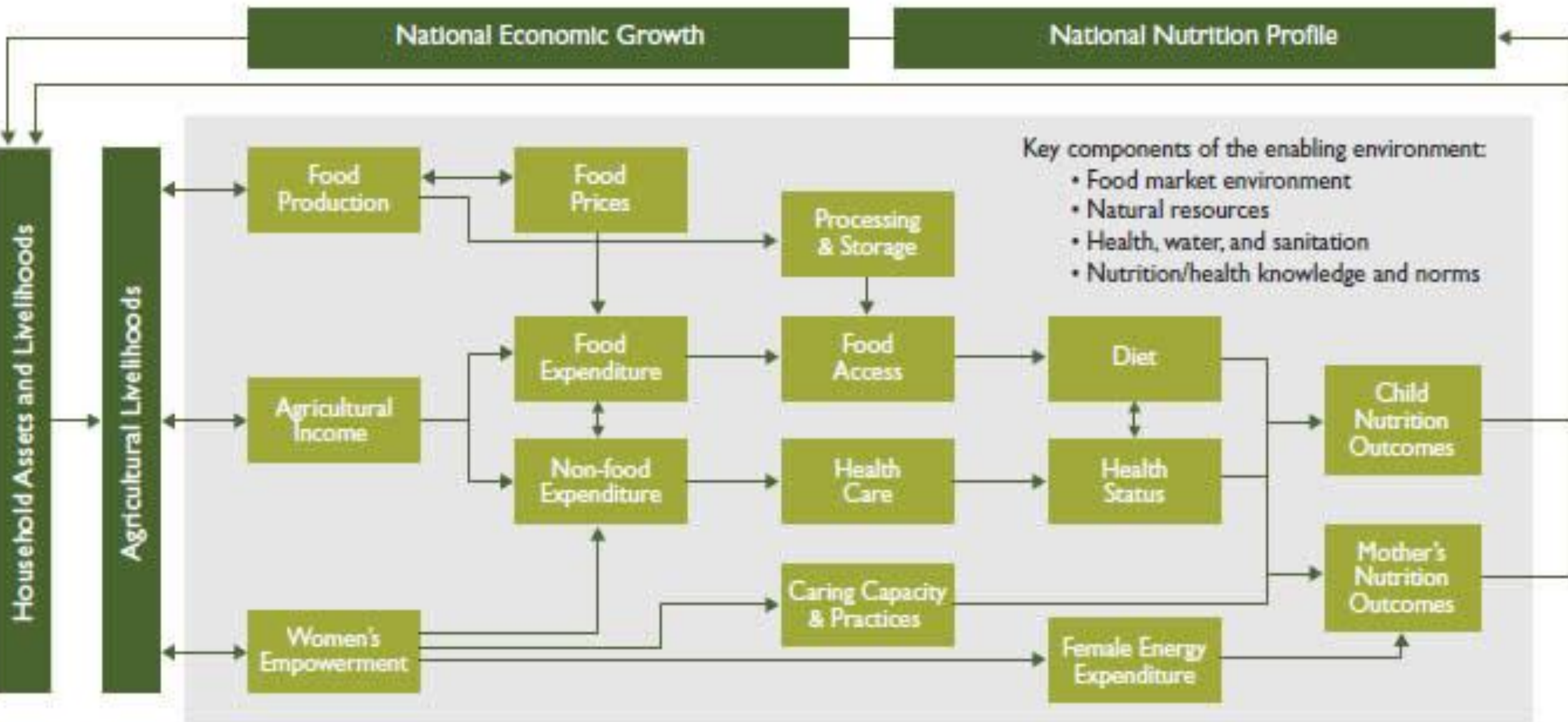
AFPON Research and Policy Outreach

- Project uses all of AERC's delivery mechanisms & part of CMAAE research:
- Collaborative research (senior researchers) & country case studies
- Thematic (junior researchers)
- Thesis research (masters & Doctoral)
- Interns

Institutions are key – All research efforts began with identifying the policy issue in question and how it relates to the nutritional outcomes

AERC/CMAAE &
Ag Policy
Research

AFPON Framework



- Food prices, food security and macro-economic policy;
- Nutritional outcomes along agricultural value chains;
- Food prices, including consumer subsidies and price ceilings;
- Food security policies, including stocks and price stabilization schemes;
- Resource access, including land tenure, and women empowerment;
- Agricultural extension, finance and trade.

