

EVIDENCE, POLICY INFLUENCE & SYSTEMIC CHANGE MEASUREMENT IN AFRICAN AGRICULTURE

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Data becomes powerful when beneficiaries participate in generating, validating, and using it.



Embedding community voices improves evidence quality and systemic change outcomes.

The Changing Evidence Ecosystem

- From periodic surveys → real-time insights
- From expert-driven → community-driven
- From isolated studies → multi-partner learning systems
- From static reports → dynamic dashboards

Why Evidence Matters

- ❖ Evidence tells us what is happening.
- ❖ Policy influence helps decision-makers act on that evidence.
- ❖ Systemic change measurement helps us see whether these changes stick in the long term.

As a result:-

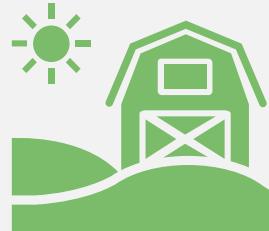
- ✓ Track what is changing and why
- ✓ Strengthen policy decisions
- ✓ Enhance accountability
- ✓ Drive systemic transformation

Evidence and Data Sources in Agriculture in Kenya

- 1. Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS):** Publishes key data through reports like the *National Agriculture Production Report*
- 2. Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD):** Policy documents, strategies, and national reports (e.g., *Agricultural Policy 2021*, *Agricultural Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy (ASTGS) 2019-2029*)
- 3. Research Institutions and Partners:** Tegemeo Institute of Agriculture Policy and Development, CGIAR, and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 4. Household Surveys and Censuses:** Foundational data is collected through initiatives like the 50x2030 Initiative and the Kenya Census of Agriculture



Evidence uptake improves when communities understand and support findings.

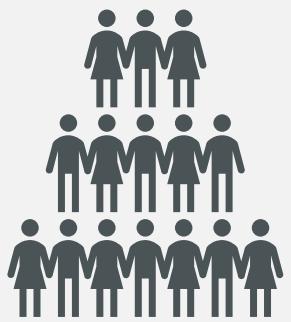


Co-design policy recommendations with farmers, traders, and cooperatives.



Use community reflection sessions to guide decision-making.

TRANSLATING EVIDENCE INTO POLICY



Systemic change involves shifts in inclusion, agency, and power.



Use participatory tools such as outcome harvesting and sensemaking, political economy mapping, Most significant change.



Embed these tools into routine, government-led M&E.

MEASURING SYSTEMIC CHANGE WITH PEOPLE AT THE CENTER

Partnerships for Impact

□ Government

□ Private sector

□ Donor agencies

□ Research institutions

□ Communities

Outcome: joint learning + coordinated action → sustained
change



Return

Return data to
communities regularly
and transparently.



Use

Use real-time
dashboards and local
review forums.



Enable

Enable adaptive
management based
on community
feedback.

STRENGTHENING FEEDBACK LOOPS

Leverage

Leverage KEBS, KEPHIS etc, and private sector systems for data and information sharing for decision making and impact reporting.

Integrate

Integrate grassroots innovations into national systems through structure processes and platforms

Improve

Improve certification, compliance, and levy reduction.

PRIVATE SECTOR & COMMUNITY DATA INTEGRATION

Co-create frameworks across government, academia, private sector, and civil society.

Strengthen institutional capacity for evidence generation and use.

Adapt measurement systems to co-investment and blended finance models.

BUILDING
EVIDENCE
COALITIONS

EXAMPLE OF COLLABORATION

Investment (e.g., Donor & Gov't funding for agriculture data systems)

Evidence (e.g., AI-driven crop/market data)

Policy Influence

Systemic change

Strathmore Agri-Food Innovation Centre (SAFIC) funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

AI-driven crop/market data from Strathmore SAFIC & counties

Counties use evidence to harmonize inter-county levies, improve standards and certification systems

Improved market integration, reduced trade barriers, more competitive agricultural trade across Kenya

Closing Insights

- ✓ Evidence must evolve with systems
- ✓ AI amplifies our ability to understand change
- ✓ Partnerships and community voice ensure relevance
- ✓ Systemic change is measurable — and actionable

Strathmore Agri-food Innovation Centre (SAFIC)

<https://saficai.strathmore.edu/> – chatbot

<https://saficcop.strathmore.edu/>

<https://safic.strathmore.edu/data-dashboards/>

Thank You

