



**African Economic
Research Consortium**



AERC ANNUAL REPORT

2023/2024

African Economic Research Consortium

Consortium pour la Recherche Economique en Afrique
P O Box 62882 – City Square, Nairobi 00200, Kenya,
Middle East Bank Towers, 3rd Floor, Jakaya Kikwete Road
Tel: (254-20) 273-4150 | Fax: (254-20) 273-4173

www.aercafrica.org

Members of Consortium, AERC Board of Directors and AERC Programme Committee as at March 2024

Members of the Consortium

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)*

The African Export-Import Bank

The AERC African Central Bank Governors' Forum**

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

The National Treasury, Government of Kenya

The Trade and Development Bank

The World Bank (IBRD)

Non-member funders

African Development Bank (AfDB)

International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)

Secretariat Knowledge Platform on Development Policies (INCLUDE)

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

**Observer Status*

**Individual member Central Banks

Banque de la République du Burundi

Bank of Ghana

Central Bank of Kenya

Reserve Bank of Malawi

Banco de Moçambique

Central Bank of Nigeria

National Bank of Rwanda

South African Reserve Bank

Bank of Tanzania

Bank of Uganda

Bank of Zambia

Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe

Members of the AERC Board of Directors

Ernest Aryeetey

Chair of the Board, Director at Large; Secretary General, African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA), University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana

Pramila Krishnan

Vice-Chair of the Board; Institutional Director representing the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO); Professor of Development Economics, University of Oxford; and Fellow, Pembroke College, UK

Keith Jefferis

Treasurer to the AERC Board; Director at Large; Managing Director, Econsult Botswana Ltd, Gaborone, Botswana

Jean-Louis Ekra

Secretary to the AERC Board; Director at Large; former President, African Export-Import Bank, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Marie-Claude Martin

Director at Large; Director of Global Initiatives, Alliance for Human Development, Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute, Toronto, Canada

Philipp Krause

Director at Large; Visiting Fellow, University of Potsdam, Germany

Shantayanan Devarajan

Director at Large; Teaching Professor of the Practice of International Development, Georgetown University, USA

Retselisitsoe A. Matlanyane

Director at Large; Minister of Finance and Development Planning, Government of Lesotho, Maseru, Lesotho

David Ly

Director at Large; Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Alke Insights, Lisbon, Portugal

Oliver S. Saasa

Institutional Director representing Trade and Development Bank; Managing Consultant, Premier Consult Ltd, Lusaka, Zambia

Andrew Dabalen

Institutional Director representing The World Bank, USA; Chief Economist, Africa Region, Washington, D.C., USA

Benedict Okey Oramah

Institutional Director representing The African Export-Import Bank; President and Chairman of the Board of Directors, Africa Export-Import Bank, Cairo, Egypt

Chris K. Kiptoo

Institutional Director representing The National Treasury, Kenya; Principal Secretary, The National Treasury, Nairobi, Kenya

Lesetja Kganyago

Group Institutional Director representing the AERC Central Bank Governors' Forum; Governor, South African Reserve Bank, Pretoria, South Africa

Kristina Simion

Institutional Director representing the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), Stockholm, Sweden – Observer

Vishal Gujadhur

Institutional Director representing the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Deputy Director, Country Finance, Development Policy and Finance, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Washington, D.C., USA – Observer

John Mukum Mbaku

Ex-officio member; Chair of the AERC Programme Committee; Presidential Distinguished Professor of Economics, Weber State University, USA

Théophile Azomahou*

Ex officio member; Executive Director, African Economic Research Consortium

Dominique Njenkeu**

Ex officio member; Interim Executive Director, African Economic Research Consortium

Victor Murinde***

Ex officio member; Executive Director, African Economic Research Consortium

**From Up to 7 August 2023*

***From 20 August 2023 to 31 March 2024*

****Appointed on 1 May 2024*

Members of the AERC Programme Committee

John Mukum Mbaku

Chair of the AERC Programme Committee; Presidential Distinguished Professor of Economics, Weber State University, USA

Bernadette Dia Kamgnia

Professor, CAPEC, Côte d'Ivoire

Festus O. Igwaikhide

Professor, Department of Economics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria

Anke Hoeffler

Chair in Development Policy, University of Konstanz, Germany

Naomi Ngwira

Ambassador of Malawi to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Italy, Monaco, Andorra and Luxembourg, EU and FAO. Brussels, Belgium

John Njiraini

Former Commissioner, Kenya Revenue Authority

Kupukile Mlambo

Immediate Former Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe

Léonce Ndikumana

Distinguished Professor & Director, African Development Policy Programme, Political Economy Research Institute University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA

Rose Ngugi

Executive Director, Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis, Nairobi, Kenya

Eric K. Ogunleye

OIC Director, African Development Institute & Division Manager, Policy Management, African Development Institute | African Development Bank, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Christian Ebeke

Head, IMF Office in Nigeria The International Monetary Fund, Abuja, Nigeria

Théophile Azomahou*

Ex officio member; Executive Director, African Economic Research Consortium

Dominique Njenkeu**

Ex officio member; Interim Executive Director, African Economic Research Consortium

Victor Murinde***

Ex officio member; Executive Director, African Economic Research Consortium

**From Up to 7 August 2023*

***From 20 August 2023 to 31 March 2024*

****Appointed on 1 May 2024*

Foreword

I am pleased to present the African Economic Research Consortium's (AERC) Annual Report for the fiscal year 2023/24. The report highlights progress we have made as a leading Pan-African Organisation in policy-oriented economic research.

This report is anchored on three key themes stipulated in the AERC Strategic Plan 2020-2025 namely improving quality, ensuring sustainability, and working with regional and national Think Tanks to develop an effective platform for expanding influence. These three themes have continued to provide a new and coherent structure for how our research, training, and policy engagement address capacity building issues in Africa.

The AERC Annual Report for 2023/24 gives our stakeholders an insight into our performance and achievements in the current fiscal year and during the strategic period. Over the past years of implementation of the strategy, significant achievements have been realized towards improving quality and impactful research as well as graduate training. Several new collaborative research projects have been initiated, hence, providing a range of timely research themes for early career researchers. In the training programme, development of online teaching materials and virtual delivery of the Joint Facility for Electives (JFE) as well as the Shared Facility for Specialization and Electives (SFSE) through the AERC Learning Management System (LMS) complemented by the AERC e-Library has not only enhanced cost effectiveness, but broadened reach and standardized the teaching of elective courses across the network universities.

Looking at the above priority areas, it is important to note that these can never be successful on their own. As a team, we worked together in identifying the challenges and fought hard to rectify them as soon as it was practically possible. Having said that, it is equally important to note that there are a few specific areas which must receive particular attention going forward. These include the continuing need for dialogue and cooperation with our existing and potential partners besides cherishing the AERC network.

However, we are not complacent. While this was undoubtedly a challenging time for AERC, we continued to see pioneering work programmes and examples of best practice. This is despite a decline in funding experienced with current and potential funding institutions adjusting their commitments in response to the continuous and extended impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukrainian conflict. Additionally, due to political changes, some funding governments experienced shifts in their foreign policy and funding priorities. As we navigate our way out of some of these complexities, let us all work closely together, share our ideas and expertise and make sure the network that emerges from this watershed is stronger, bolder, and ready for current and emerging challenges.

The fiscal year 2023/24 was really a story of sustained pressure on our activities and staff. However, we remained steadfast to deliver outstanding performance despite the difficult circumstances. And looking back at these achievements over the past year, I must warmly thank the AERC staff, without whom none of this would have been possible, and did go the extra mile to anticipate and respond to the needs of the network.

Finally, I would like to thank the AERC Board members for putting their trust in me as the Executive Director. In addition, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the AERC network whose scientific excellence in the work they do provides high quality strategic support to African governments.

As we look forward to full support and cooperation from all those engaged with AERC in one way or another, I do hope that you will enjoy reading this Annual Report. And as we envisage continued collaboration with members of the Consortium, Board of Directors, Programme Committee, the entire network and other AERC stakeholders, kindly do accept the assurance of my best personal regards.

Prof. Victor Murinde

Executive Director, AERC

Executive Director AERC

Prof. Victor Murinde.



2020-2025 Strategic Themes

Improve Quality

Transforming the AERC capacity-building model to strengthen the quality of research and training outputs.



Ensure Sustainability

Building strong institutions, diversified resource base and inclusive participation in AERC research and training activities.



Expand Influence

Fostering the uptake of economic policy research, knowledge sharing and dialogue through the creation of a knowledge centre, policy advisory centre and networks.



Table of Contents

Foreword	5
Members of Consortium, AERC Board of Directors and AERC Programme Committee	
as at March 2024	2
Overview	9
STRATEGIC THEME 1 - IMPROVE QUALITY:	
Transforming the AERC capacity building model to strengthen the quality of research and training outputs.....	11
STRATEGIC THEME 2 – ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY:	
Building strong institutions, diversified resource base and inclusive participation in AERC research and training activities.	25
STRATEGIC THEME 3 – EXPAND INFLUENCE:	
Fostering the uptake of economic policy research, knowledge sharing and dialogue through the creation of a knowledge generation centre, policy advisory centre and networks.....	32
Challenges and Opportunities	39
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	40
ANNEXES	
Annex A: AERC Research and Training Programme Statistics, 2023/24	46
Annex B: AERC Publications, 2023/24.....	50
Annex C: List of Think Tanks and Implementing Partners Collaborating with AERC in National Policy Workshops.....	59
Annex D: List of Researchers awarded grants under the PASHFARM Project	60
Annex E: List of CPP Proposals and Best Chapter Presented at the June and December 2023 Biannual Research Workshops	61

Overview

The African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) is currently in the fourth year of its strategic period, 2020-2025, having completed over half of the five-year planning phase. The year 2023/24 also marks the 35th year since AERC was established in 1988.

The Consortium has emerged as a premier institution for capacity-building in the advancement of research and graduate training in economics. It plays a pivotal role in informing economic policies in sub-Saharan Africa.

The 2020-2025 strategy is anchored on three key themes of improving quality. This improved quality will ensure its own sustainability, and working with regional and national think tanks will develop an effective platform for expanding influence. These three themes provide a new and coherent structure for how research, training, and policy engagement will address the capacity-building issues in the five-year planning cycle.

Over the last four fiscal years of implementation of the AERC Strategic Plan 2020-2025, significant achievements have been realised towards improving quality, impactful research and graduate training. Several new collaborative research projects have been initiated, hence providing a range of timely research themes for early career researchers. In the training programme, the development of online teaching materials and virtual delivery of the Joint Facility for Electives (JFE) and the Shared Facility for Specialised and Electives (SFSE) through the AERC Learning Management System (LMS), complemented by the AERC e-Library, has not only enhanced cost-effectiveness, but also broadened reach and standardised the teaching of elective courses across the network universities. The AERC procured Class Zoom Technology to enhance instruction and improve learner engagement; additionally, the consortium acquired Copyleaks Plagiarism and AI Content Detector (including ChatGPT), and Zumedu examination proctoring facilities, for enhanced examination integrity. There has been a deliberate effort towards enhancing inclusivity by gender and regionally in both research and training programmes. Technical training on mainstreaming gender into research and several affirmative actions have been taken to enhance women's participation in both research and graduate training.

However, these achievements have not been without challenges. A decline in funding continued to be experienced as current and potential funding institutions adjusted their funding commitments in response to the continuous impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Additionally, due to political changes, some funding governments shifted their foreign policy and funding priorities. Furthermore, the funding environment continued to be one where funders preferred project funding to core funding. Thus, AERC will direct more efforts to go towards diversifying the resource base as well as designing all programmatic activities to make them increasingly attractive and cost effective in implementation.

Programme progress for the current reporting period: April 2023 – March 2024

This report for the fiscal year 2023/24 provides an overview and details of progress in implementing the activities set out for the period under each of the strategic themes listed above. The report covers the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 and focuses on the achievements and outcomes as well as the challenges and opportunities that the implementation of activities presented.

As the AERC kicked off the fourth year of the current strategic plan in April 2023, it was worth taking stock of the achievements made since the start of the current strategic plan, but also over the past strategic plan periods. Accordingly, this report provides the cumulative statistics of the outcomes of activities in the last strategy as the baseline for the results measurement framework tables provided at the end of each theme.

This section of the report provides details of the progress made during the 2023/24 fiscal year in implementing the strategic themes and their associated outcomes. It also highlights the challenges and opportunities.



STRATEGIC THEME 1

IMPROVE QUALITY: Transforming the AERC capacity building model to strengthen the quality of research and training outputs

At the end of the strategic period, AERC anticipates achieving the following three key outcomes whose progress will be tracked periodically against set targets:

- 1.1 Improved enabling environment for high-quality policy-oriented research**
- 1.2 Improved researchers' capability and dissemination capacity**
- 1.3 Improved quality of graduate students**

In line with the strategic plan, the following is an update of progress made in the fiscal year 2023/2024.

1.4 Improved synergy between collaborative and thematic research

Collaborative Research Projects

The collaborative research programmes are tailored for middle and senior researchers addressing topical development issues of the day. During the year under review, the AERC implemented, at different stages, a total of 19 projects (see Table A1) that address the current global economic priorities for Africa and other regions. An update on the status of each of the projects is provided in the subsequent paragraphs.

Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Livelihoods in Africa Project (2020 – 2023)

This project is jointly implemented by the AERC and Oxfam, with funding from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). It comprises country case studies conducted in six African countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Senegal and Zambia. The project is coordinated by Dr. Sara Stevano (SOAS, University of London) and supported by a Steering Committee comprising Dr. Marzia Fontana (Institute for Development Studies, University of Sussex, & IDRC), Prof. Femi Ayadi (University of Houston Clear Lake), and Dr. Manasi Kumar (Department of Psychiatry at the University of Nairobi). During the year under review, three out of the six papers have been published in various journals, with the remaining three (3) undergoing review in different journals. All papers from this project have been published as AERC working papers. Policy briefs have also been published from the papers.

Addressing Health Financing Vulnerabilities in Africa due to the COVID-19 Pandemic Project (2020-2025)

This AERC-SIDA collaborative research project aims to examine the multidimensional impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, starting from the macroeconomic tremors it has already caused and tracing them to the household and individual levels, with a focus on the health and healthcare for poor and vulnerable populations. Prof. Germano Mwabu (University of Nairobi) is the coordinator of the framework research phase of the project. The framework phase is complete, and the papers are under review for publication in identified refereed journals (see Annex C). The country case study phase is ongoing and is supported by a steering committee made up of a multi-disciplinary team of senior researchers, including Prof. Germano Mwabu, (Prof. Emeritus University of Nairobi), Prof. Tomson Ogwang (Department of Economics, Brock University), Prof. Ingrid Woolard (Dean at Stellenbosch University's Faculty of Economic and Management

Sciences; and Professor of Economics at Stellenbosch University) and Prof. Bernadette KAMGINIA, Consultant International en Development chez Cellule d'Analyse de Politiques Économiques du CIRES. The Final Review Workshop was held virtually in July 2023, with the papers currently being under review by the project Steering Committee (PSC) for publication in a book volume - Edward Elgar Publishing.

Inclusive Finance for Fragile and Post-Conflict States in Africa Project (2019 – 2023)

This IDRC-funded project is supported by a Steering Committee comprising of Prof. Issouf Soumare (Université Laval (LABIFUL), Dr. Christine Awiti (The Commonwealth), and Prof. Charles Adjasi (University of Stellenbosch). Prof. Anke Hoeffler (University of Konstanz) is the Project Coordinator, while Dr. Elizabeth Nanziri (University of Stellenbosch) is the project Co-Coordinator. The project activities are complete, and the country case study papers are currently under review for publication in the Review of Development Economics (RODE) journal special issue, out of which five (5) have been published.

Re-Examining the Growth, Poverty, and Inequality Relationships in Africa – Framework and CCSs Research (GPIR) (2018-2024)

This project examined how the growth-poverty-inequality nexus in sub-Saharan Africa is affected by redistributive policies and strategies. Under the co-ordination of Prof. Erik Thorbecke of Cornell University, 14 framework papers have been completed, 12 of which have been published in the *Journal of African Economies Supplement_1*, April 2023 and two in the *World Development Economics Journal*. The Project Coordinator of the country case studies phase is Prof. Erik Thorbecke, with Yusi Ouyang (University of Tulsa), Miguel Nino-Zarazua (UNU-WIDER) and Prof. Carlos Gradín (UNUWIDER) being the project steering committee members. The policy briefs for the 7 research papers have been published. Meanwhile, the papers are under review for publication as AERC working papers and submission in a journal to be identified. National Dissemination Workshops were held in Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Togo in the period July - November 2023.

Climate Change and Economic Development in Africa (CCEDA) (2018-2024)

The CCEDA project supported by NORAD seeks to substantially enhance the capacity of African governments to tackle development challenges in a 21st-century context characterised by significant environmental challenges and imperatives. The goal is to radically improve the capability of the continent (and its policymakers) to tackle climate and environmental change and leverage the opportunities they present as it addresses its development challenges. Under the coordination of Prof. John Asafu-Adjaye (University of Queensland, Australia), 13 papers out of the 14 were published in various journals during the period under review. The Benin study was disseminated in April 2023 by the Laboratory of Applied Ecology (LEA) at the University of Abomey-Calavi, while the Malawi paper dissemination was held in May 2023, marking the completion of the project activities.

Building Policy Research Institutions to Support Human Capital in Africa (HCA) Project (2019 – 2024)

The AERC and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) are currently undertaking a set of reinforcing activities in seven (7) sub-Saharan African countries (Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, Senegal and Uganda) that will help build greater policy support for human capital at the country level, influence human capital policies, and strengthen African policy research institutions. Under the coordination of Prof Lant Pritchett (Centre for Global Development & Harvard University), a total of nine (9) framework papers are currently under consideration for publication. The country case study phase, which involved both individual and think tank studies, is also completed. All the papers are under review for publication, with the national dissemination workshops having been carried out between June and August 2023. As part of the dissemination activities, the AERC and the African Centre for Economic Transformation (ACET) co-hosted a think tank knowledge-sharing session in July 2023 at the [Africa Human Capital Heads of States Summit](#) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. For the thematic research phase, seven (7) proposals were presented in the June 2023 Biannual Research Workshop as new proposals. In the period July to December 2023, an additional five (5) thematic proposals were funded under this project.

Advancing Digital Financial Services for the Poor in the East African Community Region (DFSP-EAC) (2019-2024)

With funding from the BMGF, this project seeks to build a facility that leverages AERC's network of institutions and policy outreach, as well as: (a) Study and detail the financial inclusion and market development in the East African region that can be used to advance knowledge base and policy drive for SSA economies; and (b) Characterise financial market developments as well as electronic payments interoperability for lessons that can guide policy drive. A total of six framework papers and two country case studies involving researchers from the Bank of Tanzania and the Central Bank of Kenya have been published by the AERC as a book volume during the period under review. The overall coordinator for both think tanks and individual country case studies is David Cracknell, Managing Director of First Principles Consulting Limited. The project steering committee members for the individual country case studies are Dr. David Cracknell (the coordinator), Prof. Jonathan Greenacre (Boston University), Dr. Flora Myamba (Women and Social Protection expert, Tanzania) and Prof. Janet Adelegan (Lead City University, Nigeria). The PSC for the think tanks are coordinators Dr. David Cracknell and Prof. Issouf Soumaré (Université Laval), Dr. Rose Ngugi (Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis), and Prof. Christine Oughton (SOAS, University of London). The final review workshop was held in June 2023, and the in-country dissemination workshops were done between July and October 2023. The papers are under review for publication in the *Journal of African Development Special Issue*.

Value Chain Development, Trade and Economic Transformation in Africa (GVC) (2021-2025)

This project is funded by SIDA and aims to explore the development dynamics of global and regional value chains in terms of upgrading opportunities for African countries and the policy implications and imperatives for economic transformation. The specific objectives are to evaluate the performance of African economies in global and regional value chains, increase understanding of drivers and benefits of value-chain trade integration, and provide specialized training on reforms that help improve business climate, strengthen value chains and development of selected sectors. The project coordinator is Prof. Jaime De Melo (University of Geneva). The project steering committee members include Prof. Dominique Njinkeu (African Trade and Sustainable Development) and Prof. Marcelo Olarreaga (University of Geneva). The 11 framework papers have been published in the

Journal of World Economy (9), the *Journal of International Development* (1) and the *Journal of Economic and Structural Change* (1). In GVC country case studies, 11 papers were commissioned in January 2023. The inception workshop and Mid-review workshops were held in June and September 2023, respectively. The final review workshop for the country case studies was held on 30-31 January 2024. In the workshop, 10 papers were presented by 20 researchers from 12 countries. Among the 20 participants, four were female. The project steering committee members for this phase include Prof. Jaime De Melo (University of Geneva), who is the project coordinator; Prof. Dominique Njinkeu (African Trade and Sustainable Development); Prof. Marcelo Olarreaga (University of Geneva) and Prof. Tabitha Kiriti Ng'ang'a (University of Nairobi).

