



Background Note

IMPACTS OF STI INDICATORS IN POLICY PROCESSES AND STRATEGIES FOR SUPPORTING UPTAKE

African countries have developed appropriate measures to assess their Science Technology and Innovation (STI) investments. These included the development of various continental initiatives such as the African Science Technology and Innovation Indicators (ASTII), the African Observatory of Science, Technology, and Innovation (AOSTI) aimed at supporting evidence-informed policymaking. In addition, many countries have developed capacities and capabilities to measure their STI investments through R&D surveys including the development of appropriate STI indicators. While these initiatives are timely, there is a need to better understand how they inform decision making even in times of crisis such as COVID-19. Further, these continental initiatives have supported capacity building initiatives, yet policymakers, researchers continue to grapple with impact and uptake pathways that can support the use of evidence for decision making. To this end, the [African Centre for Technology Studies](#) together with the [Science Policy Research Unit](#) at the [University of Sussex](#) has organized a side event at the upcoming [Africa Research and Impact Network](#) annual International conference to discuss the impact of STI indicators for policymaking. This side event will be conducted through a panel to explore the following broad areas in STI indicators development and uptake;

- History of developing STI indicators in the African countries, institutions involved, and types of data do collect
- “Culture “of policymaking in African countries (Panellist draw evidence from their respective countries)
- How is evidence procured for decision making? Has this process (procuring evidence for decision making) impacted the development of science, technology, and innovation ecosystems in Africa and individual countries at large? Provide examples.
- Experiences/examples/instances to demonstrate the use of R&D and innovation indicators in STI policymaking.
- What are some of the ways that African nations can develop sustainable STI indicator systems?





- What are some of the impact pathways/channels that can support uptake and use of STI indicators collected and developed in a dashboard?

Program 11.30-13.00 EAT

Time	Agenda	Session Moderator
11.30-11.35	Welcome and introduction to the session	Ms. Nora Ndege
11.35-11.45	Presentation on ST&I indicators for science policy in Africa	Ms. Nora Ndege
11.45-12.35	Guided panel discussion	Dr. Joanes Atela
12.35-12.50	Q&A session from participants via chat	Dr. Joanes Atela
12.50-13.00	Closing remarks	Dr. Joanes Atela

