Co-production evidence approach in support of climate change adaptation and mitigation

Evidence-Informed Decision-Making (EIDM) Process a Case of Tanzania

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Gaps on the Current Evidence-making in Climate change

- The available evidence often seems alienated from social issues and unable to solve potential climate change from the social context . . . problem is not lack of data, but rather the inability to make sense of and use the data that is available.
- Usually evidence stops at report submission and is rarely shared or communicated . . . communities that participated in those studies wonder whether those studies were completed;
- Evidence has been describing climate change as being a single problem . . . the impact of a changing climate has caused multiple realities in the communities that cannot be dealt with as a single solution.
- Evidence generation on climate change adaptation are expert-focused processes from the design stage to the production of evidence . . . have no control whatsoever once the research is completed and the findings are reported.
How did it work

Collaborate
Multi-stakeholders are fully engaged in research design, examining various objectives and their implications, and identifying questions and suitable participants.

Government officials (Vice-President’s Office), climate change-related sectors (forest, water, meteorology, agriculture, livestock, energy), CSOs at national level (gender, youth, environment), people with disabilities), private sector (solar, food processors, charcoal agents). Experts from relevant fields).

Involve
One to one or small groups at subnational level tell stories of their experiences with climate change issues and describe the world they would like to live in.

Local Government: sectors related to climate change (forest, water) Groups: gender, youth, people with disabilities.), private Sector (retailers of solar, food processors, charcoal makers), practitioners (extension officers), communities.

Consult
Different stakeholders engage in discussion on relevant issues and contextualize evidence into life solutions and actions and identify policy options.

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Interact
Several experts were involved develop statistical thinking, system thinking, knowledge products to help various audience understand causal relationship and actionable solutions.

Policy makers at all levels, affected communities, academia, private sectors, journalists, public, CSOs Media; social media, mobile, stakeholder’s forum, one-to-one meetings, village/town-hall meetings, practical demonstrations
Key Messages

- In co-production, stakeholders are not just consumers of evidence; they are the architects of evidence. They are involved from design, production, dissemination and utilization.

- Evidence-informed decision-making (EIDM) is an unending process that requires the responsible institution to generate and communicate evidence continually.

- Research becomes a peer-to-peer learning platform — scientists learn from stakeholders and *vice versa*; hence it produces new knowledge about problems, solutions, actions and commitment and resources.

- The emerging research methods that surpass or challenge conventional academic parameters are poorly funded, reviewed and published. There is a need to include evidence-informed decision-making in academic teaching.