Data Governance and Sound Policy Making Phase I (2020-2023)

This project was funded by the Hewlett Foundation. It sought to assess the opportunities, challenges, and risks existent in the current state of data generation, sharing protocols, and consistency of legislation. Secondly, desirous of encouraging the widespread use of large data from different sources, its reliability, access, and availability, the AERC seeks to mount a comprehensive programme to identify opportunities, constraints and impediments to the use of data and evidence to inform economic policy decision-making in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), and in so doing, to engage policymakers on the implications for data governance that could provide safe access and foster its widespread use. The project coordinator was Prof. Bitange Ndemo, the Kenyan Ambassador to Belgium and the European Union.

The seven scoping papers from the project were published as an open-access book volume <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-24498-8> by Springer Nature in August 2023.

Data Governance and Policy in Africa Phase II (2022-2024)

Funded by the Hewlett Foundation, this Phase II project is titled *'The Political Economy and Institutional Structure of Data Policy and Governance in Africa: Opportunities, Challenges and Risks'*. The project has four themes: benchmarking Africa against global best practices on data policy and data governance; Identifying institutional structures for data policy and governance frameworks that can be replicated across sub-Saharan African countries; Exploring data interoperability platforms in Africa and related policy-making opportunities and risks; Exploring gaps, priorities, and opportunities in digital revolution, digital technology, and the efficiency of data governance in Africa; Strengthening the prevailing weak cultural predispositions, data centricity, and governance – How users can start to see the link between using data to solve problems and innovation, and how they can act on fresh concepts and provide value in the process. The PSC members are Prof. Izak Atiyas (Sabanci University, Turkey), Prof. Caroline Ncube (University of Cape Town), Prof. Ogundiran Soumonni, (University of Witwatersrand) and Dr. Miriam Omolo (African Policy Research Institute). The inception and mid-review workshops were held virtually in June and October 2023, respectively. The final review workshop was held in March 2024. The next steps for the project include a book volume publication and a regional policy forum in July 2024.



African Public Service Delivery Index (PSDI) (2020 – 2023)

With the support of the Ford Foundation, the project sought to conduct a survey in Africa to build a composite indicator (PSDI) that covers the full stream of public services that can help enhance transparency and accountability in public service delivery across all the sectors in Africa. The activities of the project included the design and implementation of the public service perception survey in line with the PSDI indicator framework aligned with the African Development Bank's high five priority areas (Feed Africa, Light up and Power Africa, Industrialise Africa, Integrate Africa, and Improve the Quality of Life for the People of Africa). The AERC, in liaison with the AfDB, carried out two regional PSDI consultative meetings in Kenya and South Africa in November 2023.

Exploring the Impacts of the War in Ukraine on Lower-income Countries (2022-2024)

Funded by the IDRC and implemented jointly by the AERC, Economic Research Forum (ERF) and Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP), the project is an in-depth study on the impacts of the war in Ukraine in lower-income countries. It seeks to examine the macroeconomic channels, impacts, and potential responses to the Russia-Ukraine War (RUW) shock, both in the short to medium run and in the long run, under alternative scenarios of the shock's size. The first dissemination of the findings was done in May 2023 at an IMF round table. The final review workshop was held virtually in June 2023. This was followed by two dissemination workshops held in October 2023 during the IMF/World Bank Spring meetings.

Propelling Research and Outcomes for Policy and Economic Levers (PROPEL) Health (ProHLTH) (2022-2027)

PROPEL Health project is funded by the USAID and the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The Consortium includes core partners such as Palladium Group, AERC, Avenir Health, Population Reference Bureau, RTI International, Samasha Medical Foundation and White Ribbon Alliance. Other project partners are Africa Health Business, Ariadne Labs, Athena Infonomics, Busara Center, O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, Open Development and the University of California, San Francisco. PROPEL Health aims to improve the enabling environment for equitable and sustainable health services, supplies and delivery systems through: Policy – policy development and implementation; Financing – adequate, predictable, and sustainable health financing; Governance – enhanced government stewardship, transparency and

accountability; and Advocacy – use of evidence-based advocacy approaches at global, national and subnational levels to promote best practices. PROPEL Health focuses on family planning/reproductive health (FP/RH) and the integration of FP/RH with HIV and Maternal and Child Health (MCH).

In the reporting period, AERC has implemented several activities in the PROPEL Health Project. Two trainings were conducted for Ministry of Health Botswana staff at the headquarters and the District Health Management Teams. The two trainings were Health Financing: Policy, Governance and Advocacy for Botswana Ministry of Health staff under PROPEL Health held in June 2023 and Health Systems Research, Ethics and Protocol Development in November 2023. The AERC also held an Inter-Ministerial Policy Dialogue Meeting on '*Enhancing Policy Dialogue for Strengthening Primary Health Care Financing and Service Delivery in Kenya*' between the Ministry of Health and The National Treasury and Economic Planning, in August and September 2023. The activity was implemented in Botswana and Zambia in April 2024. The envisaged outcomes of the policy dialogue meetings in Kenya are the development of a collaborative framework that is an innovative platform aimed at enhancing the working relationships of the Ministry of Health (MOH) and The National Treasury and Economic Planning (TNTEP), to improve the productivity of resource allocation and use in PHC financing as well as service delivery.

Another merit is that the collaborative framework is versatile and replicable in other sectors. The co-creation of the collaborative framework through PROPEL Health has come at an opportune time when the Government of Kenya is implementing expansive health sector reforms in Primary Health Care (PHC) and Universal Health Care (UHC) Financing structure. In the development of the collaborative framework at the national level, PROPEL Health envisages the cascading of similar activities to other stakeholders in the PHC at the county level through the Council of Governors health committee, county departments of health, and financing and planning and sector working groups, that influence resource mobilisation, allocation, and effective use in service delivery in the health sector. The inter-ministerial dialogue also brought to light the need for complementary research and capacity building components to empower the stakeholders in PHC in the government and non-state actors on building and nurturing coalitions that will enhance the collaborative framework implementation and ensure sustainability. In the project, the AERC is leading the grant management for the local partners in SSA and Latin America.

Evidence to Drive Reforms for SDR Financing in SSA Economic Recovery (2022 – 2025)

The BMGF awarded the AERC a grant to support research into Special Drawing Rights financing, facilitate the dissemination of that research to policymakers and the public, and strengthen the capacity of African policy research institutions. The kick-off and consultative meeting were held in April and May 2023, with a brainstorming/inception workshop of the case studies being held on 18 May 2023. The preliminary findings workshop was held in Dakar in August 2023, while the final review workshop was held virtually in November 2023. As part of the dissemination activities, the AERC held a side event at the third edition of the African Conference on Debt and Development (AfCoDD III) in August 2023 in Dakar, Senegal, where the four papers were presented. This was followed by a dissemination at the Africa Climate Summit held in Nairobi in September 2023.

The Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) team synthesised the papers in a High-Level Seminar on the Perspectives of the Global South on MDBs Reforms in September 2023 in Rabat, Morocco. To provide the greatest potential for the uptake of policy recommendations coming out of the research, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD), in partnership with the AERC, held capacity building and technical assistance activities on SDR and debt, Media, and Policy outreach training on 6 – 7 December 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya. In December 2023, the researchers attended the African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET) SDRs Workshop on Engaging Gender Advocates for Inclusive Economic Recovery held in Lusaka, Zambia.

Kenya Analytical Programme on Forced Displacement (KAP-FD) (2023-2024)

The AERC, in collaboration with the World Bank, is implementing a thematic research project - KAP-FD. The project seeks to promote empirical research on forced displacement in Kenya, utilising selected datasets. The target of the project is graduates with master's degree or PhD students studying Economics, Sociology, Demography, Migration, or closely related courses, enrolled in Kenyan universities. The broad themes of the project are employment and livelihoods, education, migration and social cohesion, vulnerability and resilience to shocks, gender, age, and diversity. In the project, six papers are being developed by 10 early career researchers (eight {8} females and two {2} males). The inception and mid-review workshops were held in June and December 2023, respectively. The final review workshop was held in

April 2024. The project chair is Prof. Rosemary Atieno (University of Nairobi, Kenya) and the resource persons are Prof. Germano Mwabu (the University of Nairobi, Kenya), Prof. Tomson Ogwang (Brock University, Canada) and Prof. Erick Nyambetha (Maseno University, Kenya). In December 2023, the researchers were also trained on survey data methodologies to reinforce their analytical skill using the datasets from Social Economic Surveys (SEs), Rapid Response Phone Surveys (RRPS) and Kenya Continuous Household Survey (KCHS) integrated survey (including people experiencing forced displacement) from the World Bank's or UNHCR's microdata library. Other datasets include KCHS for nationals and the Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey (KIHBS) from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS).

Domestic Resource Mobilisation: Tax Reforms in Kenya Preliminary Review Project (2023)

The preliminary review studies funded by the Royal Danish Embassy in Nairobi was carried out by the AERC and the University of Copenhagen-Development Economics Research Group (UCPH-DERG), to assist the Republic of Kenya in policy framing and decision making. The three-month pre-investigative studies were finalised in July 2023. Two papers were produced on Tax reforms: one focusing on VAT and another on excise tax.

Impacts of the War in Ukraine on Food Security in Low-Income Countries (2023 – 2025)

The AERC in collaboration with PEP and ERF, is currently implementing a collaborative research project funded by the IDRC Global Affairs Canada. The overall objective of the collaborative research effort is to support policy responses that are evidence-informed and gender-responsive, to address the current impacts of the war in Ukraine on food security and enhance longer-term resilience to shocks for vulnerable populations in low-income countries in Africa and the Middle East. The gender component is being led by Prof. Marzia Fontana (Institute of Development Studies-UK), Dr. Laetitia Pettinotti (ODI) and Dr. Lanoi Maloi (AERC). The inception gender training workshop was virtually held in November 2023.

Economic Research and Policy-Making Project (2023 – 2026)

Through the support of the Royal Danish Embassy in Nairobi, the AERC, in partnership with the Development Economics Research Group at the University of Copenhagen (UCPH-DERG), is undertaking a three-year research project on 'Economic Research and Policy Making in Kenya'. The objective of the collaboration is to generate high-quality research which can provide policy advice to decision-makers in Kenya. A stakeholders engagement workshop was held on November 2023, followed by a stock-taking workshop in December 2023 and a dissemination workshop in March 2024.

Policy Analysis for Sustainable and Healthy Foods in African Retail Markets (PASHFARM) (2022 – 2025)

The PASHFARM project had its inaugural meeting in April 2023. This followed the signing of the project grant with the BMGF in October 2022 and the onboarding of the project officers in March 2023. The project implementation began in October 2022 and is expected to run until December 2025. The project is coordinated by Prof. Harounan Kazianga (Oklahoma State University) with the support of gender and nutrition experts at the AERC, Dr. Lanoi Maloi and Dr. Maureen Cheserek, respectively. A total of 20 research grants (six {6} collaborative, seven {7} country case studies and seven {7} faculty research grants) were issued in October 2023. An inception workshop was held in November 2023, where the 20 funded research proposals were reviewed.

The AERC successfully conducted a workshop on the Gender and Nutrition Mainstreaming and Demand Analysis from 2 to 6 October 2023 in Johannesburg. The objective of the five-day workshop was to equip the researchers with principles of engendering their research and to equip them with nutrition metrics and tools for demand and policy simulation analysis. The workshop was attended by 28 researchers from 12 SSA countries representing 20 research teams under the project. The workshop facilitators included Dr. Lanoi Maloi, the PASHFARM Gender Expert; Dr. Maureen Cheserek, the PASHFARM Nutrition Expert; Prof. Elaine Unterhalter, the Nordic Consulting Group; and Prof. Ellen McCullough, University of Georgia

Improved incentives for thematic and collaborative research

Thematic Research

The AERC thematic research modality of “learning-by-doing” remains a key avenue for equipping the pool of locally based economists in sub-Saharan Africa with improved skills and competencies to conduct economic policy-relevant research. Thematic research features the biannual research workshop, which is the main vehicle for a peer review process intended to maintain and yield high-quality research output on topical African economic development issues.

Thematic Research Areas



Poverty, Labour Markets, and Income Distribution.



Macroeconomic Policy and Growth



Finance and Resource Mobilisation



Production, Trade and Economic Integration



Agriculture, Climate Change and Natural Resource Management.



The Biannual Research Workshops

The AERC held the June 2023 biannual research workshop via Zoom video conferencing and webinar facilities from 22-29 May 2023, with a total of 104 researchers, 81 thematic resource persons, four (4) plenary paper presenters, four (4) plenary paper discussants and 30 observers in attendance. The concurrent and technical sessions were held from 23 to 29 May 2023, with a total of 104 researchers and CPP students from 22 African countries participating. There were 42 women (40%) among the participating researchers. A total of 80 reports were presented (37 thematic research proposals, 23 interim reports, 14 final reports and six (6) CPP proposals and best chapter papers from PhD thesis). Table A2 on page 46 provides details on the June 2023 thematic groups.

As an outcome of the June 2023 biannual research workshop, the AERC awarded new thematic research grants towards 23 approved new proposals. Meanwhile, five (5) proposals were recommended for revision and future presentation. A total of 20 papers were approved to proceed to the final report stage, and one (1) was recommended to revise their interim report for presentation in the next biannual, while another 14 papers were approved for finalisation.

The December 2023 Biannual Research Workshop was held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 26 November 2023 to 7 December 2023 on a hybrid modality. The concurrent and technical sessions were held from 28 to 30 November 2023, with a total of 47 reports (seven {7} research proposals, 16 interim reports, 15 final reports, nine (9) CPP PhD thesis proposals and best chapter papers from PhD thesis) presented. Table A2 provides details on the December 2023 thematic groups.

A total of 68 researchers (of whom nine {9} were CPP students) drawn from 15 African countries presented their papers in the December 2023 Biannual. There were 23 women (34%) among the participating researchers. A total of 81 resource and guest resource persons (including seven {7} theses supervisors from the CPP universities) attended the sessions, of whom 33 attended physically, while 48 did so virtually.

The 2023 Plenary Sessions

The 58th plenary session was held virtually on 22 May 2023 on the theme, “African Economies: Recovery Agenda from Multiple Shocks”, with a total of 393 participants in attendance. The plenary had commissioned four papers based on the theme. Prof. Benedict Okey Oramah, President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of

the Africa Export-Import Bank, delivered a keynote address, while Prof. Harounan Kazianga, Spear School of Business, Oklahoma State University, chaired the plenary session. The welcoming and opening remarks were made by Prof. Théophile Azomahou, Executive Director, AERC. The plenary featured four presentations by distinguished economists. Table A3 provides the list of keynote speakers, panellists and discussants that participated in the plenary session.

The 58th plenary session also held a Policy Reflection Panel that was moderated by Dr. Hippolyte Fofack, Chief Economist and Director of Research at the African Export-Import Bank (Afrexim Bank). The distinguished panellists were Prof. Pramila Krishnan, University of Oxford and Fellow, Pembroke College; Dr. Selma Karuaihe, Head and Senior Lecturer, Department of Agricultural - Economics, Extension and Rural Development, University of Pretoria; Dr. Paul Mpuga, Country Chief Economist, African Development Bank Group; Prof. Amanda Guimbeau, Département d'Économique, Université de Sherbrooke; and Dr. Hany Abdel-Latif, Economist, International Monetary Fund, Washington D.C.

The 59th plenary session was held on 26 November 2023 on the theme ‘Youth, Demographic Dividend, Migration and Economic Opportunities in African Economies’. A total of 646 participants attended: physically (150) and virtually (496). The official opening session of the plenary started with a minute silence in memory of Dr. Janvier Nkurunziza, who served as a resource person in Thematic Group B for the past 14 years. The plenary session was graced by the presence of Mr. James Muhati, Principal Secretary, State Department of Economic Planning, Republic of Kenya, who attended the meeting and made opening remarks on behalf of the former Cabinet Secretary, the National Treasury and Economic Development, Republic of Kenya Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u. Professor Kevin Urama, Chief Economist and Vice President for the Bank's Economic Governance and Knowledge Management Complex, African Development Bank (AfDB), was the keynote speaker of the Prof. Benno Ndulu Memorial Lecture. The chair of the plenary session was Prof. Anke Hoeffler of the University of Konstanz. Table A4 provides the list of keynote speakers, panellists and discussants that participated in the plenary session.

Future Research, Training and Policy Outreach Agenda Discussion Meetings

The AERC convened a meeting on 27 November 2023 during the December 2023 Biannual Research Workshop to discuss its future research, training and policy outreach agenda. This was a hybrid meeting attended by the AERC

Board Chairperson, Prof. Ernest Aryeetey, Programme Committee members, thematic group chairs and resource persons, and researchers, among other stakeholders. The Interim Executive Director's presentation centred on highlighting areas that needed to be reviewed to make AERC fit-for-purpose for research, training and policy influence. The meetings were held in three sessions. One concurrent thematic group session was moderated by the chairs, and thereafter, two plenary sessions were moderated by the Programme Committee Chairman, Prof. John Mbaku, Professor of Economics, Weber University, USA. The sessions provided a platform for a review of the past and current research activities of the AERC and proposed research areas for knowledge creation and influence policy actions addressing economic challenges in African economies. Another virtual meeting was held on 31 January 2024 with the Academic Advisory Board members of network universities of the collaborative training programme to discuss the future training agenda of the AERC. The Executive Committee of the AERC Board has commissioned a review of the AERC Network and engaged two consultants, Prof. Haroon Borat, University of Cape Town, South Africa, and Prof. Benard Hoek, European University Institute in Florence, Italy, to undertake the review of the period, 10 January to 30 June 2024. The feedback from the two consultative meetings will be shared with the two reviewers appointed by the AERC Board.

Econometric Society of Africa Conference

The Economic Society Africa Region, in partnership with the AERC, brought together high-ranking Economic Policy leaders, including presidential and Cabinet-level special advisors, eminent professors and members of the diplomatic community to Nairobi from 1 to 3 June 2023, to discuss the best way forward for Africa to recover from economic shocks. The keynote address was given by the Cabinet Secretary for Treasury, Kenya, Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u. Other keynote speakers included H.E. Ole Thonke, Ambassador of Denmark to Kenya, and Prof. Rosa Matzkin (University of California), President of the Econometrics Society.

Strengthening Technical Capacity

The AERC continues to improve the skills and capacity of individual researchers to carry out relevant policy research and to influence policy action. In this area, five (5) technical workshops were done as follows:

Technical Workshop on Financing Human Capital Investment

The AERC organised a three-day technical workshop on Financing Human Capital Investment in April 2023 in Kampala, Uganda. The aim of the workshop was to provide policymakers, researchers and technical staff of policymaking and research institutions with information on financing sources and decision-making in financing human capital investments. The facilitator was Prof. Francoise Okah Efogo, University of Yaoundé II, Cameroon. A total of 34 researchers from eight (8) sub-Saharan African countries attended the workshop where 16 (47%) were female. The distribution of participants by gender and nationality is shown in Table A5.

Health Financing: Policy, Advocacy and Governance Training for Ministry of Health in Botswana

PROPEL Health Training Workshop on Policy, Advocacy and Governance in Health Financing in Botswana was facilitated by the AERC in collaboration with Palladium and the University of Botswana. The training was held from 26-30 June 2023 and had 18 participants (of whom 10 (56%) were female) from the Ministry of Health and Wellness, Health Policy Research and Development (HPRD), Health Services Management (HSM) Departments, National Aids & Health Promotion Agency (NAHPA) and the University of Botswana Department of Family Medicine and Public Health. The aim of the training was to facilitate sharing of global experiences in policy, advocacy and governance in health financing; enhance skills and share experiences on how to improve intersectoral collaboration in policy and governance; identify and analyse of challenges in policymaking; identify policy, governance and advocacy opportunities for advancing UHC; improve skills for initiating policy dialogue between the Ministry of Health and various government and private sector agencies (including writing policy briefs). The training was held to reinforce the development of the Botswana Health Financing Strategy document. It was facilitated by Dr. Martine Oleche, Department of Economics and Development Studies, the University of Nairobi and Dr. Naomi Setshegetso, Department of Economics, University of Botswana. Also facilitating the training were Dr. France Ilika, Palladium, Director of Health Systems (Global); Stephen Muchiri, Palladium Health Governance, Specialist; Dr. Bedan Gichanga, Palladium, Deputy Director, HIV PROPEL Health; Dr. Shamu Shepherd, Palladium, Health Financing Specialist; and Dr. Thabo Matlhogonolo Phologolo, Department of Family Medicine and Public Health.

Technical Workshop on Health Systems Research and Protocol Development

PROPEL Health Training Workshop on Health Systems Research and Protocol Development in Botswana was facilitated by the AERC in collaboration with Palladium. The training was held from 20 to 24 November 2023 and had 61 participants from the District Ministry of Health Teams and Referral Hospitals. The aim of the project is to impart health systems research and protocol development skills to district health teams and referral hospital staff in Botswana. Training content will culminate in ensuring that the district committees have the capacity to develop comprehensive and competitive research proposals that meet the needs of society. The participants in the technical workshop will be required to develop a research proposal and protocols in the area focusing on health systems. The workshop trainers were AERC consultants Dr. Moses Muriithi, Department of Economics and Development Studies, the University of Nairobi and Dr. Naomi Setshegetso, Department of Economics, University of Botswana.