AFPON Research Domains

5 well covered, only 1 did not solicit interest

Name of Researcher(s)	Research Title	Status/hyperlinks	Research Theme
David E. Sahn* (M)	Agricultural Transformation and Nutritional Outcomes in Africa	Completed	How do nutritional outcomes affect agricultural transformation?
Anthony Wambugu* (M) and Germano Mwabu (M)	Effects of Agriculture on Health and Nutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa: Frameworks, Methods and Evidence	In review	Adjusts the household modelling framework to analyse effects of agriculture on various nutritional outcomes
Remco Oostendorp* (M), Precious Chali (F), Lia van Wesenbeeck (F), and Ben Sonneveld (M)	Policy impact profiling for child food and nutrition security: A Methodological application to Zimbabwe	Published in World Development	Profiles the impact of policies in different geographic zones on nutrition outcomes, mostly HAZ, WAZ, etc.
Abkib Haile* (M) and Muhammed A. Usman (M)	Market Access, Food Security and Nutrition: Evidence from Selected sub-Saharan African Countries	Under review	Cross-country effects of market access on nutritional outcomes. Also uses food security impact
Christophe Muller* (M) and Nouréini Sarouti (M)	Effect of agricultural policies on nutrition and multidimensional nutritional vulnerability of agro-pastoralists in the Sahel	Completed	Uses a multidimensional measure of nutrition to assess nutritional changes in the sah
Helmeriam Teklewold* (M), Tagel Gebrehiwot (M) and Mintewab Bezabih (F)	Policies Promoting Climate Smart Agricultural Practices and Gender Differentiated Household Nutrition Outcomes	Published in World development	Uses a composite measure of climate smart interventions to track their impact on nutrition outcomes
William A. Masters* (M), Daniel B. Sarpong (M), Yan Bai (M) and Fulgence Mishili (M),	Impact of Agricultural, Trade and Nutrition Policy on the Cost of Nutritious Diets: An Analytical Framework and Application to Ghana and Tanzania	Completed	Analytical framework for linking trade and nutrition outcomes
Joyce Kinabo* (F) and Stephen Thornhill (M),	Linking Agricultural policy with the Nutrient Deficit Score	Under review	Framework for Nutrition Deficit Score rather than the usual focus on Nutrition diversity Score
Melinda Smale* (F), Véronique Thériault (F), Nathalie Me-Nsope (F), Catherine Larochelle (F), Eugénie Maiga (F), and Amidou Assima (F)	What's Cooking? Diet Transformation and Farm Input Policy in West Africa	Under review	Farm inputs and different nutritional outcomes HAZ, WAZ

Authors and Gender	Research Title	Country
Haruna Issahaku and Benjamin Musah Abu	Does Access to Credit affect Household Nutritional Outcomes in Ghana?	Ghana
Annet Adong and Jolly Achola	Do Demand Driven Agriculture Extension Policies Improve Nutrition Outcomes? Panel survey evidence from Uganda	Uganda
Dare Akerele, Olusegun Fadare, Adebayo Ogunniyi, Mistura Rufai and Olutayo Adeyemi	Impact of Agricultural Inputs Supply Policy and Food Prices on Nutrition Outcomes in Nigeria: Evidence from Farm Households and Implications for Multi-Sector Policy Coherence	Nigeria
Davis Marumo and Bokang Rakanyane	Measuring the Impact of Farm Input Subsidy Policy on Child Nutrition in Botswana	Botswana
Samia Mohamed Nour and Ebaidalla Mahjoub Ebaidalla	The Impact of Agricultural Landholding on Child Nutritional Status: Evidence from Rural Sudan	Sudan
Zephania Bondera Nyirenda	Impact of Land Policies and Women Empowerment on Dietary Diversity and Calorie Intake in Malawi	Malawi
Taiwo Adekunte Aderemi	Nutritional Deficiency and Women Empowerment in Agriculture: Evidence from Nigeria	Nigeria
Phyllis Mumia Machio	Dietary Diversity and Children Nutritional Status in Tanzania: Do Farming practices and Mother's Time on the Farm Matter?	Kenya
Richard Bwalya and Thomson Kalinda	The Impact of Changes in the National Nutritional Policy on the Underlying Determinants of Child Stunting in Zambia	Zambia
Joshua. O. Ajetomobi, Micah. B. Masuku, Daniel. V. Dlamini, and Ms Lindiwe T. Sibanyoni	Effects of Food Policy on Prevalence of Human Overweight and Obesity in Eswatini	Swaziland
Martin Chegere (M) et al.	Impact of Agriculture Marketing Policies on Household Diet, Quality and Nutrition in Tanzania	Tanzania
Levison Chiwaula, Lucius Cassim, and Laston Manja,	A Comparative Assessment of the Impacts of Malawi Farm Input Subsidy and Irrigation Policies on Child Nutrition Status	Malawi

Research

- 9 Framework papers
- 15 Country cases studies
- 40 MSc Thesis research
- 15 Thematic research papers
- 15 Faculty research papers
- Expectation is that +/- 45 of these papers will be made available through peer reviewed journals and other special publications including AfJARE

Part of Objective 1:

Enhance capacity building for Land analytics and to conduct research in Sub-Saharan Africa

SPS March 2020

Technical Research Conference – August

National Policy workshops

Thesis Dissemination workshops

Policy Outreach

3 levels are targeted:

Senior policy makers

Researchers, Directors and technocrats

Lower level policy analysts and implementers incl. farmers, extension workers, development partners

Thank you



Ngiyabonga