Science Granting Councils Initiative (SGCI) Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL)

SARChI
TRANSFORMATIVE INNOVATION, 4IR AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG

#EviPol

#Evidence4Policy

#STI4SDGs

African Centre for Technology Studies

ACTS
Knowledge for Better Livelihoods

HSRC Human Sciences Research Council

CeSTII Centre for Science, Technology & Innovation Indicators

LUX MEA LEX · SIGILLUM UNIVERSITATIS DAKARENSIS

SGCI MEL Logframe finalisation workshop

Theme: Enabling more effective use of evidence in policy and decision-making by science councils

2024-04-23

MONITORING

EVALUATION

COMPONENTS
- Organisation and management
- Training systems, trade testing and examinations
- Entrepreneurship and informal sector training
- Human resource development
- Information system
- Infrastructure and equipment;
- Crosscutting issues and
- Financing system

COMPONENT IMPLEMENTATION OUTPUTS /ACTIVITIES

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES
- High-quality technical education
- Sustainable technical education
- Demand-driven technical education and
- Equally accessed technical education

QUARTERLY REPORTS
- Components
- **Other partners**

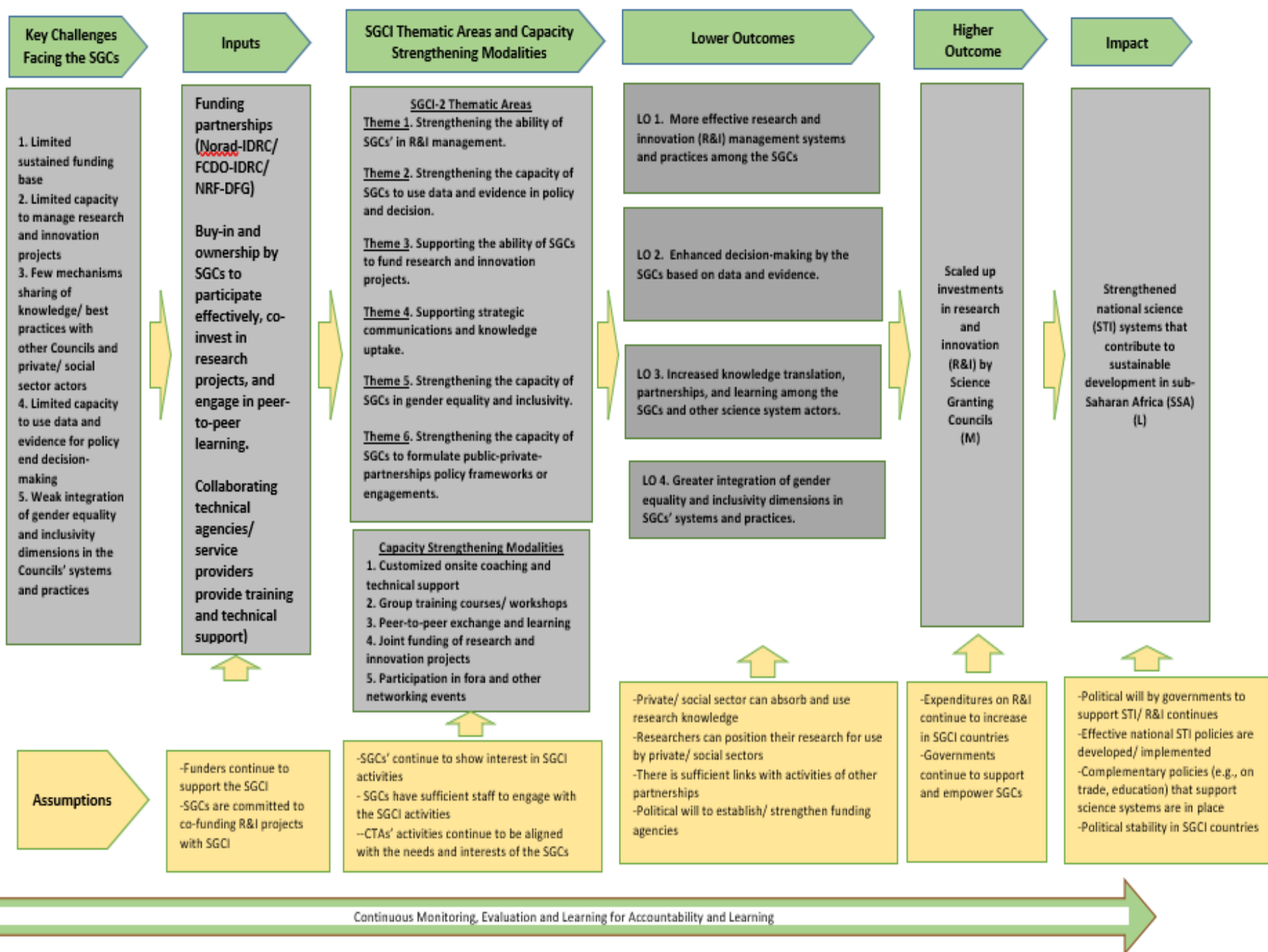**PROGRAMME INDICATORS**

DATA COLLECTION FORMS
- Training institutions; Employers; Graduates
- **Other partners**