Technical Workshop on Advanced Analytical Methods for Survey Data

The AERC organised a five-day technical workshop on Advanced Analytical Methods for Survey Data from 1 – 7 December 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya, for the World Bank KAP-FD project researchers. The goal of the advanced survey data methodology training workshop was to impart advanced survey data analytical skills to the researchers. Specifically, the workshop was intended to build the capacity of the researchers in advanced analytical methods for cross-sectional data; develop the researchers' skills in advanced analytical methods on pooled and longitudinal data; build the competency of the researchers to use statistical computer packages for survey data analysis; and build the ability of the researchers to use and conduct robust estimation of the World KAP-FD data sets. A total of 11 researchers attended the workshop, where six (6) were women. Of this total number, eight (8) were Kenyans while three (3) were researchers with lived experience of forced displacement from Sudan and Uganda, from the Kakuma Refugee Camp.

Knowledge Sharing on Growing Multiple Crisis in Low-Income Economies

The Overseas Development Institute (ODI) in partnership with the AERC, organised a knowledge sharing forum on Growing Multiple Crisis in Low-Income Economies to inform and brainstorm around new and/or common policy-relevant messages from the AERC-PEP-ERF

research, in July 2023. The ODI also organised a Media Training Workshop specifically designed for researchers covering economic crisis situations. This workshop was to equip researchers with essential skills and knowledge to effectively engage with the media, enhance communication abilities, and maximise the impact of research in the public sphere. The workshop targeted the IDRC funded researchers working on the impact of War in Ukraine Phase I or Phase II projects implemented through a partnership between the AERC, the ERF and the PEP.

AFRODAD-AERC Policy and Advocacy Training Workshop AFRODAD

To provide the greatest potential for the uptake of policy recommendations coming out of the research, AFRODAD, in partnership with the AERC, held capacity building and technical assistance activities on SDR and debt, media and policy outreach training in December 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya. The workshop was to enable the different think tanks supported by the AERC to: (a) Undertake technical assistance/outreach activities with policymakers, ministries of finance, central banks, the media and civil society organisations that will provide a platform for extended dialogue on the policy recommendations; and (b) Create awareness of the available data, research/evidence to allow the media and civil society organisations to support proposed/required improvements in performance and possible policy actions.

Global Vector Autoregression (GVAR) Modelling Technical Workshop

The AERC facilitated a 5-day technical workshop on Global Vector Autoregression (GVAR) Modelling in January 2024 in Nairobi, Kenya. This training workshop's main aim was to equip participants with theoretical knowledge and practical skills in GVAR modelling. Moreover, the objective extended to the application of this knowledge in the participants' respective fields, enabling them to use GVAR models to conduct comprehensive economic analyses, create robust economic forecasts, and make informed decisions.

Other Thematic Research Activities Institution

Attachments/ Visiting Scholar Programme

The AERC/World Bank visiting scholar programme selected four researchers who joined the institution in January 2024. The successful researchers are Yselle Flora Kuete Malah, Gilbert Mbara, Isaac Nunoo, and Muna Shifa. Though the visiting scholar programme

under the AERC/IMF was postponed from 2020 due to COVID-19, the IMF African office met the secretariat during the December 2023 Biannual Research Workshop to revamp it after the long hiatus.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) sub-Saharan African Outreach held a recruitment drive during the workshop. Other AERC/CERDI/FERDI, institutional attachments, sensitisation visits, and the bridge programme for fragile and post-conflict countries remain on hold.

CSAE conference Participation

The AERC organised one special session at the CSAE 2024 Annual Conference that was held in March 2024 at Oxford University, UK. The theme of the session was 'Macroeconomic Stability, Financial Inclusion, and Welfare in Africa: Emerging Debates on Recovery Pathway'. The CSAE conference provides a platform for showcasing the best papers from the Thematic Programme annually. Three researchers, namely, Elizabeth Nanziri, Fienassah Akem and Bao-we-wal Bambe, presented their final reports at the conference.

1.5 Improved quality and delivery of university-graduate level economics curriculum

In fiscal year 2023/24, several activities were undertaken to ensure that the quality and delivery of the Collaborative Master's Programme in Economics (CMAP), the Collaborative Master's in Agricultural and Applied Economics (CMAAE), and the Collaborative PhD Programme (CPP) at partner universities, improve and keep up with global standards.

Enriching the Learning Experience: Joint Facility for Electives (JFE) and Shared Facility for Specialisation and Electives (SFSE) 2023

The year 2023 marked the fourth year of implementing virtual JFE and SFSE since the outbreak of COVID-19. It also marked the first year of implementing the blended learning approach, which combined online and face-to-face delivery of the CMAAE SFSE.

The CMAP Joint Facility for Electives 2023

The virtual CMAP JFE was held between July and October 2023. A total of 102 (40 women – 39%) students drawn from 10 African nationalities and nine (9) public universities in the CMAP network were in attendance. In comparison, a total of 95, 120 and 105 students participated in the third, second and first virtual CMAP JFE held in 2022, 2021 and 2020, respectively. During

the preceding years, when the in-person JFE was held at a facility in Nairobi, the number of participating students reduced from 61 in 2017 to 54 in 2018 and 55 in 2019. The students were from six (6) Category "B" universities (Makerere, Botswana, Cape Coast, Malawi, Namibia, and Zimbabwe) and three (3) Category "A" universities (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, National University of Lesotho, and University of Zambia). The distribution of students by gender and university over the period 2017-2023 is presented in Table A6.

There have been significant improvements in female enrolments in the programme over the years, with the average over the last 10 years (2014-2023) standing at a respectable 39%. The AERC will continue to encourage female participation in the CMAP, CMAAE and CPP through stricter application of affirmative action in the award of scholarships to qualified female students as well as the implementation of other female/family-friendly initiatives while continuing to give strategic prominence to this issue. A total of seven elective courses were taught by 14 (of whom four {4} were women) visiting lecturers (one lecturer per course per semester).

The CMAAE Shared Facility for Specialisation and Electives 2023

The hybrid CMAAE 2023 SFSE commenced on 1 August and ended on 30 November 2023. The fully online session of the SFSE was conducted between August and September 2023, with a total of 129 students from eight accredited CMAAE universities (Egerton; Haramaya; LUANAR; Makerere; Nairobi; Pretoria; Sokoine; and Zimbabwe) in attendance. The face-to-face session took place at the University of Pretoria in South Africa from October to November 2023, with a capping of 10 visiting students per each of the 7 universities in attendance. The rest of the students continued learning virtually. This was significantly higher than the participation of 96, 102 and 117 students in the 2022, 2021 and 2020 virtual SFSEs, respectively. However, this was still a significant increase compared to 81 in the 2019 SFSE held physically at the University of Pretoria. In terms of gender distribution, of the 129 CMAAE students, 55 (43%) were female. Table A7 presents the gender distribution of students by university.

The average percentage of female enrolment over the last 10 years (2014-2023) is 40%. During the virtual SFSE 2023, a total of 14 courses were offered by a team of 14 (of whom four {4} were women) visiting lecturers.

The CPP JFE 2023

The CPP JFE was held between July and November 2023. A total of 30 PhD students drawn from 11 African nationalities participated in the virtual CPP JFE, compared to the 25 students who completed the programme in 2022. The students were drawn from seven (7) CPP network universities (Abomey-Calavi in Benin; Cape Town in South Africa; Dar es Salaam in Tanzania; Félix Houphouët-Boigny in Cote d'Ivoire; Ibadan in Nigeria; the Witwatersrand in South Africa; and Yaoundé II in Cameroon) and one non-CPP university (Cape Coast in Ghana). In terms of gender, 50% (15 out of the 30) of the students were women, a commendable improvement over the 32% female enrolment in 2022. This is the highest percentage of women in the CPP JFE, surpassing the previous record of 45% attained back in 2017. Table A8 presents the distribution of students by gender and university.

There have been inconsistencies in attaining gender equality across the universities. Whereas the award of scholarships is within the control of the AERC, and progress towards attaining gender parity has been significantly realised, student enrolment at the respective universities is not. This implies that every effort towards realising gender equality in student enrolment should be in partnership with the universities.

Gender Analysis of CPP Enrolment and Completion Rate

Since the inception of the CPP in 2002 until 2023, the AERC has sponsored 445 students, 143 (32%) of whom are women. A total of 299 CPP students have graduated since the inception of the programme in 2002. Out of the 143 AERC CPP sponsored female students, 71 have successfully completed their studies, which represents 50% completion rate. However, out of the 302 AERC CPP sponsored male students, 228 have graduated, which represents 75% completion rate. The differences in the completion rates of the male and female students explain the low percentage of AERC-sponsored PhD graduates who are women.

An in-depth gender analysis is planned to be undertaken with support from the Nordic Consulting Group (NCG) to identify supply bottlenecks that result in few women enrolling in postgraduate programmes. The outcome of the gender survey will inform the measures to be taken to mainstream gender in the AERC's programmes and partnering universities.

Setting and Sitting of Comprehensive Examinations for CPP

At the end of the JFE, the PhD students write comprehensive examinations in four fields: microeconomics, macroeconomics and two elective fields. The setting of the comprehensive examination for the class of 2022 PhD students was undertaken virtually in February 2024 by teams of experts drawn from network universities and the diaspora. The examinations were conducted at the respective degree-awarding universities from 19 February to 8 March 2024. The electronic copies of the examination scripts were consolidated and graded by a team of internal examiners in March 2024. The comprehensives, together with the JFE 2023 examination results, were approved at the CMAP-CPP Academic Advisory Board in May 2024.

CPP Thesis Proposals and Best Chapters Presentations at the Biannual Research Workshop

Presentations of PhD thesis research work by CPP students in the concurrent thematic groups at the biannual research workshops have remained a key component of strengthening quality as students benefit from the peer review mechanism and the large pool of international resource people. At the June and December 2023 Biannual Research Workshops, a total of nine (9) PhD thesis research proposals and six (6) best chapter papers were presented in the concurrent thematic groups, as summarised in Table Annexe E.

Invitations to present PhD thesis research work at the biannual research workshop were subject to obtaining positive reviews from a thematic resource person. A total of 10 PhD thesis research grants were awarded to the CPP students after obtaining favourable comments from the resource persons during their proposal presentations at the concurrent sessions.

CMAP, CMAAE and CPP Admissions and Scholarships

A total of 15 new CMAP partial tuition and fees in-country scholarships were awarded (53% to female students) to first-year students in August 2023. A total of 13 partial tuition and fees in-country new CPP scholarships were awarded to first-year students in 2023/24. In terms of gender distribution, seven (7) (54%) of the 13 CPP scholarships were awarded to women in 2023/24, compared to 55%, 60% and 63% in 2022/23, 2021/22 and 2020/21, respectively. The achievement of over 50% in the enrolment of female students into CPP is because of the AERC reaching out to the admitting universities to encourage more female students to enrol into CPP as well as applying affirmative action in the award of scholarships

to qualified women. A total of 32 new CMAAE scholarships were awarded to first-year students in November 2023. Fifteen (15) of the scholarships were awarded to female students, indicating a 47% female representation. Seven (7) of the scholarships were full, while 25 were partial, tuition-only, in-country scholarships. A total of eight (8) PhD DAAD Agricultural Economics scholarships were renewed in August 2023, of which two (2) were for students admitted in 2022/23, while six (6) were for students admitted in 2021/22.

Academic Advisory Board Meetings

The CMAP-CPP Academic Advisory Board (AAB) and its sub-committee meetings were held virtually in June 2023 and February 2024. The AAB approved the CPP JFE 2022 and comprehensive examination results for the CPP class of 2021 students in June 2023. The Board also approved the preparations for virtual CMAP-CPP JFE 2023, including the appointment of visiting lecturers. In February 2024, the CMAP-CPP Academic Advisory Board and its sub-committee meetings approved the CMAP JFE 2023 and the supplementary comprehensive examination results for CPP class of 2021 students. The CMAAE Academic Sub-Committee held its meeting in June 2023 to consider and approve the 2022 SFSE special and supplementary examinations, the venue for the SFSE for 2023-25, the courses to be offered in the 2023 SFSE, and the respective visiting lecturers. In January 2024, the CMAAE Academic Sub-Committee and the Board met to approve the CMAAE SFSE 2023 examination results. A joint meeting of the CMAAE, CMAP-CPP Academic Advisory Boards was held in January 2024 to discuss the future agenda of the training programme.

Impact Evaluation Retooling Workshop for Faculty and Researchers

The AERC, in partnership with the University of North Carolina and the BMGF, under the PASHFARM Project, conducted a retooling workshop on impact evaluation targeting teaching faculties from the AERC collaborating universities and PASHFARM project researchers. A hybrid approach was used to conduct the workshop in

July 2023. The objective of the workshop was to equip faculty members and researchers with tools for impact evaluation that are key for individual research and teaching of research methods, econometrics, quantitative methods, and project analysis at the graduate level. The retooling workshop was attended by 41 faculty members and researchers from 18 SSA countries, of whom 19 (representing 46%) of participants were women.

Monitoring and Evaluation Missions to Universities

The Training Department conducted three monitoring and evaluation missions to Egerton University, Kenya, in November 2023, and the Sokoine University of Agriculture, as well as the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania in February 2024. The purpose of the visits was to evaluate the status of the training programmes' implementation. In each of the missions, an aide memoire was signed to mark the end of the evaluation visit and to spell out issues for follow-up by the respective universities and the AERC.

Maturation and Admission of Universities

The maturation of universities remains an important area of focus in the current AERC strategic plan 2020-2025. It stipulates in the period 2020-2025, a total of 35 universities (15 Collaborative Masters Programme (CMAP), nine (9) Collaborative Masters in Agricultural and Applied Economics (CMAAE) and 11 Collaborative PhD Programme (CPP)) to have the capacity to offer master's and PhD programmes, respectively. During the period under review, the University Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD) in Dakar, Sénégal, and the University of Pretoria in South Africa were admitted into CPP as Non-Host Degree Awarding Universities. The Memorandum of Understanding with the two universities was signed in September 2023, bringing the total number of CPP Degree Awarding universities to 11.

Table 1 summarises the outcomes relating to the implementation of activities under Strategic Theme 1.

Table 1: Outcomes resulting from implementation of Strategic Theme 1 on improving quality.

End of Strategy	Outcome	Baseline	Actual	Target	Actual
Outcomes	Indicator	2019/20	2022/23	2023/24	April 2023 - March 2024
1.1 Improved enabling environment for high quality policy-oriented research and graduate training in sub-Saharan Africa	1.1(a) Number of AERC alumni engaged in relevant policy formulation and research within policy making institutions (Cumulative)	1,020	1,261	1,210	1,349
	1.1(b) Number of policies informed by AERC research (Cumulative)	0	8	5	11
1.2 Improved researchers' capability and dissemination capacity	1.2(a) Number of collaborative research framework and country case studies published in internationally refereed journals (Cumulative)	270	321	310	348
	1.2(b) Number of thematic and graduate students' research papers published in internationally refereed journals (Cumulative)	243	289	303	294
1.3 Improved quality of graduate students	1.3(a) Percentage of graduates in economics & agricultural economics working as teaching faculties, researchers, policy analysts and policy makers in universities, government institutions and policy research institutes	76%	84%	83%	85%
	1.3(b) Number of CMAP, CMAAE and CPP alumni produced with competencies to conduct economic policy research and graduate training in SSA (Cumulative)	CMAP- 3,151 CMAAE-910 CPP-249	CMAP-3,486 CMAAE-1,088 CPP- 292	CMAP- 3,677 CMAAE-1,230 CPP-328	(CMAP- 3,688 CMAAE-1237 CPP-309)
Intermediate	Outcome	Baseline	Actual	Target	Actual
Outcomes	Indicator	2019/20	2022/23	2023/24	April 2023 - March 2024
1.4 Improved synergy between collaborative and thematic research	1.4(a) Number of collaborative research projects done by the five thematic research groups (Cumulative)	0	5	5	9
	1.4(b) Number of thematic research papers generated from the broader themes of collaborative research (Cumulative)	0	19	20	25
1.5 Improved incentive for thematic and collaborative research	1.5(a) Number of early career researchers (ER) conducting thematic research (Cumulative)	4,520	4,694	5,120	4,729
	1.5(b) Number of senior researchers participating in AERC research (Cumulative)	540	678	650	691
1.6 Improved quality and delivery of university graduate level economics curriculum	1.6(a) Number of Masters and PhD students registered for online JFE/SFSE (annually)	80	216 (CMAP-95; CMAAE-96; CPP-25)	250	261 (CMAP-102; CMAAE-129; CPP-30)
1.7. Improved due diligence and quality assurance by AERC	1.7(a) Percentage of research proposals out of the total peer reviewed and presented that proceed to interim report	65%	83%	85%	78%



STRATEGIC THEME 2

ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY: Building strong institutions, diversified resource base and inclusive participation in AERC research and training activities.

To expand access to the AERC's research and training programmes as well as policy outreach, during the strategic period 2020-2025, the AERC will seek to broaden its resource base and harness robust support systems, coupled with competent human capital and sound policies, procedures, and governance structure. At the end of the five-year strategic phase, the AERC anticipates achieving the following three long-term outcomes:

2.1 Improved organisational performance.

2.2 Diversified financial resource base supporting the AERC activities.

2.3 Increased participation of under-represented countries and groups in economic policy – institutional strengthening.

In the fiscal year 2023/24, the AERC has undertaken various activities to support institutional capacity building in the region, with the aim of achieving targets set for several outcomes that are summarised in Table 2.

2.4 Improved collaboration with economic policy decision-making institutions

During the period under review, the AERC partnered with several institutions of governments, foundations, non-state actors and regional institutions to jointly undertake policy research to inform policy on the continent.

The AERC African Inter-Governmental Relations

The AERC has a strong linkage with African governments and other institutions in Africa. The current partnership is with the Government of Kenya (GoK) in the implementation of a capacity-building project for economic policy analysis. The primary objective of the project is to strengthen economic policy analysis and financial management capabilities in The National Treasury. The project, which has been implemented since January 2011, has supported 108 master's and 80 PhD Kenyan students admitted at various CMAP, CMAAE and CPP universities. Under the project, master's graduates serve as graduate trainees at The National Treasury for a duration of three years upon successfully completing their studies. So far, 96 masters' graduates have been attached to The National Treasury as graduate trainees, of whom 62 have successfully served their three years internship, with 26 of them being employed by The National Treasury as Economist I. A total of 19 master's graduates are continuing with their internship. The Government of Kenya is also working together with the AERC and the University of Copenhagen in implementing a collaborative project funded by DANIDA 'Economic Research for Policymaking in Kenya'. Under this project, The National Treasury is responsible for promoting policy reforms that include solid evidence from the project, thereby fostering the uptake of economic policy research by policymakers, practitioners and other development actors through engaging national policy networks and partner bases to expand influence.

In the PROPEL Health project funded by the USAID, the AERC, together with Palladium, are implementing 'Inter-Ministerial Policy Dialogues on Strengthening Primary Healthcare Financing and Service Delivery' between the Ministries of Finance and Ministries of Health in Kenya, Botswana, and Zambia. The policy dialogues will generate a collaborative framework, which is expected to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of primary health financing and health outcomes in the countries.

Institutional Collaborations

The AERC has fostered and continues to develop critical institutional partnerships for the purpose of utilising comparative advantages, convening power and policy

outreach to critical policy publics. Key amongst the partnerships include the following:

Inclusive Development Knowledge Platform Project

The AERC continued its institutional collaboration with the Dutch-supported Knowledge Platform on Inclusive Development Policies (INCLUDE), which was established in 2012. INCLUDE is made up of researchers, practitioners and policymakers from civil society, the private sector and governments in Africa and the Netherlands, and is supported by a secretariat that is a consortium of the African Studies Centre (ASC) in Leiden and the AERC. To enhance the research uptake capacity of Africa Policy Dialogues (APD) teams, a learning session was held in October 2023, where over 20 participants attended from APDs in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique and Uganda. The session focused on monitoring, evaluation and learning pathways for evidence informed decision making and formulation of change-oriented results, and identifying opportunities for change. Relatedly, Ian Goldman (a renowned evaluation and evidence uptake expert) led a discussion forum on 'how to be better positioned to influence evidence-driven policies' for the INCLUDE Secretariat in November 2023.

The AERC and the T20

The AERC is a member of the T20 Think Tanks – a select group of think tanks associated with the G20 platform. The T20 think tanks serve as one of the technical arms of the G20, generating research for policymaking by the G20 countries through the G20 platform. The idea is to bring African voices, based on rigour and evidence, to bear on G20 deliberations. During the reporting, the AERC continued its successful collaboration with the T20 network for international development.

In November 2023, the Africa-Europe Foundation (AEF) and the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD) requested the AERC and other think tanks in the AUDA-NEPAD Policy Bridge Tanks to play a greater role in T20 for effective policy messaging at G20 events. The AERC convened a panel for a conference in January 2024.

