Evaluation Capacity Development

ECD Initiatives of Independent Development Evaluation of the African Development Bank

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Study on Collaborative Partner-Donor Evaluation Synthesis Workshop

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Outline

- Background
- ECD initiatives of IDEV
- Achievements
- Conclusion



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Background

- Independent Development Evaluation at AfDB
- 2013 Independent Evaluation Strategy focuses on three objectives:
  - Learning
  - Accountability
  - Promoting an evaluation culture in support of the overarching goal of improving development effectiveness
- ECD structural initiatives:
  - Strengthening National Evaluation Systems in Africa
  - African Parliamentarians' Network on Development Evaluation
  - Evaluation Platform for Regional African Development Institutions
- Ad hoc activities

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1. Strengthening National Evaluation Systems in Africa



- **Duration of operations:** 5 years, commenced January 2014
- **Funding**: US$450,000, contributed by Government of Finland
- **Target group**: Two pilot countries – Tanzania and Ethiopia
- **Goal**: To strengthen governance in AfDB Regional Member Countries through support to institutions that improve government accountability and evidence-based decision making in the public sector.

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1. Strengthening National Evaluation Systems in Africa

Activities

- Diagnostic of evaluation system
- Strategy/action plan
- Development of evaluation framework (policies & guidelines, evaluation unit, knowledge mgt. etc.)
- Learning (training, on-the-job, attachments, peer to peer, etc.)
- Advocacy



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1. Strengthening National Evaluation Systems in Africa

- **Expected Results**:
  - **Impact**: Government and Bank funded programs achieve expected results
  - **Outcomes**:
    - Evaluation knowledge influences decisions across government including budget and big national investments
    - The delivery of services in the public sector improves due to evaluation evidence



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1. Strengthening National Evaluation Systems in Africa



- **Expected Results**:
  - **Outputs**:
    - A country-owned national evaluation strategy formulated for each of the two countries (Ethiopia & Tanzania).
    - National evaluation policy and institutional framework for evaluation developed in two countries.
    - Skills for planning, managing, and implementing complex evaluations strengthened in two countries.
    - Advocacy programs to stimulate demand for high quality evaluations.

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2. African Parliamentarians' Network on Development Evaluation

- Launched in March 2014 at the 7th African Evaluation Association (AfrEA) Conference held in Yaoundé, Cameroon
- **Budget**: $300,000 for 16 months
- **Target group**: African parliamentarians
- **Goal**: To provide a forum which supports parliamentarians in Africa to make use of and advocate for development evaluation in order to promote development effectiveness and inclusive growth on the African continent.
- **Other partners**: National Parliaments, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Government of Finland, UNICEF, UNDP and UN Women



Photo: Parliamentarians Forum on Development Evaluation and EvalPartners

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2. African Parliamentarians' Network on Development Evaluation

- **Expected Results**
  - **Outcomes**: evaluation knowledge increasingly applied in government and legislative decision- and policy-making in the APNODE member countries.
  - **Outputs**:
    - APNODE institutionalization;
    - Participation of APNODE members in relevant national, regional and international evaluation knowledge sharing events;
    - Creation and operationalization of parliamentarians' evaluation platform for discussing pertinent issues and sharing ideas and experiences;
    - Advocacy and outreach activities for and by APNODE members.

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3. Evaluation Platform for Regional African Development Institutions



- Initiated in April 2014 at the Evaluation Cooperation Group Meeting held in Pretoria, South Africa
- **Funding**: under discussion
- **Target group**: The Regional African Economic Communities and Development Finance Institutions: BIDC, BOAD, COMESA, UEMOA, DBSA, EAC, and PTA Bank
- **Goal**: To aim at excellence in evaluation by promoting the evaluation culture with quality and professionalism, for an increased contribution of evaluation in organizational results.

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4. Ad hoc Activities

A. Trainings, workshops and seminars

- Two-day certified training for knowledge management practitioners and a workshop for evaluation managers at the AfREA conference in Cameroon.
- National evaluation advocacy events in Benin and Togo.

B. Support to other regional ECD initiatives (technical assistance)

- Financial and technical support to AfrEA
- AfCoP: African Community of Practice in Managing for Results and Monitoring and Evaluation
- RFE: Financial support to the Francophone Evaluation Forum

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Achievements to-date

A. Strengthening National Evaluation Systems in Africa
   - Diagnostic study of the Ethiopian National M&E System completed, inputs for strategy & action plan delivered.
   - Two evaluation trainings held for national M&E practitioners in Tanzania and Ethiopia in August and September respectively.

B. African Parliamentarians' Network on Development Evaluation
   - APNODE Constitution finalized in September; Action Plan under development; participation of APNODE members in international conferences.

C. EPRADI: workshop provided, online platform under development

D. Ad hoc activities

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Conclusion

AfDB recognizes that capacity development is a long-term process and that national governments or regional institutions have to own and lead the process. The support also needs to be flexible, innovative and holistic, focusing on institutional development, individual training, and creating an enabling environment for an evaluation culture to thrive.

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THANK YOU!

FOR MORE INFORMATION FROM IDEV:

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