DATA COLLECTION
- Baseline; Annually; Terminal

MONITORING AND EVALUATION ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

IDRC·CRDI
Canada

NRF National Research Foundation

Sida

DFG Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft German Research Foundation

Norad

Key Challenges Facing the SGCs

1. Limited sustained funding base
2. Limited capacity to manage research and innovation projects
3. Few mechanisms sharing of knowledge/ best practices with other Councils and private/ social sector actors
4. Limited capacity to use data and evidence for policy end decision-making
5. Weak integration of gender equality and inclusivity dimensions in the Councils' systems and practices

Inputs

Funding partnerships (Norad-IDRC/ FCDO-IDRC/ NRF-DFG)

Buy-in and ownership by SGCs to participate effectively, co-invest in research projects, and engage in peer-to-peer learning.

Collaborating technical agencies/ service providers provide training and technical support)

SGCI Thematic Areas and Capacity Strengthening Modalities

SGCI-2 Thematic Areas

Theme 1. Strengthening the ability of SGCs' in R&I management.

Theme 2. Strengthening the capacity of SGCs to use data and evidence in policy and decision.

Theme 3. Supporting the ability of SGCs to fund research and innovation projects.

Theme 4. Supporting strategic communications and knowledge uptake.

Theme 5. Strengthening the capacity of SGCs in gender equality and inclusivity.

Theme 6. Strengthening the capacity of SGCs to formulate public-private-partnerships policy frameworks or engagements.

Capacity Strengthening Modalities

1. Customized onsite coaching and technical support
2. Group training courses/ workshops
3. Peer-to-peer exchange and learning
4. Joint funding of research and innovation projects
5. Participation in fora and other networking events

Lower Outcomes

LO 1. More effective research and innovation (R&I) management systems and practices among the SGCs

LO 2. Enhanced decision-making by the SGCs based on data and evidence.

LO 3. Increased knowledge translation, partnerships, and learning among the SGCs and other science system actors.

LO 4. Greater integration of gender equality and inclusivity dimensions in SGCs' systems and practices.

Higher Outcome

Scaled up investments in research and innovation (R&I) by Science Granting Councils (M)

Impact

Strengthened national science (STI) systems that contribute to sustainable development in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) (L)

Assumptions

-Funders continue to support the SGCI
-SGCs are committed to co-funding R&I projects with SGCI

-SGCs' continue to show interest in SGCI activities
- SGCs have sufficient staff to engage with the SGCI activities
--CTAs' activities continue to be aligned with the needs and interests of the SGCs

-Private/ social sector can absorb and use research knowledge
-Researchers can position their research for use by private/ social sectors
-There is sufficient links with activities of other partnerships
-Political will to establish/ strengthen funding agencies

-Expenditures on R&I continue to increase in SGCI countries
-Governments continue to support and empower SGCs

-Political will by governments to support STI/ R&I continues
-Effective national STI policies are developed/ implemented
-Complementary policies (e.g., on trade, education) that support science systems are in place
-Political stability in SGCI countries

Continuous Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning for Accountability and Learning

Streamlined data/information collection and reporting mechanisms

- We shall work through the CTAs as well as SGCs

- This implies updating the Theories of Change and Logical Frames for each CTA and SGCs
  - MEL consultants will work with the Councils to develop/ update their Theories of Change and Logical Frames

Towards the revised SGCI MEL data and information management system

Map CTA outputs and activities against those of the participating SGCs - arbitrary

	ACTS & ATPS	SARIMA	CABI	HSRC	Evi-Pol	Scinnovent Centre
Botswana	Fully		Partially		Fully	
Burkina Faso			Fully			
Côte d'Ivoire		Fully	Fully	Partially		Fully
Ethiopia	Fully		Partially		Fully	
Ghana			Fully			
Kenya	Fully				Fully	
Malawi		Fully		Partially		Fully
Mozambique		Fully				
Namibia	Fully		Partially		Fully	
Nigeria	Partially	Partially			Partially	Partially
Rwanda		Fully	Partially	Partially		
Senegal		Fully				Fully
Sierra Leone	Partially	Fully				
Tanzania	Fully		Partially		Fully	Fully
Uganda		Partially				Partially
Zambia	Partially			Fully	Partially	
Zimbabwe	Fully		Partially	Fully	Fully	

Legend:
- Partially involved
- Fully involved

Towards the revised SGCI MEL data and information management system

Triangulation to provide for MEL data and information validation

- CTA reports on their activities and outputs of focus
  - MEL contact person(s)
- SGC reports on the activities and outputs they are participating
  - MEL consultants working with Councils to assist with collecting data/information
- Official and published reports to collaborate the above
- Capture the data and information and colour code as follows:
  - If one (of three) sources only colour code as red
  - If two (of three) sources, colour code as orange
  - If all three sources, colour code as green

Towards the revised SGCI MEL data and information management system

Next steps

- To finalise initiative-level ToC and logframe based on the June 2023 Regional meeting

- Hiring and (re)boarding the In-country MEL Consultants

- MEL Fundamentals Training and MEL Learning Workshops

- Set up Initiative MEL WhatsApp group and initiating every other month meetings