The African Think Tank Summit

The AERC participated in the African Think Tank Summit organised by the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) in Lusaka, Zambia, in November 2023. Dr. Abbi Kedir, AERC, and Prof. Olawale Ogunkola, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, attended plenary sessions on the theme 'Linking evidence, policies, and practice to contribute to the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement'.

The African Economic Conference

The AERC was represented in various panel sessions at the African Economic Conference from 16–18 November 2023 by Prof. Dominique Njinkeu, former Interim Executive Director at the AERC, and Prof. Olawale Ogunkola, Professor of Economics at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. The event was organised by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). The theme of the conference was ‘Imperatives for sustainable industrial development in Africa’.

11th African Evidence Summit

The AERC participated in the 11th African Evidence Summit organised by the Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA), University of California, Berkeley, from 19–20 June 2023, in Nairobi, Kenya. A panel session was held on the theme **‘Prospecting Pro-poor Growth through Redistribution Amid Inequality in Africa’**. The session panellists were Prof. Germano Mwabu, Professor of Economics at the Department of Economics and Development Studies, University of Nairobi; Dr. Rose Ngugi, Executive Director at KIPPRA; Mr. John Olela, Director, Sustainable Development Goals Coordination Directorate, State Department of Economic Planning, The National Treasury and Economic Planning, Republic of Kenya. During the summit, a parallel paper presentation session was also organised for two (2) papers from the Re-examining Growth, Poverty, Inequality and Redistribution Relationships (GPIR). The papers were presented by Dede Gafa and Nicholas Ngepah.

AERC and UCPH-DERG

The AERC, in partnership with the Development Economics Research Group at the University of Copenhagen (UCPH-DERG), is undertaking a three-year research project on ‘Economic Research and Policy Making in Kenya’ funded by the DANISH Embassy. The objective of the collaboration is to generate high-quality research, which can provide policy advice to decision-makers in Kenya.

AERC and Global Centre for Development – Boston University

The AERC is a member of the Climate, Development and IMF task force hosted at the Boston University Global Development Policy Centre. In January 2024, the AERC participated in a task force meeting, presenting a paper on debt burden, public spending, climate change mitigation and adaptation, developed from the task force

theme on ‘Understanding the Macro-consistency of the Scale of Public Investments to Address Climate Change’, under the AERC-Boston University agreement.

Partnerships in Research Findings Dissemination

The AERC disseminated research findings with partner institutions in Gambia - The National Farmers Platform (NFPG); Ethiopia - Policy Studies Institute (PSI); Nigeria - Nigerian Economic Summit Group (NESG); Uganda - Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC); Tanzania - Science Technology and Innovation Policy Research Organisation (STIPRO); Burkina-Faso (*de Documentation et de Recherche Economiques et Sociales (CEDRES)*); Benin - *Laboratoire d’Ecologie Appliquée (LEA)*; Senegal - Consortium for Economic and Social Research (CRES); Ghana - The University of Ghana – Economics Department; Rwanda - Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN); Burundi - *Centre Universitaire de Recherche pour le Développement Economique et Social (CURDES)*; Madagascar - *Centre de Recherche pour le Développement (CRD)*; Morocco - Economic Research Forum (ERF); Kenya - Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA); Cameroon - *Centre d’Analyse et de Recherche sur les Politiques Économiques et Sociales du Cameroun - (CAMER-CAP)*; Togo - *Centre Autonome d’Etudes et de Renforcement des capacités pour le Développement au Togo - CADERDT*; Malawi - (Mwapata Institute), Ghana - Department of Economic and The Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER), University of Ghana; Central African Republic - *Centre d’Etudes et de Recherches sur les Analyses et Politiques Economiques (CERAPE)* and South Africa - African Institute for Inclusive Growth (AIIG).

The research findings emanated from the projects on Climate Change and Economic Development in Africa; Human Capital Development in Africa; Digital Financial Services for the Poor; Growth, Poverty, Inequality and Redistribution; Inclusive Finance in Fragile and post-Conflict States; and Impact of war in Ukraine on Low-income countries and SDR.

The AIR and AERC Partnership

An MoU was formalised in July 2023 with the American Institutes for Research (AIR) with the primary objective of providing mentorship and networking for graduates and teaching faculty at African universities. The AIR Institute Fellows, leadership, and internal and external experts collaborate with the AERC to deliver seminars, workshops, lectures and short courses on research methodology and design, social and economic policy, diversity, equity and inclusion, workforce development, and other relevant

topics.

2.5 Enhanced capacity to diversity funding base

The funding environment for not-for-profits has shifted, with donors taking a different approach to funding. The AERC needs to take an aggressive approach to realise the required funds to support the strategy. The following fundraising efforts were made over the reporting period:

1. The AERC established a partnership with the American Institutes for Research (AIR) based on the objective of deepening the bench of PhD-level social and behavioural scientists in Africa. The P3-Africa/AERC Doctoral student fellowship programme will involve providing support to three (3) PhD candidates through the AERC's CPP thesis grant mechanism. Under the partnership, the AERC was awarded a grant of US\$74,175, covering the period December 2023 to September 2024. The AERC/AIR scholars will be matched with an AIR senior research to provide additional support, mentoring and networking opportunities. The grant covers PhD thesis research grant and supervision fees, travel cost to the AERC biannual research workshop for student and supervisor, tuition and fees for two academic years, and support to attend an international conference (CSAE or equivalent).
2. The AERC signed a three-year grant of DKK10 million with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Danida) in support of the research collaboration on the project titled Economic Research and Policymaking in Kenya. The project is for a three-year period (2023-2026) and will be managed by the AERC in partnership with the Development Economics Research Group at the University of Copenhagen (UCPH-DERG). The implementing partners include KIPPRA and The National Treasury and Economic Planning ministry, Kenya. The project objective is to generate high-quality research that can provide policy advice to decision makers in Kenya. Research activities will focus on several key areas of concern to the Government of Kenya (GoK) – and the findings will help serve as a basis and input to policy reforms in The National Treasury, thereby enhancing the evidence base for informed economic policy making in Kenya. In September 2023, the former AERC Interim Executive Director, Prof. Dominique Njinkeu, held consultative meetings with Ms. Mette Melson, the Development Co-operation Specialist for Kenya and Somalia at the Danish Embassy in Nairobi, to discuss possible ways of enriching the existing partnership and increasing the support to the AERC in the future. The discussions focused on DANIDA's model of Budget Support to Kenya's National Treasury, with the funding managed by the AERC to support research that will inform the tax reforms agenda in Kenya. The AERC and DANIDA briefly discussed possibilities of replicating this funding model in other African countries in the future.
3. In advance of the three-year grant support from the DANIDA, the latter awarded the AERC a 4-month consultancy agreement in support of a preliminary review of the tax structure in Kenya. The amount of DKK247,500 was awarded towards this project, which is expected to end in July 2023.
4. The World Bank awarded the AERC a contract to coordinate a project to "Strengthen the Research Capacity on Forced Displacement in Kenya". The award of US\$231,557 will support the project that will run from 22 March 2023 to 31 December 2024.
5. The AERC is undertaking the Public Service Perception Survey to compliment the Africa Public Service Delivery Index project, having signed a joint agreement with the Ford Foundation and the AfDB for US\$400,000 towards its implementation. With the end of grant on 31 October 2023, the AERC submitted a three-month no-cost extension request to the Ford Foundation to allow for additional activities, including conducting regional consultative meetings in two regions on the survey report in November and December 2023.
6. Various donor reports were submitted in compliance with the grant requirements.
7. Meetings with potential funding partners were held with the AfDB, Afreximbank and the UNDP, where possible funding avenues and areas of collaboration were discussed as follows:
 - AfDB: The AERC has continued to engage with the AfDB with the request to join the Consortium as a Member. Further, the two institutions have sought to strengthen the long-standing partnership with the primary goal of contributing to greater economic stability and growth in RMCs through capacity development and research output that support the implementation of evidence-based economic policy. The expected outcomes of the partnership include: (i) Improved public sector capacity in terms of macroeconomic management, public finance, etc.; (ii) Stronger enabling environment and capacity for high-quality research and graduate training for policy influence and development outcomes in priority areas related to SDG targets on poverty eradication, agriculture and food security, health, gender equality, inclusive and green growth; (iii) Improved institutional coordination and interaction between

governments, private sector players, national think tanks and research institutes to provide high-level policy analysis and dialogue on topical issues of relevance to Africa; and (iv) Broadened reach and efficiency in the delivery of high-quality research and training of economists in sub-Saharan Africa by leveraging on digital technologies. The future areas of collaboration with the bank are expected to revolve around the following three components that focus on areas of special emphasis of the SDGs, including poverty eradication, agriculture and food security, health, gender equality, inclusivity and green growth.

- Afreximbank: Discussions with Afreximbank have continued during the year with the objective of developing avenues for deeper collaboration after the end of a three-year engagement (2020-2023) and annual support of US\$100,000 to the AERC over the period. Discussions culminated in a meeting held in Cairo in February 2024, where the proposed avenues for further collaboration included the potential for engagement with the Centre of Excellence in partnership with the Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU), the Cairo University and the Centre for Development Research at the University of Bonn.
- UNDP: The AERC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to cooperate in areas of mutual concerns related to development. The event took place in New York in February 2024. The purpose of the memorandum of understanding is to provide a framework for non-exclusive cooperation and facilitate and strengthen collaboration between the AERC and the UNDP in various areas of cooperation. The two organisations have identified several activities in which cooperation may be pursued, with each organisation operating subject to its respective mandates, governing regulations, rules, policies, and procedures.

2.6 Improved organisational support system

The AERC's organisational effectiveness will create a platform to facilitate the strategy's delivery. Various activities have been carried out in the current fiscal year to enable the governance and systems to facilitate the AERC's effectiveness.

1. The AERC held Programme Committee meetings of the 2023/24 in June and December 2023. The outcomes of the meetings included the approval of 23 thematic research grants and nine (9) PhD thesis grants.
2. The AERC annual audit was undertaken in May 2023. The auditors issued an unqualified report for the FY 2022/23. A management letter with comments on areas of improvement was also issued. Further, a special audit, Agreed Upon Procedure (AUP) audit for SIDA funding for the FY 2022/23 was conducted. The filing of Internal Revenue Service Returns (IRS) was successfully done and submitted in November 2023. Meanwhile, the audit for FY 2023/24 was done in May 2024 by Ernst & Young. The audit will include an Agreed Upon Procedure (AUP) audit for SIDA expenses for FY 2023/24.
3. DANIDA commissioned a specialised project audit for a preliminary review of the tax structure and Kenya consultancy grant, which was for DKK 247,500. The audit was unqualified.
4. New Internal Auditors, Management Audit Consulting, were appointed in July 2023 and commenced their assignments in July 2023. They made their first presentation in November 2023 at the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) meeting, which also approved their work plan for the next year.
5. The performance appraisals for the year 2022-2023 and performance agreements for the year 2023-2024 were completed.
6. A total of 10 staff had skill enhancement/development opportunities, while all staff benefited from group training on gender mainstreaming for the AERC and its network. Additionally, French classes commenced in March 2024, with a total of 25 staff participating.
7. A staff satisfaction survey was conducted in January 2024, and the outcome was analysed to determine possible actions the AERC can take to respond.
8. Staff turnover in fiscal year 2023/24 was at 10%, with three (3) staff resigning – two (2) from research administration support and the Executive Director. The Research Programme Assistant position has been filled, while the recruitment for the Executive Director commenced in quarter three (3) alongside the position of the Director of Training.
9. As a continuous practice, the cloud-based platform managed applications with reduced complexity of building and maintaining the AERC's infrastructure.
10. The new ERP system was launched in June 2023. The Research Management System (RMS) has already been fully scoped and tested. Considering

the Programme Committee's recommendation on the RMS in the last sitting, a re-development and re-design are being worked on, considering the User Interface (UI) and User Experience (UX) to be more interactive for users.

11. The AERC has implemented an Alumni Platform to promote engagement between the secretariat, current stakeholders and its alumni in line with the strategy.
12. The IT network upgrade was dependent on the AERC's move to the new building. This has not yet been achieved, but the IT department has completed scoping and requirements analysis.
13. The cyber security system upgrade has been implemented and is running on an automated threat detection and response system that provides holistic protection against cyberattacks.

2.7 Enhanced visibility and opportunity in under-represented regions of Africa

One of the key components of the AERC strategic plan 2020-2025 is inclusiveness in its research and capacity-building initiatives, with great emphasis on enhancing the participation of women and individuals from fragile and post-conflict countries. This is achieved through targeted specialised technical workshops and research mentorships, teaching faculty retooling workshops and application of affirmative action in the award of scholarships as highlighted in the sections that follow.

Technical Workshop on Research Methods and Proposal Writing Skills

A technical workshop on Research Methods and Proposal Writing Skills targeted at women was held from 19 to 30 September 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya. A total of 23 women from 15 sub-Saharan Africa countries attended the technical workshop, with 10 of them coming from Francophone countries and one from Lusophone countries. The trainer for the technical workshop was Prof. Abayomi Samuel Oyekale, Northwest University, Mafikeng Campus, South Africa.

Proposal Development Workshop for SSA Women

Following the training on Research Methods and Proposal Writing Skills held from 19-30 September 2023 for SSA women, a Proposal Development Workshop was held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 30 November-1 December 2023. A total of 10 women from seven (7) sub-Saharan African countries attended the Proposal Development Workshop, with four (4) of them coming from Francophone states.

The mentors at the Proposal Development Workshop were Prof. Miracle Benhura and Prudence Magejo, both Associate Professors of Economics at the School of Economics and Finance, University of Witwatersrand in South Africa, and Prof. Francis Baye, Professor of Economics, Department of Economics and Management, University of Yaoundé II in Cameroon.

Gender Mainstreaming

An in-depth gender analysis and audit of the AERC as an organisation, and of its core activities (research, graduate training, and policy outreach) was conducted in September 2022 by the secretariat with the support of the Nordic Consulting Group (NCG) appointed by the AERC's funding partner, SIDA. A report of the audit was produced, and an action plan was developed. A Gender Working Group comprising nine (9) members from all the units within the AERC Secretariat was established in June 2023, with the main mandate being to champion gender mainstreaming within the institution and in activities with various stakeholders. The Group is responsible for further development of the AERC gender action plan and the oversight of its implementation.

A two-day training on mainstreaming gender for all the AERC staff was conducted on 25-26 September 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya. The workshop was part of the AERC gender action plan and aimed to contribute to an overall deeper understanding of gender concepts and how to promote gender equality, both at the AERC Secretariat and in the operations of the AERC. During the workshop, the AERC team reviewed the status of gender mainstreaming at the AERC and identified some priority areas for the coming years.

The AERC's future interventions will gradually build from lessons from current and past activities with the aim of closing the gender gap. The team prioritised the conducting of a survey study on women economists in Africa in early 2024/25 to understand the root causes of low women's participation in doctoral studies, research and leadership roles as lead authors, resource persons, steering committees, among others. This is expected to inform interventions to be undertaken during the next strategic plan period to mainstream gender in all programmatic activities and policies. In addition, a gender review will be conducted of key policies and guidelines of the AERC to ensure that they are more gender responsive. Given the prominence of gender-based analysis in research, the AERC will engage a team of gender experts to develop a common course to be offered to all its master's and doctoral students at the JFE/SFSE. The AERC also intends, in the next review of its master's and

PhD courses, to infuse gender studies and analysis where applicable. Teaching faculty retooling workshops will be organised and conducted to enlighten teaching faculty and supervisors on integrating gender dimension in both teaching and research.

Affirmative action in the award of scholarships to qualified female students will continue to be applied as well as application of female/family-friendly policies. In addition, under collaborative research, the AERC has made strides in ensuring both the studies and the project steering committees, have representation from males and females.

Several studies have also been conducted in the fragile and post-conflict states, as well as ensuring the gender component has been integrated into research through conducting specialised gender mainstreaming workshops and having gender specialists in the projects. The AERC will target to build a fund for women-only scholarships with the aim of achieving a critical pool of women researchers, teaching faculties, policy analysts and leaders in various institutions.

Table 2 presents a summary of the outcomes relating to the implementation of activities under Strategic Theme 2.

Table 2: Outcomes resulting from implementation of Strategic Theme 2 on ensuring sustainability

End of Strategy	Outcome	Baseline	Actual	Target	Actual
Outcomes	Indicator	2019/20	2022/23	2023/24	April 2023 - March 2024
2.1 Improved organisational performance	2.1(a) Number of empirical policy research papers produced by policy analysts and researchers of government institutions, national think tanks, and research institutes technically equipped through research mentorship and specialised technical trainings.	0	152	20	71
2.2 Diversified financial resource base supporting AERC activities	2.2(a) Funding concentration-reliance ratio, which measures the funding share of 5 largest funders (gives awareness of the risk of reliance on few funders)	75%	81%	75%	59%
2.3 Increased participation of underrepresented countries and groups in economic policy institutional strengthening	3.3(a) Annual percentage of thematic researchers who are from fragile and post-conflict countries	33%	34%	39%	45%
	3.3(b) Number of thematic research papers produced and co-authored by women researchers (Cumulative)	200	257	255	261
Intermediate	Outcome	Baseline	Actual	Target	Actual
Outcomes	Indicator	2019/20	2022/23	2023/24	April 2023 - March 2024
2.4 Improved collaboration with economic policy decision-making institutions	2.4(a) Affiliation of AERC with national, regional and international organisations (National Think Tanks (NT), Central Banks (CB), African Governments (AG) and Regional Institutions (RI))	NT (12) CB (14) AG (1) RI (4)	NT (12) CB (12) AG (1) RI (5)	NT (12) CB (18) AG (4) RI (4)	(NT (12); CB (12); AG (1); RI (7)
2.5 Enhanced capacity to diversify funding base	2.5(a) Cumulative Number (CN) and mix of funding partners supporting AERC	CN (16) Mix (5)	CN (17) Mix (5)	CN (22) Mix (7)	CN (18) Mix (5)
2.6 Improved organisational support system	2.6(a) Percentage of technical staff (Directors and Managers) retained over the entire duration of the strategic plan	50%	54%	75%	54%
	2.6 (b) Programme efficiency ratio calculated as programme expenses divided by total expenses (Measures how much of an organisation's expenses are being spent on programmes versus overhead costs)	74%	89%	74%	89%
2.7 Enhanced visibility and opportunity in underrepresented regions of Africa	2.7(a) Percentage of participants taking part in research and graduate training activities that are from Francophone and Lusophone countries	40%	60%	48%	49%
	2.7(b) Percentage of AERC sponsored master's and PhD graduates who are women.	MA (34%) PhD (24%)	MA (36%) PhD (24%)	MA (40%) PhD (27%)	MA (36%) PhD (25%)

A hand holding a dart with a glowing network of human icons connected by lines. The background is dark with a warm, golden glow. The text 'STRATEGIC THEME 3' is prominently displayed in white, bold, uppercase letters.

STRATEGIC THEME 3

EXPAND INFLUENCE: Fostering the uptake of economic policy research, knowledge sharing and dialogue through the creation of a knowledge generation centre, policy advisory centre and networks

During the strategic period 2020-2025, the AERC will foster the uptake of economic policy research knowledge sharing and dialogue through the creation of a knowledge centre, policy advisory centre and networks. These efforts will be supplemented by developing a policy communications programme at the national and regional level that will support the alignment of policy outreach initiatives in the region. By 2025, the AERC anticipates achieving the following two long-term outcomes:

3.1 Improved cooperation and information sharing on economic policy issues across Africa

3.2 Improved proactive policy engagement and outreach

3.3 Enhanced platforms for cooperation and information sharing

- This relates to improvements in the availability and accessibility of relevant economics policy-related research and knowledge to a broad range of actors (including decision-makers and policy influencers). Several platforms have been used to provide timely and customised support to influence policy decision-making in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Policy Briefs: Fifty-nine (59) policy Briefs were produced from the thematic and collaborative research projects during the period under review and posted on the AERC website for wider circulation. These policy briefs provide a concise and clear-cut summary of a specific research paper that is particularly intended for use by policymakers.
- Thematic Research Papers: A total of 21 research papers were produced and distributed. This is one of a series of AERC publications containing the final edited and externally refereed version of research results emanating from an AERC thematic research project.
- Working Papers: A total of 73 Working Papers were published, including 14 from the Growth Sectors for Youth Employment (GSYE) project; 14 from the Inventory, Financial Inclusion & Market Development in East African Economies; 28 Data Governance projects, 15 from the AFPON Project; and two (2) from the GIZ Project.
- Theses: In collaboration with AgEcon Search of the University of Minnesota, AERC published and disseminated 36 theses from the Collaborative Masters in Agricultural and Applied Economics (CMAAE) programme. The AgEcon Search is a free-to-use Web resource with full-text of working papers, conference papers and journals in agricultural, development, energy, resource and other areas of applied economics.
- More than 650 AERC publications are now available on RePEC (Research Papers in Economics). The connection to RePEC has seen a marked increase in downloads of the AERC publications. RePEC is a collaborative effort to enhance the dissemination of research in Economics and related sciences.
- The AERC's partnership with the Kenya Library Information Services Consortium (KLISC) has made numerous research papers accessible to stakeholders. The AERC now provides access to a host of online journals and databases, including JSTOR, Science Direct, SpringerLink, Oxford, Taylor & Francis, and EBSCO Host.
- The AERC Conducted two (2) policy brief training workshops to distil policy briefs from the AERC, GPIR and DFSP final reports.

