

Partners

The project is coordinated by a consortium of partners in Kenya, Malawi and Uganda:

- African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP) - Lead
- Ministry of Health - Kenya
- Ministry of Health - Malawi
- Ministry of Health - Uganda
- Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)
- The Malawi EVIDENT Network (comprising Malawi Liverpool Wellcome Trust Centre (MLW), and College of Medicine at the University of Malawi)
- The Center for Rapid Evidence Synthesis (ACRES), Makerere University

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



MINISTRY OF HEALTH



Government of Malawi
Ministry of Health



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH



UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI



Malawi-Liverpool-Wellcome
Clinical Research Programme



THE CENTER FOR
RAPID EVIDENCE
SYNTHESIS

About AFIDEP

The African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP) is an African-led, regional non-profit research and policy institute working to help bridge the gaps between research, policy and practice in development efforts in Africa. We seek to contribute to the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other development strategies by enabling the formulation of effective development policies and programme interventions.

AFIDEP

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Bridging Development Research,
Policy and Practice

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Heightening Institutional Capacity for Government Use of Health Research (HIGH-Res)



About HIGH-Res

Evidence has an important role to play in improving policy, programme and practice decisions that ultimately improve development effectiveness. Among the many factors that hinder the use of evidence in decision-making is weak individual and institutional capacity in sourcing, appraising, synthesising and applying evidence.

The HIGH-Res project aims to respond to this challenge by implementing interventions that will strengthen institutional capacity for the use of health research in policy and programme decisions in Kenya, Malawi and Uganda. The project, to be implemented over three years between September 2019-August 2022, is funded by the World Health Organization and the Wellcome Trust.

The HIGH-Res project will design, implement and continuously evaluate innovative and politically responsive interventions within the Ministries of Health (MoHs) in Kenya, Uganda and Malawi to strengthen existing institutional systems, structures, and processes in order to enable a sustained culture of evidence-informed decision-making.

The project is a partnership of the MoHs in Kenya, Malawi and Uganda, and research health institutions under the HIGH-Res East Africa Consortium led by the African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP).

Interventions

To achieve its main goal of building institutional capacity for evidence-informed decision-making, HIGH-Res' interventions will leverage and build on existing relationships and collaborations among consortium partners; and on efforts and mechanisms in the three countries to further maximise its impact.

The HIGH-Res project's interventions will be guided by four main objectives:

01 | Strengthen existing structures to institutionalise mechanisms for evidence synthesis and use in the health sector

- Support and collaborate with technical working groups (TWGs) to focus on evidence
- Build the capacity of Ministry of Health (MoH) staff in commissioning research and evidence reviews
- Support the revival and/or creation of mechanisms and tools for evidence synthesis and application

02 | Institutionalise mechanisms needed to enable regular interaction between researchers and health sector decision-makers

- Enable sustained interactions in the formulation and implementation of health policies and strategies
- Pilot innovative sessions at existing annual conferences that discuss evidence on priority health sector issues with policymakers

03

Institutionalise evidence-informed decision-making (EIDM) training in existing training programmes for health professionals and other civil servants

- Work with training institutions to introduce EIDM training modules in existing and/or pre-service and in-service training programmes

04

Embed EIDM incentives and innovations into MoH systems and structures

- Incorporate EIDM requirements, tools and practices in existing routine processes and procedures (including performance contracts where they exist) within the MoH

Monitoring, Learning & Evaluation

The project will continuously monitor, evaluate and learn from the effectiveness and impact of these interventions to provide evidence on what works in strengthening institutional capacity for EIDM.

Funding

The HIGH-Res project received financial support from the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research (the Alliance) at the World Health Organisation, and Wellcome Trust.

