

From capacity building to developing capacities: dreaming big about improving evidence use

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Overview of the webinar

1. AEN's support for evidence capacities
2. History to these dialogues
3. What makes us see red: thinking about current approaches
4. What we are already doing
5. Dreaming big: the change we want to see



1. AEN's support for evidence capacities

- AEN initiatives believes that only together can evidence-informed decision-making become a reality
- Our aim is to support evidence capacities by sharing resources and capacity-development



2. History to these dialogues

- AfrEA 2017, Kampala
- Global Evidence Summit, Cape Town, 2017
- Evidence 2018, Pretoria
- Participatory conversations
- Experience sharing



3. What makes us see red: thinking about current approaches

- Agendas and priorities driven by funders
- ‘Tick-box’ activities
- Short-term approaches
- Training provided by ‘big name’ institutions and staff in the Global North
- Evidence use capacity development for policymakers
- Lack of adaptation to local contexts.
- Limited use of adult-learning approaches
- Competition instead of collaboration
- Not learning from the great regional initiatives



4. What we are already doing

- A number of important initiatives demonstrating change
 - We learned a lot from BCURE about different ways to foster learning and change
 - UJ
 - AFIDEP
 - INASP and ODI
 - PEP approaches to intensive mentoring
 - 3ie requires national researchers to be PIs on impact evaluations
 - CLEAR regional collaboration to improve training and education



5. Dreaming big: the change we want to see

- **Group discussion**
- What do you think are the one or two top priority issues for us to focus on as AEN, using our collective voice to advocate for change?
- What do you think about reshaping Evidence 2020 to be a learning event?
 - What would you do differently?
 - What would be our focus?
 - For all of the conference time or part of it, say before it or as a strand throughout?



Thank you!

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