Other Publications:

- The AERC published a special issue of the Food Policy journal titled *Role of Policy in Reducing Malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa*, from the AERC-BMGF project, Agricultural Policy Analysis for Nutrition Outcomes (AFPON). The journal was edited by Prof. Chris Barret, the Editor-in-Chief, Food Policy. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/food-policy/vol/113/suppl/C>.
- The AERC Biannual Plenary Papers were published by the Oxford University Press in Volume 32, Issue Supplement_2, April 2023; *Poverty, Growth, Inequality, Redistribution, and Social Inclusion Before and After the COVID-19 Pandemic in Africa*. https://academic.oup.com/jae/issue/32/Supplement_2.
- The AERC Biannual Plenary Papers were published by the Oxford University Press in Volume 32, Issue Supplement_1, March 2023 *The COVID-19 Pandemic and Public Finance in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities*.
- The AERC published a book volume titled *Digital Financial Inclusion and Market Development in East African Community Economies* by Ngui, Dianah; Shimeles, Abebe; Ndung'u, Njuguna; Cracknell, David; and Greenacre, Jonathan. <https://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/items/ed42bf1a-7f1a-405c-b207-1f4b1c970b7e>.
- The AERC published a volume titled *Data Governance and Policy in Africa*. Edited By Bitange Ndemo, Njuguna Ndung'u, Scholastica Odhiambo, and Abebe Shimeles.
- *African Economies and Overlapping Crises: How to Respond to the Rising Global Headwinds?* By Njuguna Ndung'u and Théophile T. Azomahou. Brookings. 2023. <https://aercafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/African-economies-and-overlapping-crises.pdf>.
- The AERC online library (e-Library) has several textbooks, reference journal articles, lecture materials and recordings available for access to lessons by students. The key initiatives and innovations undertaken in the AERC Library include Integrated D-Space and e-Learning (Moodle) and uploaded 101 eBooks in economics from the Oxford University Press Open Access. Integration of the My Library on Fingertips

(MyLOFT) application, which provides a one-stop-shop of aggregated e-resources hosted on the AERC library and across the web, has made resources accessible from any internet browser.

- The eLearning environment under the AERC Learning Management System was enhanced by the *Class* technology in Zoom for better lecturer-student interaction. To ensure the examinations in the online environment are credible, the *Copyleaks* plagiarism and artificial intelligence content detector (including ChatGPT) and *Zumedi* examination proctoring facilities, were procured. These were piloted in 2023/24 and will be rolled out from 2024/25 onwards.

3.4 Enhanced platforms for coordination and information sharing

The AERC has taken proactive steps towards improving the dissemination of its research findings to its stakeholders. During the period under review, several activities were undertaken:

- On 5 September 2023, the AERC, in collaboration with the Boston University Global Development Policy Centre, the Vulnerable Group of Twenty (V20) Ministers of Finance of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), and the Debt Relief for a Green and Inclusive Recovery (DRGR) Project, hosted a side event at the Africa Climate Summit. The AERC presented findings from the ongoing collaborative research project on “Evidence to drive reforms for Special Drawing Rights (SDR) financing in SSA economic recovery”, funded by the BMGF. The side event featured High-level speakers, among them Abebe Shimeles, Jason Braganza, Kevin Gallagher, Sara Jane Ahmed, and Hanan Morsy.
- The AERC collaborates with the Dutch-supported Knowledge Platform on Inclusive Development Policies (INCLUDE). The Platform’s goal is to encourage the use of research evidence in policymaking and implementation to address poverty and inequalities to attain inclusive development objectives in Africa and the Netherlands. Over the period, several knowledge-sharing and evidence-uptake activities were held. These include a side event at the UN 2023 ECOSOC Youth Forum on 26 April 2023 in New York in collaboration with IDRC, ILO and Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth. The hybrid side event highlighted the barriers and way forward for more inclusive and decent youth employment in Africa’s digital economy. Another key event was a Webinar, which was held on 5 April 2023 in collaboration with Think Young. The Webinar was an interactive conversation between

youth, EU representatives, Kenyan policymakers and digital programme directors, about the barriers young people face in accessing digital skills education and development. The key knowledge products developed over this period are a Policy Brief with clear, actionable six policy recommendations for policymakers looking to invest in creating decent jobs for African youth through effective and inclusive youth agripreneurship initiatives; an evidence synthesis paper by INCLUDE and Think Young on digital skills for youth in Africa; and a Policy Update paper from Mozambique on ‘What the extractive industry should contribute to the growth and structural transformation of the country’s economy’. As part of dissemination, a video animation on the green jobs report was developed and widely circulated. Further, a call for research proposals to establish new Policy Dialogues has been developed and will be circulated in the coming days.

- The AERC held a side event at the third edition of the African Conference on Debt and Development (AfCoDD III) from 30 August to 1 September 2023, in Dakar, Senegal. The event featured findings from the BMGF-funded collaborative research project on “Evidence to drive reforms for Special Drawing Rights (SDR) financing in SSA economic recovery”.
- On 24-28 April 2023, the AERC participated in the Transform Africa Summit in the African Data Leadership Initiative Session under the Data Governance Phase II Project in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.
- On 31 May 2023, the AERC participated in the AUDA-NEPAD Policy Bridge Tank Meeting that was held virtually. A follow up meeting was done on 13 June 2023.
- On 27 July 2023, the AERC participated in UNDP’s Africa regional consultations for the next Human Development Report (HDR), which would explore the nature and value of collective action within the context of the governance-development nexus.
- On 30 May 2023, the AERC attended the Africa Data Leadership Initiative virtual webinar, where papers on cyber security were presented. The meeting was facilitated by UNECA, Digital Impact Alliance and Smart Africa.
- On 2 August 2023, one paper was disseminated in Ghana by Department of Economics, University of Ghana, on “Re-examining Growth, Poverty, Inequality and Redistribution Relationships (GPIR)” Project.

- On 25 July 2023, one paper was disseminated in Nigeria by the Nigeria Economic Summit Group (NESG) on the “Re-examining Growth, Poverty, Inequality and Redistribution Relationships (GPIR)” Project.
- On 14 September 2023, one paper was disseminated in South Africa by the African Institute for Inclusive Growth (AIIG) on the “Re-examining Growth, Poverty, Inequality and Redistribution Relationships (GPIR)” project.
- On 19-20 June 2023, the AERC convened a panel and parallel paper presentation sessions at the Africa Evidence Summit organised by the University of California, Berkeley – Centre for Global Action (CEGA) in Nairobi.
- On 1 September 2023, the AERC participated in the Economists Society of Kenya Breakfast meeting held in Nairobi.
- On 25 August 2023, the Centre Universitaire de Recherche pour le Développement Economique et Social (CURDES) disseminated three research papers generated by the BMGF/AERC-supported project on “Digital Financial Services for the Poor in the East African Community (DFSP-EAC),” at the City Hill Hotel, Bujumbura, Burundi.
- The AERC, in collaboration with Boston University Global Development Policy Centre, Vulnerable Group of Twenty (V20) Ministers of Finance of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) and Debt Relief for a Green and Inclusive Recovery (DRGR) Project, hosted a side event in September 2023 at the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi. The event, organised under the Summit thematic pillar ‘Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Risk’, addressed issues around the Emergency Coalition for Debt Sustainability and Climate Prosperity and the alternative frameworks and solutions that can be offered to reform the debt architecture.
- The ODI organised a Knowledge Sharing on Growing Multiple Crisis in Low-Income Economies to inform brainstorming around new and/or common (policy-relevant) messages from the AERC-PEP-ERF research study on exploring the impacts of the war in Ukraine in Lower income countries. The workshop was held in October 2023 during the IMF/World Bank Spring meetings.
- On 24 July 2023, the AERC and the African Centre for Economic Transformation (ACET) co-hosted a think tank knowledge sharing session at the Africa Human Capital Heads of States Summit in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The Think Tank knowledge sharing, chaired by Dr. Dianah Ngui (AERC), featured a presentation based on the “Human Capital Development in Africa” project by Prof. Njuguna Ndung’u, then Cabinet Secretary, National Treasury and Planning, Kenya, and Prof. Germano Mwabu, a framework paper author and a project steering committee member of the project. The Policy Round Table discussion panel moderated by Ms. Mona Iddrisu featured Prof. Olu Ajakaiye, Dr. Marilys Razakamanana, Prof. Germano Mwabu and Ms. Amabelle Nwakanma.
- On 26 July 2023, the Science Technology and Innovation Policy Research Organisation (STIPRO), in collaboration with the AERC, hosted a dissemination workshop themed “Delivering Digital Financial Services for the Poor” in Tanzania.
- In May 2023, the AERC supported a National Policy Workshop to disseminate a country case study in Sierra Leone of a Collaborative Research Project on “Inclusive Finance for Fragile and Post-Conflict States in Africa”, funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). The workshop was co-hosted by the AERC and the Centre for Electoral and Civic Education (CECE) under the leadership of the Executive Director Commissioner Macksood Gilbril Sesay. The title of the country case study was “Mobile Money Adoption, Credit Access and Performance of Enterprises in Sierra Leone” co-authored by Dr. Gbetoton Nadege Djossou from the University of Parakou in Benin, Dr. Jacob Novignon from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology Kumasi, Ghana, and Dr. James Fomba Sandy from Njala University in Sierra Leone.
- A National Policy Workshop was held at the University of Abomey-Calavi on 17 May 2023, to disseminate results of a Country Case Study by Dr. Marthe Montcho, titled *Productivité des cultures à double objectifs et sécurité alimentaire des petits producteurs laitiers face à la variabilité et au changement climatiques au Bénin*. The workshop was graced by Prof. Brice Sinsin, Director of Laboratoire d’Ecologie Appliquée (LEA), and attended by various stakeholders, including agricultural extension officers, academia, and beef livestock producers.

- In May 2023, two staff members of the AERC participated in the eLearning Africa conference held in Dakar, Senegal, and presented a paper titled *Convergence of Education, Technology and Finances: The AERC Experience in Offering Elective Courses*, which generated a lot of interest among the conference participants. The Conference was opened by Hon. Amadou Bo, the Prime Minister of Senegal, and attended by a host of presenters, panellists, and exhibitors discussing various challenges, innovations and possible solutions for eLearning.
- In May 2023, the IMF presented the Regional Economic Outlook for SSA, providing an opportunity for key stakeholders to engage in an in-depth discussion on the region's economic outlook. The AERC was represented among the panellists by Dr. Dianah Ngui, who commented on the IMF work in the context of the IDRC-funded Impact of War in Ukraine project.
- The AERC hosted the 2023 Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society (AFES 2023) in Nairobi, Kenya, on 1-3 June 2023. Along with other high-profile scholars as keynote speakers, the meeting featured Prof. Esther Duflo (MIT), Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, 2019. This is the largest conference ever organized by the AERC with eight (8) keynote addresses and more than 60 parallel sessions, and 9 plenaries/semi plenaries.
- On 25 August 2023, the Centre Universitaire de Recherche pour le Développement Economique et Social (CURDES) disseminated three research papers in the Burundi National Policy Workshop under the BMGF/AERC-supported project, the Digital Financial Services for the Poor in the East African Community (DFSP-EAC) at the City Hill Hotel, Bujumbura, Burundi. The workshop was attended by industry players, including the Central Bank of Burundi, Ministry of Finance, Microfinance institutions, banking associations, academia, journalists, and other players.
- In June 2023, the AERC participated in the Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Conference in Lilongwe, Malawi. The AERC hosted a side event where the paper titled *The Role of Policy in Reducing Malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa* was presented, and the Policy Analysis for Sustainable and Healthy Foods in African Retail Markets (PASHFARM) project was officially launched.
- On 18-21 September 2023, the AERC participated in the African Association of Agricultural Economists/ Agricultural Economics Society of South Africa (AAAE/ AEASA) conference in Durban. An invited panel of three AERC-supported faculty researchers presented their papers on Human Capital Development in sub-Saharan Africa. Another one (1) faculty member and three (3) graduates whose research was funded by the AERC were supported to present their research papers on a variety of themes.
- A National Policy Workshop for Madagascar was held on 22 September 2023 at the Novotel Convention and SPA, Antananarivo, to present research findings of two papers under the Development du Capital Humain en Afrique (Human Capital Development in Africa) project. The workshop was organized by the Centre de Recherche pour le Développement de l'Université Catholique de Madagascar.
- To share best practices from thesis research with small-scale farmers, agricultural extension, and policy practitioners, the CMAAE convened four thesis dissemination workshops for graduates of Egerton University and the University of Nairobi in Kenya on 13 November 2023 and 4 March 2024, respectively; Sokoine University of Agriculture in Tanzania on 12 February 2024; and the University of Zimbabwe on 25 March 2024. An average of 40 stakeholders attended each of the workshops, whose composition included smallholder farmers, academia, agricultural extension staff representatives and non-governmental organisations.
- The Training Department conducted four farmer training workshops in Egerton and Nairobi, Kenya, on 14-16 November 2023 and 5-7 March 2024, respectively; in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on 13-15 February 2024; and in Harare, Zimbabwe, on 26 – 28 March 2024. The objective was to equip small-scale farmers attending the thesis dissemination workshops with entrepreneurship skills to enable the transformation of African agriculture from subsistence to a vibrant, commercialised enterprise.
- The Executive Director attended a panel during the official announcement event for the World Bank's new Development Economics Global Institute (DEC Global) in Rome, organised by the Bank of Italy, The Ministry of Economy and Finance of Italy and the World Bank. The event, which was held on 26-27 June 2023, was opened by Piero Cipollone (Deputy Governor, Bank of Italy) and Indermit Gill (Chief Economist and Senior Vice President, World Bank). The opening was followed by a presentation of the Institute and a panel discussion aimed at gathering feedback from renowned experts on the vision and plans for DEC Global. The Executive Director of the AERC attended this panel alongside representatives of other prominent policy research centres and African think tanks.

- During the Annual meetings of the Afreximbank in Accra held on 18–21 June 2023, the Executive Director attended a panel on Leveraging the Power of Intra-African Trade for Commodity based Industrialisation. Although Africa is one of the most natural resource endowed regions of the world, effectively deploying its resources for economic development and value addition has been undermined by stickiness of the colonial development of resource extraction. However, intra-African trade and industrialisation are mutually reinforcing in Africa, and the AfCFTA that is projected to significantly boost intra-African trade could also accelerate the process of industrialisation. This panel provided the opportunity to reflect on the power of intra-African trade for commodity-based industrialisation in the AfCFTA era. It also reflected on the nature of public-private partnerships and institutional arrangements required to mainstream the commodity-base industrialization model and deliver shared prosperity.

- The AERC has taken proactive steps towards improving dissemination of its research findings to the stakeholders. During the period under review, various activities were undertaken, including the following.

- i. Media Campaigns:** The AERC had 201 campaigns and five (5) Executive Director’s Opinion-Editorial (Op/eds), and other articles on thought leadership disseminated globally. These also found placements in other media outlets during the reporting period.

- ii. Spokespersons:** The AERC has built a spokesperson network of 150 plus members to take advantage of some of the media opportunities in a timely and effective manner. Outreach activities are going on within the network as expert spokespeople for the AERC are identified to improve the ability to maximise media opportunities.

- iii. Social media:** The AERC continues to experience solid improvements in terms of growth in its external channels. The AERC has been active on social media accounts like Facebook (48,953), Twitter (86,867), Instagram (2,279), and LinkedIn (64,167), which have been used regularly and intensified during major events. While AERC’s young researchers continue to drive social media content, policymakers have also become powerful forces on platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram as they engage each other during AERC’s flagship events.

- iv. Promotional Materials:** The AERC produced 44 weekly updates and three (3) quarterly AERC Newsletters (INSIGHT). The AERC Annual Report

2022/23 was also published in August 2023. The AERC Annual Report contains a summary of the year’s operations and pertinent financial information. It covers the range of activities undertaken by the organisation in the period under review.

3.5 Improved strategic communication capability

The AERC has intensified the use of digital technology and social media in outreach activities. Partners have been engaged to assist with corporate communication as well as public relations, and now, all energy to improve AERC’s visibility is directed at the right level with this strategic approach. During the period under review, several activities were undertaken:

- The virtual AERC biannual research workshops held in May and December 2023 were promoted to the global, Pan-Africa and local media before, throughout and after the event. Leading international media outlets, local newspapers, television, and FM radio stations, as well as online channels, allocated considerable space and time to the events. Examples of some of the media outlets that promoted and gave good coverage of the event include: The Standard; People Daily; Egesa FM; Business Daily; Pelikken; Taarifa News; Newline; Khusoko; Izna; The East African; Vanguard; eNCA; Africa.Com; Tech Economy; Smart Marketplace; CEO Africa; The Times; and Biz Watch.

- The AERC website has made major steps towards improving the institution’s online reputation and credibility. The website is AERC’s main vehicle for communicating and engaging with a wide range of audiences. AERC’s activities provide high-quality promotional materials to meet international stakeholder expectations.

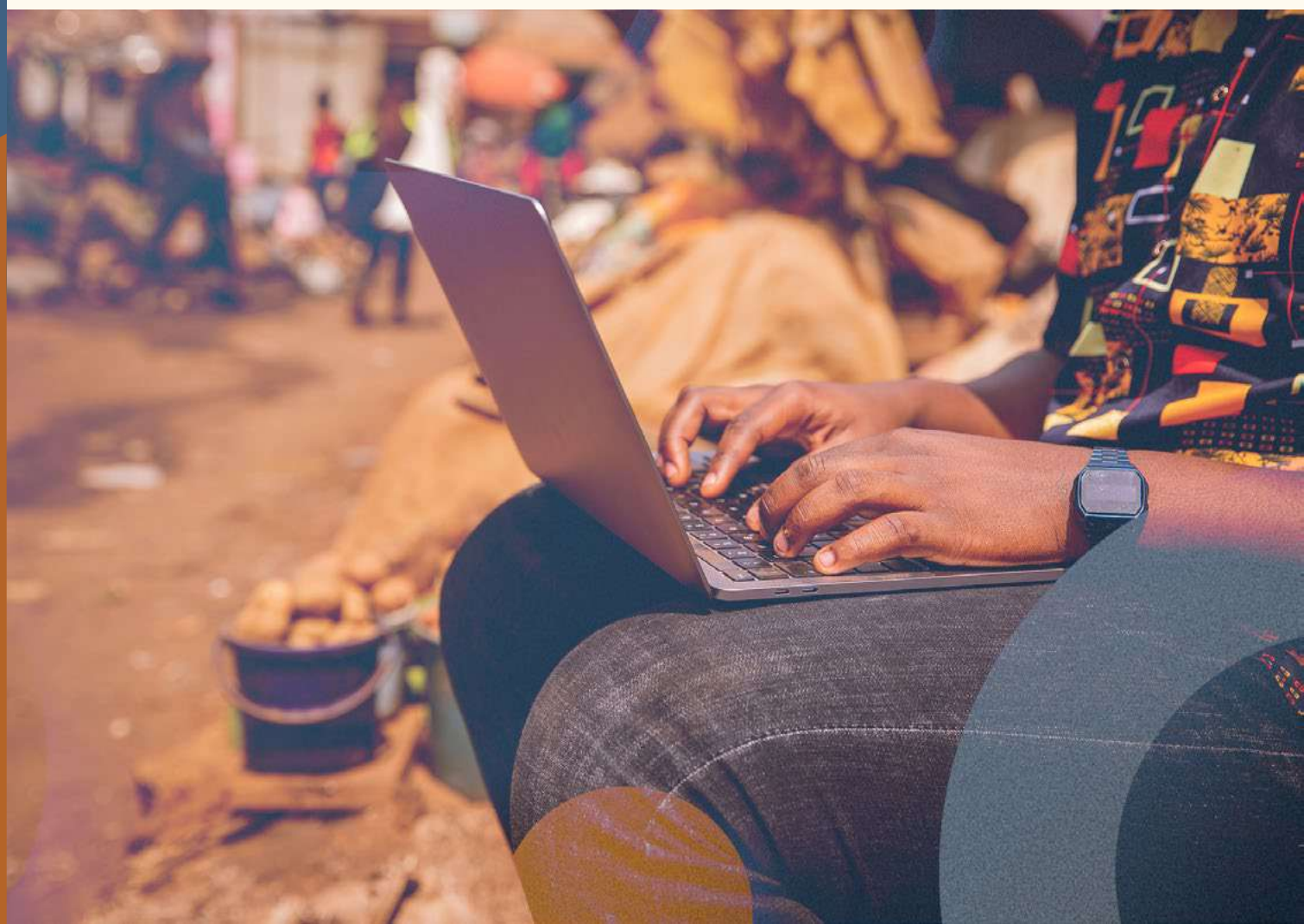
- A strategic branding and communication approach is being implemented to ensure maximum visibility and good reputation through wider recognition and understanding of the operations of the AERC amongst all identified stakeholders, both across Africa and at the global level. The objectives of this approach include:

- Restore confidence and consolidate the trust of all the stakeholders in the effective operations of the AERC.
- Promote the AERC research outputs, analysis, collaborations, data sharing and dialogue.
- Provide vital communications and technology/innovation support to fulfil the AERC’s overall mandate and objectives over the long term.

- Develop strong relationships and rapport with key stakeholders across the world through timely dissemination of well-packaged, “newsworthy” information that focus on the AERC activities and their positive impact.
- Create a strong AERC brand by conveying quality and world-class practice in economic research, capacity building and policy.

Table 3: Outcomes resulting from implementation of Strategic Theme 3 on expanding influence

End of Strategy	Outcome	Baseline	Actual	Target	Actual
Outcomes	Indicator	2019/20	2022/23	2023/24	April 2023 - March 2024
3.1 Improved cooperation and information sharing on economic policy issues across Africa	3.1(a) Monitoring and Evaluation of the impact of policy briefs within the policy arena, one country as a pilot (as a measure of the impact of policy briefs within the policy arena where AERC policy briefs are disseminated)	5%	25%	25%	25%
3.2 Improved proactive policy engagement and outreach	3.2(a) Number of policymakers participating in AERC events such as Senior Policy Seminars (Cumulative)	1,300	3,414	1,700	3,414
Intermediate	Outcome	Baseline	Actual	Target	Actual
Outcomes	Indicator	2019/20	2022/23	2023/24	April 2023 - March 2024
3.3 Enhanced platforms for cooperation and information	3.3(a) Number of impactful information-sharing tools developed (Cumulative)	5	11	7	9
3.4 Improved strategic communication capability	3.4(a) Number of strategic policy communication programmes developed and used effectively (Cumulative)	1	6	5	8





Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges:

The changing global funding environment experienced over the current strategic planning period has continued to challenge the AERC. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ukrainian crisis, climate change, etc., have slowed funding commitments over time, increasing competition for resources from funding partners.

Partners are shifting their funding priorities to support targeted research projects rather than long-term capacity-building initiatives (master's and PhD scholarship support).

With the dwindling funding support for scholarships and low or no enrolment of privately sponsored students, several partnering universities that have largely relied on AERC to implement their graduate programme have been unable to do so.

The period under review has witnessed low enrolment of women in the research and graduate training programmes as well as limited integration of gender studies in the curricula.

Opportunities:

New funding options target research activities that influence policy while partnering with various governments, as well as new strategic partnerships with like-minded institutions.

Integration of gender in studies calls for gender mainstreaming workshops for the researchers within the region.

The virtual approach to delivery of the training programmes has helped to reduce the costs of delivery of the JFE/SFSE and enhanced inclusivity irrespective of the categorisation of universities.

Using e-learning platforms, the collaborative training model can further be expanded to include partnerships with universities across the globe that offer frontier online courses within the repertoire of AERC training courses. These can be made available to students and faculty within the AERC network. This would enhance both quality and improve the overall sustainability of the training programme through cost efficiency in line with AERC's 2020-2025 strategic themes.

Countries across sub-Saharan Africa have significantly benefited from the pool of highly trained economists produced by the AERC. This provides an opportunity for the AERC to partner with African governments as it did with the Government of Kenya to develop country-specific capacity-building projects for economic policy analysis.

Partnering with think tanks from fragile and post-conflict states has enabled the AERC to conduct studies and disseminate information in those countries.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Independent Auditor's Report
to the board of directors



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AFRICAN ECONOMIC RESEARCH CONSORTIUM INC.
REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of African Economic Research Consortium Inc. (the "Consortium") set out on pages 8 to 32 which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2024, the statement of activities and changes in net assets, statement of expenditure per objective, statement of functional expenditure and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and the notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Consortium as at March 31, 2024, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Consortium in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (including International Independence Standards) (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Kenya, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

Other information consists of the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Management is responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information; we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Consortium's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Consortium or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so. The directors are responsible for overseeing the Consortium's financial reporting processes.



Building a better
working world

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Consortium's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Consortium's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Consortium to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The engagement partner responsible for the audit resulting in the independent auditor's report is CPA Denis Mugisha - Practicing Certificate Number 2773.

For and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP
Certified Public Accountants
Nairobi, Kenya

03 July 2024

AFRICAN ECONOMIC RESEARCH CONSORTIUM, INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2024

	Note	2024 US\$	2023 US\$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and bank balances	5	2,000,021	2,240,759
Short-Term Investments	6	11,708,132	12,651,687
Grants Receivable	7	183,086	1,025,060
Other Receivables	8	<u>200,440</u>	<u>215,146</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>14,091,679</u>	<u>16,132,652</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Long-Term Investments	6	14,082,120	13,503,496
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	9	<u>132,451</u>	<u>152,310</u>
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>14,214,571</u>	<u>13,655,806</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>28,306,250</u>	<u>29,788,458</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accruals		148,188	362,524
Sundry Creditors & Others		157,267	142,153
Withholding Tax and Valued Added Tax Payable		20,790	86,020
Grants payable-Grantees	10	<u>4,837,983</u>	<u>4,265,056</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>5,164,228</u>	<u>4,855,753</u>
NET ASSETS			
Unrestricted Donor Net Assets	11	9,164,115	9,404,848
Donor Restricted Net Assets	12	<u>13,977,907</u>	<u>15,527,857</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>23,142,022</u>	<u>24,932,705</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		<u>28,306,250</u>	<u>29,788,458</u>

The financial statements on pages 8 to 32 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 03-July- 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Dr. Keith Jefferis
Treasurer of the Board



Prof. Victor Murinde
Executive Director

AFRICAN ECONOMIC RESEARCH CONSORTIUM, INC.
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2024

	Note	Without Donor Restrictions Reserve US\$	With Donor Restrictions Reserve US\$	Total 2024 US\$	Total 2023 US\$
Support and Revenues					
Grant from Governments	7	2,266,933	2,175,389	4,442,322	4,033,438
Grants from Foundations	7	-	1,468,740	1,468,740	3,300,492
Grants from international organizations and others	7	300,000	410,118	710,118	423,178
Investment Income	13	477,974	555,190	1,033,164	(56,734)
Other Incomes	14	14,944	-	14,944	12,620
		3,059,851	4,609,437	7,669,288	7,712,994
Net Assets Released from Restriction Satisfaction of Program Restrictions					
Grants forfeited		6,233,756	(6,233,756)	-	-
		-	74,370	74,370	13,959
		6,233,756	(6,159,386)	74,370	13,959
Total Support and Revenues		9,293,607	(1,549,949)	7,743,658	7,726,953
Expenditure					
General administration		633,539	-	633,539	543,095
Research Program		4,730,479	-	4,730,479	4,691,060
Communications		644,818	-	644,818	919,816
Masters Program		372,794	-	372,794	493,900
CMAAE Program		2,129,160	-	2,129,160	1,203,487
Doctoral Program		1,023,551	-	1,023,551	1,357,693
Total Expenditure		9,534,341	-	9,534,341	9,209,051
Change in Net Assets		(240,734)	(1,549,949)	(1,790,683)	(1,482,098)
Net Assets at the beginning of the year		9,404,848	15,527,857	24,932,705	26,414,803
Net Assets at the end of the year		9,164,114	13,977,908	23,142,022	24,932,705

AFRICAN ECONOMIC RESEARCH CONSORTIUM, INC.
 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE PER OBJECTIVE
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2024

	General Support Services US\$	Research Programme US\$	Communications & Publications US\$	CMAAE Programme US\$	Masters Programme US\$	Doctoral Programme US\$	Totals US\$
Strategic Theme 1: High Quality Research & Graduate Training	450	3,514,940	1,832	1,709,755	259,894	620,410	6,107,281
Strategic Theme 2: Achieve Organizational Sustainability	10,823	344,045	1,683	25,086	-	196,941	578,578
Strategic Theme 3: Greater Influence on Economic Policy	962	114,202	180,067	144,998	-	-	440,229
Direct Programme Personnel Costs	-	<u>361,224</u>	<u>321,978</u>	<u>147,567</u>	<u>93,908</u>	<u>179,328</u>	<u>1,104,005</u>
Total Programme Costs	12,235	4,334,411	505,560	2,027,406	353,802	996,679	8,230,093
Shared Personnel Costs	508,992	-	-	-	-	-	508,992
Programme Management Overheads	508,322	64,660	139,258	37,152	18,992	26,872	795,256
Overheads	<u>(396,010)</u>	<u>331,408</u>	-	<u>64,602</u>	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2024	633,539	4,730,479	644,818	2,129,160	372,794	1,023,551	9,534,341
Total expenditure 2023	543,095	4,691,060	919,816	1,203,487	493,900	1,357,693	9,209,051

Annex A:

AERC Research and Training Programme Statistics, 2023/24

Table A1: Collaborative Research projects, 2023/24

Collaborative Projects	
1	The Impact of COVID- 19 Pandemic on Livelihoods in Africa
2	Addressing Health Financing Vulnerabilities in Africa due to the COVID-19 Pandemic
3	Re-Examining the Growth, Poverty, and Inequality Relationships in Africa – Framework and CCSs Research (GPIR)
4	Climate Change and Economic Development in Africa (CCEDA)
5	Inclusive Finance for Fragile and Post-Conflict States in Africa
6	Building Policy Research Institutions to Support Human Capital in Africa (HCA)
7	Value Chain Development, Trade and Economic Transformation in Africa (GVC)
8	Advancing Digital Financial Services for the Poor in the East African Community Region (DFSP-EAC)
9	Data Governance and Sound Policy Making (Phase I)
10	Public Service Delivery Index (PSDI)
11	Exploring the Impacts of the War in Ukraine on Lower-income Countries
12	The Political Economy and Institutional Structure of Data Policy and Governance in Africa: Opportunities, Challenges and Risks (Data Governance Phase II)
13	Propelling Outcomes for Policy and Economic Levers (PROPEL) Health
14	Evidence to Drive Reforms for SDR Financing in SSA Economic Recovery
15	Kenya Analytical Programme on Forced Displacement (KAP-FD)
16	Domestic Resource Mobilisation (Tax reforms Study) Phase I
17	Economic Research for Policy Making in Kenya
18	Impact of the War in Ukraine on Food Security on Lower Income Countries
19	Policy Analysis for Sustainable and Healthy Foods in African Retail Markets (PASHFARM)

Table A2: June and December 2023 Biannual Research papers and CPP theses by Gender and thematic group

June 2023											
Thematic Group	M	F	Total	FR	WIP	RWIP	NP	RNP	CPP	Total	RPS
Group A - Poverty, labour markets and income distribution	10	12	22	2	4	0	6		3	15	20
Group B - Macroeconomic policy and growth	10	9	19	0	3	0	5	4	2	14	16
Group C - Finance and resource mobilisation	14	10	24	4	4	0	9		1	18	16
Group D - Production, trade and economic integration	14	4	18	4	4	0	6	1	0	15	12
Group E - Agriculture, climate change & natural resource management	14	7	21	4	7	1	5	1	0	18	17
Total	62	42	104	14	22	1	31	6	6	80	81
December 2023											
Thematic Group	M	F	Total	FR	WIP	NP	CPP	Total	RPS		
Group A - Poverty, labour markets and income distribution	9	7	16	3	3	1	4	11	18		
Group B - Macroeconomic policy and growth	7	5	12	3	2	1	1	7	14		
Group C - Finance and resource mobilisation	12	5	17	3	6	-	1	10	15		
Group D - Production, trade and economic integration	10	1	11	3	4	1	3	11	17		
Group E - Agriculture, climate change & natural resource management	7	5	12	3	1	4	-	8	17		
Total	45	23	68	15	16	7	9	47	81		

Table A3: AERC 58th Plenary Session, 22 May 2023 – Virtual session

Sessions	Title of paper/activity	Speakers
Opening Session	Welcome remarks	Professor Théophile Azomahou, Executive Director, AERC
	Keynote speaker	Professor Benedict Okey Oramah, President and Chairman, Board of Directors, The African Export- Import Bank (Afrexim Bank)
Presentation 1	Are We Heading for Another Debt Crisis in Low-Income Countries? Debt Vulnerabilities: Today vs the pre-HIPC Era.	Dr. Chuku Chuku, Economist, International Monetary Fund, Washington D.C.
Discussant		Prof. Douglas Gollin, Professor of Development Economics, Fellow of St. Antony's College, Department of International Development, University of Oxford.
Presentation 2	The Political Economy of Economic Policy Advice.	Prof. Stefan Dercon, Director, Centre for the Study of African Economies and Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford.
Discussant		Prof. Seth Omondi Gor, Department of Economics, Population and Development Studies, University of Nairobi.
Presentation 3	Debt Distress and Fiscal Space for Climate-Resilient Development in Sub-Saharan Africa.	Prof. Kevin Gallagher, Director, Global Policy Center, Boston University.
Discussant		Prof. John Asafu-Adjaye, Senior Fellow and Head of Research, African Centre for Economic Transformation (ACET).
Presentation 4	African Sovereign Debt: An Overview of the Challenges and Opportunities.	Prof. Daniel Bradlow, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Advancement of Scholarship (CAS), University of Pretoria
Discussant		Dr. Christian Ebeke, Deputy Division Chief, Macro Policy Division International Monetary Fund, Washington D.C

Table A4: AERC 59th Biannual Plenary Session, 26 November 2023

Sessions	Title of paper/activity	Speakers
Opening Session	Welcome remarks	Prof. Dominique Njinkeu, Interim. Executive Director, AERC; Mr. James Muhati, Principal Secretary, State Department of Economic Planning, Republic of Kenya
	Keynote speech 'Prof. Benno Ndulu Memorial Lecture'	Prof. Kevin Chika Urama, Chief Economist of AfDB and Vice President for the Bank's Economic Governance and Knowledge Management complex, Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire
Plenary Session	Plenary Session Chairperson	Prof. Anke Hoeffler, Professor of Development Research, Department of Politics & Public Administration, University of Konstanz, Germany
Presentation 1	Tackling youth unemployment in Africa	Prof. Imran Rasul, Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, University College London, UK
Discussant		Dr. Marcellin Ndong Ntah, Lead Economist, East Africa Regional Development and Business Delivery Office, AfDB
Presentation 2	Promotion of productivity in the informal sector as part of the strategy to capture the demographic dividend	Prof. Aly Ahmadou Mbaye, Professor of Economics and Public Policy, Vice Chancellor, University Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar Senegal
Discussant		Prof. Abdoulaye Seck, Professor of Economics, Faculty of Economics and Management, Cheikh Anta Diop University (UCAD), Dakar, Senegal
Presentation 3	Migration, refugees and society, 2023 World Development Report	Dr. Quy-Toan Do, Co-Director for the 2023 World Development Report and Lead Economist in the Development Research Group, World Bank, Washington D.C, USA
Discussant		Prof. Victor Murinde, AXA Professor of Global Finance and Director of the Centre for Global Finance at SOAS University of London, U.K
	Policy Round Table	
		Prof. Anke Hoeffler, Professor of Development Research, Department of Politics & Public Administration, University of Konstanz, Germany (Chair and Lead Panelist)
		Prof. Francis Baye, Professor of Development Economics, Advisor, Prime Minister's Office, Cameroon (Panelist)
		Prof. Mary Femi Ayadi, Professor of Health Care Administration, College of Business, University of Houston, Clear Lake, USA (Panelist)
		Dr. Kupukile Mlambo, Formerly Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (Panellist)
		Ms Hendrina Doroba, Lead Economist, Human Capital, Youth and Skills Development, AfDB (Panellist)

Table A5: Distribution by Gender and Nationality in the Financing Human Capital Investment Technical Workshop, 3-5 April 2023

No	Origin	Male	Female
1	Burkina Faso	1	2
2	Côte d'Ivoire	1	
3	Ethiopia	2	1
4	Kenya	2	2
5	Madagascar	1	4
6	Nigeria	5	2
7	Senegal	3	2
8	Uganda	3	3
		18	16

Table A6: CMAP JFE distribution of students by gender and university (2017-2023)

No.	University	Gender		Total 2023	Female %						
		Female	Male		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
1	Addis Ababa	-	-	-	-		11.1	-	-	-	-
2	Botswana	3	4	7	42.9	63.2	46.2	66.7	55.6	33.3	66.7
3	Cape Coast	4	20	24	16.7	10.5	8.3	31.3	23.1	41.7	10.0
4	Makerere	4	3	7	57.1	40.0	40.0	55.6	25.0	25.0	50.0
5	Malawi	3	9	12	25.0	45.5	30.0	30.0	0.0	60.0	58.3
6	Mauritius	0	0	-	-	-	55.6	-	-	85.7	61.5
7	Namibia	3	7	10	30.0	25.0	46.2	55.6	40.0	80.0	50.0
8	Zimbabwe	2	3	5	40.0	75.0	40.0	20.0	30.0	25.0	20.0
9	Kwame Nkrumah	1	4	5	20.0	-	22.2	23.1	-	-	
10	Lesotho	11	7	18	61.1	42.1	45.5	52.4	-	-	
11	Zambia	9	5	14	64.3	25.0	31.3	-	-	-	-
	Total	40	62	102	39.2	37.9	29.5	43.1	30.0	46.3	44.9

Table A7: CMAAE SFSE distribution of students by gender and university (2017-2023)

No.	University	Gender		Total 2023	Female %						
		Female	Male		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
1	Egerton	6	4	10	60.0	40.0	77.8	62.5	58.33	45.45	63.64
2	Haramaya	2	7	9	22.2	14.3	14.3	20.0	18.18	22.22	57.14
3	LUANAR	13	22	35	37.1	26.1	28.6	57.9	41.67	36.36	-
4	Makerere	6	10	16	37.5	27.8	9.1	23.5	-	-	75.00
5	Nairobi	5	7	12	41.7	57.1	44.4	55.2	30.43	56.25	50.00
6	Pretoria	10	12	22	45.5	83.3	30.0	35.7	20.00	20.00	20.00
7	Sokoine	6	8	14	42.9	42.9	39.1	71.4	58.33	38.89	36.36
8	Zimbabwe	7	4	11	63.6	55.6	27.3	15.4	33.33	50.00	16.67
	Total	55	74	129	42.6	40.6	33.7	42.7	41	40	39.43

Table A8: CPP JFE distribution of students by university and gender (2016-2023)

University	Gender		Totals 2023	Female %								
	Female	Male		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	
Abomey Calavi	1	1	2	50.0	-	-						
Benin	-	-	-		100	-	-	50.0	0.0	-		100
Cape Town	3	3	6	50.0	0.0	-	0.0	33.3	60.0	33.3		0.0
Dar es Salaam	4	1	5	80.0	22.2	41.7	20.0	50.0	40.0	66.7		0.0
Felix Houphouet-Boigny	2	1	3	66.7	-	-		50.0	0.0	0.0		0.0
Ibadan	0	3	3	0.0	66.7	27.3		100	0.0	0.0		0.0
Nairobi	1	0	1	100	100	-	-	-	16.7	28.6		33.3
The Witwatersrand	1	0	1	100	100	-	0.0	0.0	100	100		50.0
Yaoundé II	3	1	4	75.0	25	100		0.0	66.7	66.7		100
Cape Coast	0	5	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.4	-	-	-		-
Burundi	-	-	-	-	-	60.0	-	-	-	-		-
Kwame Nkrumah	-	-	-	-	-	20.0	0.0	-	-	-		-
Rwanda	-	-	-	-	-	20.0	-	-	-	-		-
Zambia	-	-	-	-	-	0.0	-	-	-	-		-
Total	15	15	30	50.0	32.0	31.3	8.8	31.0	34.6	45.5		27.7

Table A9: Distribution of women participants by nationality in the research methods and proposal writing skills technical workshop held on 19-30 September 2023

	Country	Number of Participants
1	Burkina Faso	3
2	Cameroon	3
3	Kenya	2
4	Nigeria	2
5	Senegal	1
6	Malawi	1
7	Zambia	1
8	Zimbabwe	1
9	Madagascar	2
10	Uganda	1
11	Botswana	2
12	Ghana	1
13	Mauritius	1
14	Mozambique	1
15	Côte d'Ivoire	1
		23

Table A10: Distribution of women participants by nationality in the proposal development workshop held on 30 November - 1 December 2023

No	Origin	Female
1	Burkina Faso	2
2	Côte d'Ivoire	1
3	Ethiopia	1
4	Kenya	2
5	Madagascar	1
6	Nigeria	2
7	Uganda	1
	Total	10

Annex B:

AERC Publications, 2023/24

Research Papers

TITLE	AUTHOR (S)	SERIES
Investigating The Gender Wage Gap in the Nigerian Labour Market: A Distributional Approach	Emmanuel O. Nwosu and Anthony Orji	Research Paper 553 Feb 2024
Tea Prices and Household Consumption Patterns in Tanzania	Mamello A. Nchake and Threza L. Mtenga	Research 552 Feb 2024
The Determinants of Protective Behaviours during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Benin	F. Antoine Dedewanou	Research Paper 551 Feb 2024
Aid Fragmentation and Development Outcomes in Sub-Saharan African Countries	Sessinou Erick Abel Dedehouanou	Research Paper 550 Jan 2024
Health is Wealth: The Impact of Health Insurance on Multidimensional Poverty in Ethiopia	Kaleab K. Haile	Research Paper 549 Jan 2024
An Empirical Analysis of the Interaction between Monetary Policy and Commercial Bank Lending in Nigeria	Chukwunye Ferguson, Emekaraonye Emmanuel Ikechukwu, Dick Chukwuma Agu	Research Paper 548 Jan 2024
Women Empowerment in Agriculture and Child Nutrition Evidence from Ethiopia	Gebremeskel Berhane Tesfay and Babatunde O Abidoy	Research Paper 547 Dec 2023
Horizontal Equity in the Use of Maternal Health Services in Cameroon	Saleu Feumeni Josiane	Research Paper 546 Dec 2023
Financial Inclusion and Resilience to COVID-19 Economic Shocks in Nigeria	Adedeji P. Adeniran Moses M. Muthinja	Research Paper 545 Dec 2023
The Impact of Women's Decision-Making Power on the Quality of Life of Children Under Five Years of Age in Benin	Atchade Beneicte	Research Paper 544 Nov 2023
Order Flow-Based Micro-Structure Analysis of the Spot Exchange Rate in Zambia	Sydney Phiri, Keegan Chisha, Jonathan Chipili	Research Paper 543 Oct 2023
Analysing the Relationship between Innovation and Productivity: A Case Study of Senegalese Manufacturing Industries	Aboubacry Kane	Research Paper 542 Oct 2023
Conflict and Misallocation in the Manufacturing Sector: Evidence from Ethiopia	Yohannes Ayele, Habtanu Oostendrop	Research Paper 541 Oct 2023
The Devil is in the Details: On the Robust Determinants of Development Aid in G5 Sahel Countries	Nimonka Bayale and Brigitte Kanga Kouassi	Research Paper 540 September 2023
Gender and firm performance in Africa: does the business environment play a moderating role?	Ibrahim Mike Okumu, Sunday Nathan and Edward Bbaale	Research Paper 539 September 2023
The Impact of Irrigated Agriculture on Child Nutrition Outcomes in Southern Ghana	Charles Y. Okyere and Muhammed A. Usman	Research Paper 538 September 2023
The Impact of Agricultural Productivity on Deforestation in Central Africa	Novice Patrick Bakehe	Research Paper 537 September 2023
Global Value Chains and Industrialisation in Africa	Bernard Nguekeng and Dieudonné Mignamissi	Research Paper 521 April 2023

TITLE	AUTHOR (S)	SERIES
Can results-based financing help reduce wealth-based disparities in maternal and child health outcomes in Zimbabwe?	Marshall Makate, Nyasha Mahonye	Research Paper 536 September 2023
The Effect of Intra-African Immigration on Productivity in Africa	Blaise Gnimassoun	Research Paper 535 August 2023
Long-Term Effects of Free Primary Education on Educational Achievement: Evidence from Lesotho	Ramaele Moshoeshoe	Research Paper 534 August 2023
Water Use and Agricultural Productivity Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa	Djoumessi Fosso Yannick and Kamdem Cyrille Bergal	Research Paper 533 August 2023
Optimal Monetary Policy with Inflation, Output and Asset Price Volatility In An Open Economy	Peter Wamalwa	Research Paper 532 August 2023
Explaining Food Insecurity in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Role of Governance and Institutions	Dede Gafa And Daniel Chachu	Research Paper 531 August 2023
Magnitude and Determinants of Trade Misinvoicing in Burundi	Arcade Nduricimpa	Research Paper 530 August 2023
The Impact of Network Coverage on Adoption of Fintech Platforms and Financial Inclusion	Onkokame Mthobi	Research Paper 529 August 2023
Crop Diversification, Household Nutrition and Child Growth: Empirical Evidence from Ethiopia	Wondimagegn Mesfin Tesfaye	Research Paper 528 August 2023
The Impact of Conflict on Child Health Outcomes: Micro-Level Evidence from Nigeria	Muti A. Oyinola, Oluwatosin Adeniyi, Abdulfatai A. Adedeji and Omolola M. Lipede	Research Paper 527 August 2023 -
The Impact of Agricultural Public Expenditure on Agricultural Productivity in Nigeria	Reuben Adeolu Alabi and Godwin Anjeinu Abu	Research Paper 526 May 2023
Financial Inclusion and Entrepreneurship in Six Sub-Saharan African Countries: Evidence from FinAccess and FinScope Survey Data	Lewis-Landry Gakpa	Research Paper 525 May 2023
Facilitating Regional Trade: Lessons from WAEMU and EAC on How to Increase Trade in CEMAC	Nguenkwe Ronie Bertrand	Research Paper 524 April 2023
Identification and Estimation of Quadratic Food Engel Curves: Evidence from Cameroon	Ebenezer Lemven Wirba	Research Paper 523 April 2023
The Impact of Armed Conflicts on Child Health in the Central African Republic	Dimitri Tchakounte and Molambo Sambi Loic	Research Paper 522 April 2023

AFPON Working Papers		
Understanding Child Nutritional Outcomes of Land Reform Policy in Zimbabwe from a Gender Perspectives	Kingstone Mujeyi Virginia Chipso Mangoma and Shamiso Chikobvu	AFPON-015
The Impact of Changes in Nutritional Policy on the Determinants of Child Stunting: The Case of Rural and Urban Zambia	Richard Bwalya and Thomson Kalinda	AFPON-014
Household Landholding, Diversification of Agricultural Activities and Child Nutrition Status in Uganda	Buyinza Faisal and Teera Joweeria Mayanja	AFPON-013
Agricultural Marketing Policies and Household Dietary Diversity and Nutrition in Tanzania	Martin Julius Chegere and Monica Sebastian Kauky	AFPON-011
Does Women's Time on the Farm Affect Children's Nutritional Status? Evidence from Tanzania	Phyllis Mumia Machio	AFPON-010
The Impact of Agricultural Land Ownership on Child Nutritional Status: Evidence from Rural Sudan	Samia Mohamed Nour and Ebaidalla M. Ebaidalla	AFPON-009
Effects of Food Price Shocks on Nutrition Outcomes Among Farm Households in Nigeria: Implications for Food-Price-Related Policies	Dare Akerele, Olusegun Fadare, Adebayo Ogunniyi, Mistura Rufai and Olutayo Adeyemi	AFPON-008
Nutritional Deficiency and Women's Empowerment in Agriculture: Evidence from Nigeria	Taiwo A. Aderemi	AFPON-007
Effect of Land Policies and Women Empowerment on Nutrition: Panel Data Evidence from Malawi	Zephania Bondera Nyirenda	AFPON-006
A Comparative Assessment of the Impacts of Malawi Farm Input Subsidy and Irrigation Policies on Child Nutrition Status	Levison Chiwaula, Lucius Cassim and Laston Manja	AFPON-005
The Effects of Access to Credit on Household Nutritional Outcomes in Ghana	Haruna Issahaku and Benjamin Musah Abu	AFPON-004
Measuring the Impact of Farm input Subsidy Policy on Child Nutrition in Botswana	Davis Marumo and Bokang Rakanyane	AFPON-002
The Effect of the Microcredit Policy of the Government of Benin in Improving Nutrition	Sènakpon Fidèle Ange Dedehouanou, Boris Odilon K. Lokonon and Gbetoton Nadege Djossou	AFPON-001
GIZ (French)		
Inégalités Foncières, Disparités de Genre en Matière de Propriété Foncière et Pauvreté dans les Zones Rurales du Zimbabwe	Carren Pindiriri Benson Zwizwai	GIZ002f
Déterminants et Effets de la Participation des Ménages Ruraux aux Marchés Fonciers sur la Production Agricole et la Sécurité Alimentaire dans le Comté de Siaya au Kenya	David Jakinda Otieno	GIZ001f

Financial Inclusion and Market Development in EA Economies (English and French and Book Volume)		
Digital Financial Inclusion and Market Development in East African Community Economies	Edited by: Dianah Ngui, Abebe Shimeles, Njuguna Ndung'u, David Cracknell and Jonathan Greenacre	Book Volume
Technologie Financière en Tanzanie: Évaluation des Facteurs de Croissance	Deogratias Philip Macha (PhD) and Nangi Mosses Massawe	FI-007f
Les Contrats - Relais: Une Étude de Cas d'Orange Mali	Jonathan Greenacre	FI-006f
Services Financiers Numériques et Implications de l'Éducation Financière sur le Genre et le Surendettement: Le Cas du Kenya	Anne Kamau Roseline Misati Kethi Ngoka Maureen Odongo and Maureen Were	FI-005f
L'ancienne et la Nouvelle Économie de l'Inclusion Financière	Peter Knaack	FI-004f
Inclusion Financière, Interopérabilité et Développement du Marché dans la Communauté de l'Afrique de l'Est	David Cracknell	FI-003f
Les Services Financiers Numériques dans la Communauté de l'Afrique de l'Est dans une Optique de Genre	Flora Myamba	FI-002f
L'économie Monétaire de la Monnaie Électronique en Afrique de l'Est	Isaac Mbiti and David N. Weil	FI-001f
Financial Technology in Tanzania: Assessment of Growth Drivers	Deogratias Philip Macha (PhD) and Nangi Mosses Massawe	FI-007
Bridge Contracts in Africa: A Case Study of Orange Mali	Jonathan Greenacre	FI-006
Digital Financial Services and Implications of Financial Literacy on Gender and Over Indebtedness: The Case of Kenya	Anne Kamau Roseline Misati Kethi Ngoka Maureen Odongo and Maureen Were	FI-005
The Old and the New Economics of Financial Inclusion	Peter Knaack	FI-004
Financial Inclusion, Interoperability and Market Development in the East African Community	David Cracknell	FI-003
Expanding Digital Financial Services in the East African Community with a Gender Lens	Flora Myamba	FI-002
The Monetary Economics of E-Money in East Africa	Isaac Mbiti and David N. Weil	FI-001

Data Governance (French)		
L'économie de la Blockchain en Afrique	Aaron Thegeya	DG-007
Plus Qu'une Simple Politique - Effets Quotidiens de la Gouvernance des Données sur le Scientifique des Données	Vukosi Marivate	DG-006
Numérisation et Gouvernance des Données Financières en Afrique: Défis et Opportunités	Bitange Ndemo and Ben Mkalama	DG-005
Réglementation des Données en Afrique: Libre Circulation des Données, Régimes des Données Ouvertes et Cyber Sécurité	Hanani Hlmani and Caroline B. Ncube	DG-004
Régime Juridique de Protection des Données et Gouvernance des Données en Afrique: Une Vue d'Ensemble	Olumide Babalola	DG-003
Une Approche de la Chaîne de Valeur dans la Production, L'utilisation et la Gouvernance des Données Destinées à l'Élaboration des Politiques Saines en Afrique	Zachary Mwangi Chege and Peter Maina Wanjohi	DG-002
Un Cadre Prototype de Gouvernance des Données pour l'Afrique	Bitange Ndemo and Aaron Thegeya	DG-001
Data Governance (English)		
The Economics of Blockchain: Opportunities, Risks and Regulation in Africa	Aaron Thegeya	DG-007
More than just a policy - Day to day effects of data governance on the Data Scientist	Vukosi Marivate	DG-006
Data; Data Governance; Data protection; Personal Data; Non-Personal Data; Open Data; Cyber-Security; Development; Africa; Malabo; AfCFTA	Bitange Ndemo and Ben Mkalama	DG-005
Data regulation in Africa: Free flow of data, open data regimes and cyber security	Hanani Hlmani and Caroline B. Ncube	DG-004
Data Protection Legal Regime and Data Governance in Africa: An Overview	Olumide Babalola	DG-003
A Value Chain Approach to Data Production, Use and Governance for Sound Policy Making in Africa	Zachary Mwangi Chege and Peter Maina Wanjohi	DG-002
A Prototype Data Governance Framework for Africa	Bitange Ndemo and Aaron Thegeya	DG-001
Growth Sectors for Youth Employment (GSYE French)		
Travail et Revenus pour les Jeunes Hommes et Femmes en Afrique: Le Cas de l'Ouganda	John Mutenyo, Faisal Buyinza, Vincent F. Senono and Wilson Asimwe	GSYE-014
Changement Structurel, Productivité et Création d'Emplois: Le Cas de la Tunisie	Mohamed Amara, Faycel Zidi and Hela Jeddi	GSYE-013
Programmes d'Appui à l'Emploi et à l'Employabilité des Jeunes dans les Secteurs de Travail au Sénégal	Tsambou André Dumas, Thierno Malick Diallo, and Fomba Kamga Benjamin	GSYE-012
Développement Sectoriel: Évaluation les Conditions qui Favorisent l'Emploi des Jeunes dans les Secteurs Clés de l'Économie Nigériane	Sarah Edore Edewor and Genesis Bhenda Kollie	GSYE-011
Le Potentiel d'Emploi pour les Femmes et les Jeunes dans les Secteurs Économiques du Mali	Ousmane Z. Traoré, Lansine Sountoura and Aoua Saran Dembélé	GSYE-010
Potentiel de Création d'Emplois pour les Jeunes dans l'Économie Kenyane	Eldah Onsomu, Boaz Munga, Violet Nyabaro and Bonface Munene	GSYE-009
Le Défi du Chômage et Chômage des Jeunes dans un Contexte de Croissance Économique Rapide en Ethiopie	Alemayehu Geda	GSYE-008
Identification des Activités Permettant de Créer Davantage d'Emplois en Égypte: Une Analyse des Intrants et des Extrants	Iman Al-Ayouty	GSYE-007
Travail et Revenus pour les Jeunes Hommes et Femmes en Afrique: Potentiel d'Emploi des Secteurs et Sous-Secteurs Spécifiques dans les Économies Africaines: Une Synthèse	Rolph van der Hoeven	GSYE-006
Revenu et Travail pour les Jeunes Hommes et Femmes	John Mutenyo	GSYE-005
Secteurs de Croissance, Jeunesse et Emploi: Défis et Perspectives Document de Synthèse des Études de Cas de l'Éthiopie, du Mali et du Nigeria	Jacob Omolo	GSYE-004
Secteurs potentiels pour une plus grande création d'emplois dans la région MOAN (Moyen-Orient et Afrique du Nord): Le cas de la Tunisie et de l'Égypt	Chahir Zaki	GSYE-003
Utiliser les multiplicateurs de la production et du travail pour cibler les incitations à une reprise économique rapide: Les cas de l'Éthiopie et du Kenya	Max Mendez-Parra	GSYE-002
Soutenir l'emploi des jeunes femmes et hommes en Afrique: Un cadre pour l'analyse au niveau des pays	Dirk Willem te Velde	GSYE-001

Growth Sectors for Youth Employment (English)		
Work and Income for Young Men and Women in Africa: The Case of Uganda	John Mutenyo, Faisal Buyinza, Vincent F. Ssenono and Wilson Asiimwe	GSYE-014
Structural Change, Productivity and Job Creation: Evidence from Tunisia	Mohamed Amara, Faycel Zidi and Hela Jeddi	GSYE-013
Support Programmes for Youth Employment and Employability in the Job Sectors in Senegal	Tsambou André Dumas, Thierno Malick Diallo, and Fomba Kamga Benjamin	GSYE-012
Sectoral Development: Assessing the Conditions that Drive Youth Employment in Key Sectors of the Nigerian Economy	Sarah Edore Edewor and Genesis Bhenda Kollie	GSYE-011
The Potential for Women and Youth Employment in Mali's Economic Sectors	Ousmane Z. Traoré, Lansine Sountoura and Aoua Saran Dembélé	GSYE-010
Employment Creation Potential for Youth in the Kenyan Economy	Eldah Onsomu, Boaz Munga, Violet Nyabaro and Bonface Munene	GSYE-009
The Challenge of Unemployment and Youth Unemployment amidst Fast Economic Growth in Ethiopia	Alemayehu Gedda	GSYE-008
Identifying Activities for Greater Employment Generation in Egypt: An Input-Output Analysis	Iman Al-Ayouty	GSYE-007
Work and Income for Young Men and Women in Africa: Employment Potential of Specific Sectors and Sub-Sectors in African Economies: A synthesis	Rolph van der Hoeven	GSYE-006
Income and Work for Young Men and Women in Africa: A Political Economy and Social Equity Approach to the Employment Potential of Specific Sectors and Sub-Sectors in African Economies	John Mutenyo	GSYE-005
Growth Sectors, Youth and Employment: Challenges and Way Forward: A Synthesis Paper of Ethiopia, Mali, and Nigeria Country Case Studies	Jacob Omolo	GSYE-004
Potential Sectors for Greater Employment Generation in the MENA Region: The Case of Tunisia and Egypt	Chahir Zaki	GSYE-003
Using Output and Labour Multipliers to Target Incentives for Fast Economic Recovery: The Cases of Ethiopia and Kenya	Max Mendez-Parra	GSYE-002
Supporting Jobs for Young Women and Men in Africa: A Framework for Country Level Analysis	Dirk Willem te Velde	GSYE-001

GPIR Policy Briefs		
Do Schools Really Divide the Togolese?	Etayibtalnam Koudjom, Eric H. Ngoko, Mazignada S. Limazie and Lionie Mafang	GPIR-PB-CC009
A Lifeless Help for the South Africans in Crisis	Abiodun Olusola Omotayo and Adebayo Isaiah Ogunniyi J	GPIR-PB-CC008
Growing Apart and Falling Together: The Growing South African Story	Nicholas Ngepah	GPIR-PB-CC007
Educated and Healthy, yet Poor	Henry Edeh and Jane Ozor	GPIR-PB-CC006
Re-Examining the Growth Poverty-Inequality Nexus in an Unstable Low-Income Economy: Case of Malawi	Chinyamata Chipeta	GPIR-PB-CC005
Hunger Crisis in Kenya: Urgent Need for Targeted and Equitable Policies	Eleftherios Giovanis and Oznur Ozdamar	GPIR-PB-CC004
A Poor Man's Portfolio?	Gilbert Mbara	GPIR-PB-CC003
Escaped or Trapped? The Untold Story of Ghana's Poverty Reduction	Dede W. Gafa, Louis S. Hodey and Bernardin Senadza	GPIR-PB-CC002
Jobless and Divided: Measures Towards Redressing Inequality in the Era of COVID-19	Nda'chi Deffo Rodrigue, Ndonou Tchoumdop, Michèle Estelle and Fomba Kamga Benjamin	GPIR-PB-CC001

Title	Authors	Link
Factors Affecting Adoption of Mobile Money by Farming Households in Lomahasha Inkundla of the Lubombo Region, Eswatini	Theophilus Lusito Dlamini	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3580
Agroecological Location of Farms and Choice of Drought Coping Strategies of Smallholder Farmers In Swaziland	Temndeni Amnestantia Khumalo	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3579
The Impact of the European Union Grant on Access to Credit and Production in Smallholder Sugarcane Agriculture in Siphofaneni, Eswatini	Sikhanyiso Angel Maziya	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3578
Contract Farming and Access to Formal Credit in South Africa: A Case of Small-Scale Sugarcane Growers in the Felixton Mill Area Of Kwazulu-	Sandile Bongani Sifundza	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3577
The Effects of Outdated Data and Outliers on Kenya's 2019 Global Food Security Index Score and Rank	Prisca Atieno	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3576
The Relationship Between Financial Inclusion and Agricultural Development in Southern Africa Development Community (Sadc)	Nomfundo Noncedo Langwenya	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3575
An Analysis of Farmers' Preferences for Crop Insurance: A Case of Maize Farmers in Swaziland	Nobuhle Duduzile Mbonane	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3574
Evaluating The Prospect to Hedge Maize Price Risk Against the Johannesburg Stock Exchange Commodity Derivatives Market Prices: The Case of Eswatini	Lindokuhle Nicholas Sihlongonyane	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3573
Stakeholder Perceptions of Raw Quality and its Management in Fetakgomo and Maruleng Municipalities of Limpopo Province	Namakando Namakando	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3572
The Key Determinants of Food Inflation in the Kingdom of Eswatini	Mancoba Knowledge Mndzebele	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3571
The Impact of Public Agricultural Investment on Food Security and Nutrition in Ecowas	Madalitso A. Kamenya	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3562
Economic Returns of the Agricultural Research Council's Table Grape Cultivar Development Programme in South Africa	Sukoluhle Mazwane	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3565
The Financial Inclusion Status of Rural Households in Eswatini	Maxwell Banele Nkambule	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3564
The Impact of Climate-Smart Technology Adoption on Farmers' Welfare in Northern Zambia	Sulinkhundla Maseko	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3563
Determinants of Commercial Orientation and the Level of Market Participation by Women Maize Farmers in Eswatini	Lucinda Nosizo Dlamini	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3561
Impact Evaluation of Conservation Agriculture on Smallholder Farmers' Livelihood in Zambia And Tanzania	Linda Sankhulani	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3560
Analysis of Main Determinants of Soya Bean Price Volatility in Malawi	Aubrey Victor Chimaliro	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/xmlui/handle/123456789/3541
An Econometric Analysis of Spatial Market Integration and Price Formation in the Namibian Sheep Industry	Bertha Deshimona Ijambo	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3542
The Impact of Conservation Agriculture Adoption on Farmer Welfare: A Comparative Assessment of Kenya And Tanzania	Brian Mpande	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3543
Milk Production and Marketing Channel Decisions of Smallholder Farmers in the Zambian Milk Value Chain	Tulumbe Cheelo	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3545
The Influence of Large-Scale Investments in Agricultural Land on Household Food Security in the Gurue' and Monapo Districts of Mozambique	Zaka Diana Mawako	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3546
The Impact of Public Agriculture Expenditure on Food Security And Nutrition in the Southern African Development Community (Sadc)	Emmillian Chifundo Kasililika-Mlagha	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3547
The Use of Information Sharing Systems to Address Opportunistic Behaviour Between Tomato Farmers and Brokers in Zambia	Eustensia Munsaka	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3548

Title	Authors	Link
Evaluation of the prospects of Hedging Botswana's Maize Prices Against the Johannesburg Stock Exchange Commodity Market Derivative	Goetswamang Phankie Ofentse	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3549
Scope Effects in Contingent Valuation: An Application to the Valuation of Irrigation Water Quality Improvements in Infulene Valley, Mozambique	Manjate Graça	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3550
Determinants of Climate Smart Agricultural Technology Adoption in the Northern Province of Zambia	Harad Chuma Lungu	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3552
The Effect of Access to Finance on Commercialisation of Smallholder Maize Farmers in Eswatini	Isaac Phiri	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3553
Identifying Possible Misspecification in South African Soybean Oil Future Contracts	Jean-Pierre Nordier	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3554
A Profitability and Risk Assessment of Market Strategies for Potato Producers in South Africa	Jodie Vosloo	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3555
An Assessment of South Africa's Non-Genetically Modified Maize Export Potential	Joseph Leshasha Mawasha	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3556
South African Market Access Challenges in the European Union: A Case of Regulatory Compliance and Non-Tariff Measures	Khanimamba Hlungwani	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3557
The State of Urban Food Insecurity in Malawi's Four Major Cities	Leonard Maximian Mkusa	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3558
The Determinants of Participation in Savings Groups and the Impact on Input Investment Among Smallholder Farmers in Sironko District, Uganda	Bukuwa Nambale Emmanuel	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3544
Coordination Strategies in the South African Egg Value Chain: A Review of Chain Performance and Fragility	Letlama Setene	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3559
Estimating the Value of Natural Characteristics of a National Park: the Case of Mokala National Park in South Africa	Carel Johannes Kriek	http://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/handle/123456789/3551

AERC Newsletters

ISSUE	TITLE	YEAR
Issue 05	AERC Newsletter	March 2023
Issue 06	AERC Newsletter	June 2023

Press Releases

1. <https://aercafrica.org/aerc-digital-financial-services-studies-dissemination-workshop-in-kigali-rwanda/> -September 20, 2023
2. <https://aercafrica.org/validation-inter-ministerial-policy-dialogue-on-strengthening-primary-healthcare-financing-and-service-delivery-in-kenya/> -September 8, 2023
3. <https://aercafrica.org/inter-ministerial-policy-dialogue-on-strengthening-primary-healthcare-financing-and-service-delivery-in-kenya/> -August 21, 2023
4. <https://aercafrica.org/the-economic-policy-research-centre-and-the-african-economic-research-consortium-digital-financial-services-studies-dissemination-workshop-in-kampala-uganda/> -August 18, 2023
5. <https://aercafrica.org/national-farmers-platform-hosts-dissemination-workshop-on-inclusive-finance-the-gambia/> -August 10, 2023
6. <https://aercafrica.org/inter-ministerial-policy-dialogue-on-strengthening-primary-healthcare-financing-and-service-delivery-in-africa-kenya/> -August 8, 2023
7. <https://aercafrica.org/researchers-root-for-international-collaboration-to-curb-economic-planning-data-availability-challenges/> -June 7, 2023
8. <https://aercafrica.org/african-economies-african-regional-trade-needs-to-be-strengthened-to-enhance-the-recovery-agenda-from-multiple-shocks/> -May, 23, 2023
9. [AERC to hold High Level Seminar on Human Capital Development in Africa](#), March 27, 2023.
10. [57th AERC Biannual Workshop chart a path to a more resilient recovery. African economies challenged to explore alternative ways forward to recover from multiple shocks](#) -December 1, 2022.

Aerc Referred Journal Publications 2023/2024

1. Joseph B. Ajefu , Falecia Massacky (2023) , Mobile money, child labour and school enrolment , Telecommunication Policy, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.telpol.2023.102648>
2. Dramane Coulibaly, Blaise Gnimassoun (2023), Emigration and External Imbalances in Sub-Saharan Africa: Do Migrants' Skills Matter? Journal of African Economies, ejad008, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jae/ejad008>
3. John Kamau Gathiaka, 2023, Does inequality in landownership contribute to inequality in education attainment? Empirical evidence from Kenya, Tanzanian Economic Review <https://doi.org/10.56279/ter.v12i2.119>
4. Kenneth Onye and Okon J. Umoh, 2023, Fiscal Policy and Monetary Integration in the ECOWAS, The Review of Black Political Economy, <https://doi.org/10.1177/00346446221094867>
5. Simon Manda (2023) COVID-19, Livelihoods and Gender: Material, Relational and Subjective Realities in Rural Zambia, *World Development Perspectives* 32 (2023) 100547, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wdp.2023.100547>
6. Kosimbei, G. K., Omolo, J. O., Rono, G. J., Musyoka, P. K., & Onono, P. A. (2023). Coping Mechanisms to Income Loss by Girls and Women During COVID-19: Evidence from Selected Informal Settlements in Kenya. *Advances in Social Sciences Research Journal*, 10(2). 447-464.
7. Makate, M.; Makate, C. Leaving No Women Behind: Evaluating the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Livelihood Outcomes in Kenya and Ethiopia. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 2023, 20, 5048. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph20065048>
8. [Laston Petro Manja and Isatou A. Badjie \(2023\), Does household welfare change with finance access? The case of women and the youth in The Gambia, Review of Development Economics DOI: 10.1111/rode.13053](#)
9. Fowowe, B. (2023). Financial Inclusion, Gender Gaps and Agricultural Productivity in Mali. *Review of Development Economics*, 1–40. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rode.13034>
10. Atta-Aidoo, J., Matthew, E. C., Saleh, A. O., & Bizoza, S. (2023). A gendered Analysis of the Effect of Financial Inclusion on Household Welfare in Burundi. *Review of Development Economics*, 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rode.13046>
11. Mulbah, F. F. B., Olumeh, D. E., Mantey, V., & Ipara, B. O. (2023). Impact of Financial Inclusion on Household Welfare in Liberia: A Gendered Perspective. *Review of Development Economics*, 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rode.13057>
12. Jane Kabubo-Mariara , Phyllis Mumia Machio, Michael Murigi Njoroge, Margaret Chemengich (2023), Links Between Firm Registration and Performance: Does it Pay to Register? *World Development*, 169 (2023) 106314. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2023.106314>

13. Dotse, S.-Q.; Larbi, I.; Limantol, A.M.; Asare-Nuamah, P.; Frimpong, L.K.; Alhassan, A.-R.M.; Sarpong, S.; Angmor, E.; Ayisi-Addo, A.K. Rainfall Projections from Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 6 in the Volta River Basin: Implications on Achieving Sustainable Development. *Sustainability* 2023, 15, 1472. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su15021472>
14. Diallo, S.M.; Seck, A. Air Pollution in Urban Africa: Understanding Attitudes and Economic Valuation in the Case of Dakar, Senegal. *Sustainability* 2023, 15, 1494. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su15021494>
15. Hailemariam Teklewold, Understanding Gender Differences on the Choices of a Portfolio of Climate-Smart Agricultural Practices in Sub-Saharan Africa, *World Development Perspectives*, Volume 29, 2023, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wdp.2023.100486>.
16. Mbaye Ndiene (2023), Changements Climatiques En Arique Subsahrienne: Une Approche Multidisciplinaire Sur L'utilisation Des Energies Renouvelables, *The West African Economic Review*, Volume 11, No. 1. Sept- Dec 2023.
17. Laston Petro Manja and Isatou A. Badjie (2023), Does Household Welfare Change with Finance Access? The Case of Women and the Youth in The Gambia, *Review of Development Economics*. 19th Sept 2023. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/rode.13053>
18. Fowowe, B. (2023). Financial Inclusion, Gender Gaps and Agricultural Productivity in Mali. *Review of Development Economics*, 1–40. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rode.13034>. July 27, 2023
19. Atta-Aidoo, J., Matthew, E. C., Saleh, A. O., & Bizosa, S. (2023). A gendered Analysis of the Effect of Financial Inclusion on Household Welfare in Burundi. *Review of Development Economics*, 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rode.13046> . August 21, 2023
20. Mulbah, F. F. B., Olumeh, D. E., Mantey, V., & Ipara, B. O. (2023). Impact of Financial Inclusion on Household Welfare in Liberia: A Gendered Perspective. *Review of Development Economics*, 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rode.13057> Sept 21, 2023
21. Dianah Ngui, Njuguna Ndung'u and Abebe Shimeles (Editors) (2023), Poverty, Growth, Inequality, Redistribution, and Social Inclusion before and after the COVID-19 Pandemic in Africa. Volume 32, Issue Supplement_2, April 2023. Oxford University Press.
22. Special Issue Journal <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14679701/2023/46/11>
23. Jaime de Melo, Marcelo Olarreaga (Editors), 2023. Special Issue: Supply Chain Trade in Africa: Retrospect and Prospect. *The World Economy*, Volume 46, Issue 11 Pages:3183-3418 <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14679701/2023/46/11>

Supplements

Book Volumes

24. Dianah Ngui, Abebe Shimeles, Njuguna Ndung'u, David Cracknell and Jonathan Greenacre (Editors), Digital Financial Inclusion and Market Development in East African Community (EAC) Economies. African Economic Research Consortium, Nairobi, Kenya. <https://publication.aercafricalibrary.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/28e893a2-0c77-4df8-966a-615ca2078a3c/content>
25. Bitange Ndemo, Njuguna Ndung'u, Scholastica Odhiambo, Abebe Shimeles, [Data Governance and Policy in Africa | SpringerLink](https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-24498-8), <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-24498-8>

Annex C:

List of Think Tanks and Implementing Partners Collaborating with AERC in National Policy Workshops

	Think Tanks and Implementing Partners	Country
1	Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA)	Kenya
2	Kenya Bankers Association (KBA)	Kenya
3	Institute for Development Studies, University of Nairobi	Kenya
4	Economic Research Forum (ERF)	Egypt
5	Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Research Organisation (STIPRO)	Tanzania
6	Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF)	Tanzania
7	Research on Poverty Alleviation (REPOA)	Tanzania
8	Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC)	Uganda
9	Bank of South Sudan (BOSS) and Ebony Centre for Strategic Studies (ECSS)	South Sudan
10	Policy Studies Institute (PSI)	Ethiopia
11	The Horn Economic & Social Policy Institute (HESPI)	Ethiopia
12	Macroeconomic and Financial Management Institute of Eastern and Southern Africa (MEFMI)	Zimbabwe
13	The Zimbabwe Economic Policy Analysis and Research Institute (ZEPARI)	Zimbabwe
14	Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD)	Zambia
15	Eswatini Economic Policy Analysis and Research Centre (ESEPARC)	Eswatini
16	Centre de Recherche pour le Développement (CRD) of the Université Catholique de Madagascar (UCM).	Madagascar
17	Centre de Recherches, d'Etudes et d'Appui à l'Analyse Economique de Madagascar (CREAM)	Madagascar
18	African Institute for Inclusive Growth	South Africa
19	Mwapata Institute	Malawi
20	Centre d'etudes et de Renforcements des Capacite d'analyse et de Plaidoyer (CERCAP)	Malawi
21	Centre d'Analyse des Politiques Economiques et Sociales (CAPES)	Burkina Faso
22	Institut des Sciences des Sociétés (INSS)	Burkina Faso
23	Centre d'etudes, de documentation et de recherche economiques et sociales (CEDRES)	Burkina Faso
24	Centre Universitaire de Recherche pour le Développement Economique et Social (CURDES)	Burundi
25	Cameroon Policy Analysis and Research Center (CAMERCAP-PARC)	Cameroon
26	Department of Economics, University of Yaoundé II	Cameroon
27	Center d'Etudes et de Recherche sur les Analyses et Politiques Economiques (CERAPE)	Congo
28	Cellule d'Analyse de Politiques Economiques (CAPEC-CIRES)	Côte d'Ivoire
29	Centre de Recherche et d'Etudes Economiques et Sociales (CRES-Congo)	DR Congo
30	Centre for Economic Policy Analysis	Ghana
31	Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER), University of Ghana	Ghana
32	Centre d'etudes et de Renforcements des Capacite d'analyse et de Plaidoyer (CERCAP)	Mali
33	Development Strategy Centre	Nigeria
34	Nigeria Economic Summit Group (NESG)	Nigeria
35	Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research	Nigeria
36	Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN)	Rwanda
37	Laboratoire d'Analyse des Politiques de Développement (LAPD)	Senegal
38	Consortium pour la recherche economique et sociale (CRES)	Senegal
39	Centre d'analyse et Renforcement des Capacites du Togo (CADERDT)	Togo
40	National Farmers Platform The Gambia (NFPG)	Gambia

Annex D:

List of Researchers Awarded Grants under the PASHFARM Project

	Full Names	Gender	Nationality	Institutional Affiliation	Research Title
1	Luitfred D. Kissoly	Male	Tanzania	University of Dar es Salaam	Urban Periodic Food Markets in Underserved Peripheral Wards: A Potential Pathway to Food and Nutrition Security in Rapidly Growing Cities? [CR]*
2	Fatima Kareem	Female	Rwanda	Akademiya2063	Analysis of the Food Retail Systems in Cameroon and Rwanda through a Gender Lens: Policies, Drivers, Barriers and Healthy Food Outcomes [CR- G]*
3	Ousmanou Njikam	Male	Cameroon	University of Yaounde	Quantifying Gender Gap in Performance among Formal and Informal Food Micro-, Small-, and Medium-size Enterprises in Cameroon [CR- G]
4	Chimwemwe Ng'ong'ola	Male	Malawi	Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources	Trust and Consumption Decisions for Biofortified Food in Malawi: The Case of Orange Flesh Sweet Potato and Yellow Maize [CR]
5	Amy KA	Male	Senegal	Université Cheikh Anta DIOP de Dakar	Analyse Comparative L'impact de la Volatilité des Prix Sur Les dépenses de Consommation au Cameroun, au Sénégal et au Togo [CR]
6	Harounan Kazianga	Male	USA/ Benin	Oklahoma State University	Determinants of Diet Quality in Eight West African Countries: Household Income, Farm Production, Market Prices, and Access to Healthy Diets [CR]
7	Florence Opondo	Female	Kenya	Laikipia University	Drivers of Accessibility to Nutritious Diets among the Low-Income Groups in Kenya and Malawi [CCS]*
8	Forah Obebo	Male	Kenya	Kenyatta University	Consumer Acceptance of Biofortified Iron Beans in Kenya: A Willingness to Pay and Choice Experiment Approach [CCS]
9	Martin Paul Jr Tabe-Ojong	Male	Cameroon/ Egypt	International Food Policy Research Institute, Egypt	Affordability of Nutritious Diets among Smallholder Households: Evidence from Zambia [CCS]
10	Abule Mehare	Male	Ethiopia	Institute of Foreign Affairs, Ethiopia	Food Price Volatility, Child Mortality and Household Food Security in Ethiopia: Evidence from Time Series and Survey Data [CCS]
11	Isaac Kwesi Oforia	Male	Ghana	University of Cape Coast	Food Price Volatility and Consumption Decisions in Ghana [CCS]
12	Lemekezani Kingston Chilora	Male	Malawi	MwAPATA Institute	Do Input Subsidies and Safety Nets Address Accessibility to Nutritious Food among Low-Income Groups? Evidence from Malawi Integrated Panel Data [CCS]
13	Tsambou André Dumas	Male	Cameroon	Université de Yaoundé II	Volatilité des Prix et Qualité de Consommation Alimentaire des Ménages au Sénégal [CCS]
14	Selma Karuaihe	Female	South Africa	University of Pretoria	Availability, Access, and Barriers to SMES Provision of Safe and Nutritious Diets in Low-Income Areas: The Case of Urban and Peri-Urban Settlements in South Africa [FR]*
15	Violet Wawire	Female	Kenya	Women Educational Researchers of Kenya	Exploring Strategies for Enhancing Women Vendor's Opportunities of Provision of Safe and Quality Food for Slum Residents in Nairobi [FR-G]
16	Ezeibe Adaku	Female	Nigeria	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Gender, Structural Change and Small and Medium Scale Food Enterprises Performance: Evidence from the World Bank Enterprise Survey and the Demographic and Health Surveys Data [FR-G]*
17	Raphael Gitau	Male	Kenya	Egerton University	Breaking the Barriers: Exploring Gendered Barriers that Food SMES Face in Providing Low-Income Consumers with Safe, Affordable and Nutritious Foods in Kenya, Uganda and Malawi [FR-G]
18	Racheal Namulondo	Female	Uganda	Busitema University	Market Participation as a Driver of Accessibility to Nutritious Diets among Farmer Households in Refugee Host Communities of Uganda [FR]
19	Martin J. Chegere	Male	Tanzania	University of Dar Es Salaam	The Impact of Food Price Variability on Consumer's Food Expenditure and Consumption Decisions [FR]
20	Edward Mutandwa	Male	Zimbabwe	University of Zimbabwe	Geospatial Mapping of Informal Urban Food Markets in Zimbabwe: Policy Implications for Formalisation [FR]

Annex E:

List of CPP Proposals and Best Chapter Presented at the June and December 2023 Biannual Research Workshops

Name of Student	Gender	Nationality	Degree-Awarding University	Title of Paper
June 2023				
Hagos Ressom	M	Eritrea	Cape Town, South Africa	Trend of the Association Between Parental Background and Earnings: The Case of South Africa (Best Chapter)
Nicholas Kwami Essah	M	Ghana	Cape Coast, Ghana	Internal Migration, Urban Labour Markets Informalisation and Household Welfare in Ghana (Proposal)
Francis Anyaara Santaa	M	Ghana	Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana	Economic Complexity, Informality and Economic Performance in Developing Countries (Proposal)
Joyce Gervas	F	Tanzania	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	A Comparative Study of the Effectiveness of Monetary Policy Frameworks and Transmission Mechanism in Sub-Saharan Africa (Proposal)
Isaac Appiah Amankwa	M	Ghana	Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana	An Economic Study of Taxation, Innovation, and Growth in Africa (Proposal)
Irene IRAKOZE	F	Burundi	University of Burundi	Modelling of Risk Exposure in the Banking Sector (Proposal)
December 2023				
Liberatus Robert	M	Tanzania	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	Understanding Sluggishness of Poverty Reduction in Tanzania (Best Chapter)
Stephen Adusei	M	Ghana	Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana	The Role of Quality of Institutions in the Impact of Informal Economy on Economic Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa (Best Chapter)
Dopé Madeleine Adjor	F	Togo	Yaoundé II, Cameroon	Identification and Rural-Urban Decomposition of Vulnerability to Poverty in Togo (Best Chapter)
Michael Tutu Boadu	M	Ghana	Cape Coast, Ghana	Environmental Provisions in Preferential Trade Agreements and Biodiversity Conservation in Africa: Does Property Rights Matter? (Best Chapter)
Mgeni E. Msafiri	F	Tanzania	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	Does Economic Diplomacy Influence International Trade? Evidence and Experience from Tanzania. (Best Chapter)
Gameli Adika	M	Ghana	Cape Town, South Africa	Family Income, Parenting and Child Health Outcomes in South Africa (Proposal)
Clement Izuchukwu Igbanugu	M	Nigeria	Benin, Nigeria	Advanced Economies Unconventional Monetary Policy and Capital Flow Dynamics in Nigeria (Proposal)
Njowe Ekeme, Nadine Rachel	F	Cameroon	Yaoundé II, Cameroon	Financial Innovations and Gender Inequalities in Developing Countries (Proposal)
Raynold Runganga	M	Zimbabwe	Cape Town, South Africa	Trade Shocks and Local Labour Markets in South Africa (Proposal)



African Economic Research Consortium

Consortium pour la Recherche Economique en Afrique
P O Box 62882 – City Square
Nairobi 00200, Kenya
Middle East Bank Towers, 3rd Floor, Jakaya Kikwete Road
Tel: (254-20) 273-4150

www.aercafrica.org