

GOVERNING SDG INTERACTIONS IN EAST-AFRICA

MID-TERM REVIEW WORKSHOP REPORT

29TH MARCH 2024

Project funded by the Dutch Research Council, as part of the research programme “SDG Interactions and Policy Interventions



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We are particularly grateful to the following:

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Abbreviations

ACTS	- African Centre for Technology Studies
ARIN	- Africa Research and Impact Network
ILRI	- International Livestock Research Institute
Mak-SPH	- Makerere University School of Public Health.
NDC	- Nationally Determined Contribution
NDP	- National Development Plan
NWO	- Dutch Research Council
PhD	- Doctor of Philosophy
SDGs	- Sustainable Development Goals
WUR	-Wageningen University & Research
WLRC	- Water and Land Resource Centre

Executive Summary

The "Governing SDG Interactions in East Africa" project, funded by the Dutch Research Council, held its mid-term review workshop from March 4th to 6th, 2024, at the Clarence House Hotel in Westlands, Nairobi, Kenya. This collaborative effort between Wageningen University & Research (WUR), the Africa Research and Impact Network (ARIN), and the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) brought together researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders from Kenya, Uganda, and Ethiopia. The project aims to improve SDG governance in East Africa by identifying and addressing interactions and gaps within the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework, ultimately fostering a more inclusive and effective system.

The three-day workshop served as a platform for knowledge exchange and collaborative problem-solving. The Research Day showcased preliminary findings from PhD candidates on topics like landscape restoration in Ethiopia, large-scale irrigation schemes in Uganda, and climate-smart livestock practices in Kenya. Discussions centered on the complexities of stakeholder engagement, effective governance mechanisms, and the challenges of aligning and integrating various SDGs.

Impact Day delved deeper into stakeholder perspectives from all three participating countries. Participants discussed the opportunities and challenges in addressing interactions between different SDGs. Breakout sessions explored the nuances of SDG governance across global, regional, and local contexts, highlighting the importance of a multi-level approach.

The Field Trip Day provided practical insights. Participants visited the Fresha Dairy processing plant in Kiambu, Kenya, observing how the dairy sector exemplifies interactions between multiple SDGs. They also visited a local farm to witness sustainable dairy practices firsthand.

Several key themes emerged throughout the workshop. The need to identify and address both synergies and trade-offs between SDGs was a central point of discussion. Participants emphasized the importance of engaging diverse stakeholders through a polycentric governance approach, where power is shared across different levels. Additionally, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners was recognized as crucial for finding effective solutions. Strategic partnerships and efficient dissemination of research findings were highlighted as essential elements for maximizing the project's impact.

The workshop served as a valuable opportunity to explore the complexities of SDG governance in East Africa and underscore the importance of coordinated approaches. The insights gained will guide the project's future activities, contributing significantly to advancing sustainable development in the region. Further research and ongoing stakeholder engagement will be vital to achieving the desired outcomes and ultimately promoting a more inclusive and effective SDG governance system in East Africa.

1. Background and Rationale

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations member states in 2015, outlines a comprehensive framework for achieving a sustainable future. At its core are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a set of interconnected and interdependent objectives aimed at addressing global challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, and environmental degradation.

While each SDG carries its own specific targets, achieving them necessitates a holistic approach that acknowledges the complex interactions between these goals. These interactions can be synergistic, where progress towards one goal reinforces progress towards another. For example, promoting sustainable agriculture (SDG 2) can contribute to conserving biodiversity (SDG 15) by reducing deforestation and protecting natural habitats. However, interactions can also be trade-off based, where progress in one area might hinder progress in another. For instance, large-scale irrigation projects (linked to SDG 2) can deplete water resources, potentially impacting access to clean water and sanitation (SDG 6).

Effective governance is critical for navigating these interactions and ensuring the successful implementation of the SDGs. This requires a multi-level approach that involves national governments, regional institutions, local authorities, and a diverse range of stakeholders, including civil society organizations, the private sector, and research institutions. A polycentric governance framework, where power is shared across different levels, can be particularly beneficial in fostering collaboration and addressing the specific needs of each region.

East Africa presents a unique context for exploring SDG interactions and governance challenges. The region faces a multitude of pressing issues, including food insecurity, water scarcity, and climate change. While there are significant efforts underway to achieve the SDGs, complexities arise due to factors such as limited resources, institutional fragmentation, and a lack of coordination between different sectors.

The "Governing SDG Interactions in East Africa" project, funded by the Dutch Research Council, aims to address these challenges by:

- **Identifying and analyzing interactions and trade-offs among SDGs** in specific sectors and contexts within East Africa.
- **Exploring innovative governance mechanisms** that can overcome existing gaps and facilitate more effective SDG implementation.
- **Promoting stakeholder engagement** through inclusive dialogue and collaboration to ensure that diverse perspectives are considered in policy and decision-making processes.

This report summarizes the findings and discussions of the project's mid-term review workshop, held from March 4th to 6th, 2024, in Nairobi, Kenya. The workshop brought together researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders from across East Africa to share knowledge, identify key challenges and opportunities, and chart a course for advancing SDG governance in the region.

2. Workshop Objectives

The mid-term review workshop aimed to:

1. **Advance Polycentric Governance:** Foster dialogue on SDG interactions to transform fragmented governance into an inclusive, multi-level system.
2. **Analyze SDG Implementation:** Examine how interactions can be better governed across sectors and levels to understand current effectiveness in East Africa.
3. **Gain Practical Insights:** Visit a dairy processing plant and farm to observe SDG interactions within the dairy sector.
4. **Share Research Findings:** Facilitate knowledge exchange by having PhD candidates present preliminary findings from their projects.

3. Workshop Preparation and Design

3.1 Organizing Team

The workshop was organized by a collaborative team consisting of:

- Wageningen University & Research (WUR)
- Africa Research and Impact Network (ARIN)
- International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)

3.2 Planning and Coordination:

To ensure a successful event, the organizing team held internal preparatory meetings using Microsoft Teams. These meetings facilitated clear communication through email, ensuring everyone involved was aligned with the workshop's goals and timeline. Representatives from each organization collaborated closely, discussing agenda items, logistical arrangements, and participant engagement strategies.

These meetings also served to:

- **Refine Workshop Objectives:** The team worked together to ensure the workshop objectives were clear and achievable.
- **Develop Presentations:** Representatives from each organization collaborated on presentations that would effectively communicate key concepts and research findings.
- **Proactive Problem-Solving:** Potential challenges were discussed and addressed proactively to minimize disruptions during the workshop.

3.3 Venue Selection

The Clarence House Hotel in Westlands, Nairobi, Kenya, was selected as the venue for the workshop. This location was chosen for its convenient central position in Nairobi, offering easy access to the ILRI and ARIN offices, the airport, and the planned field trip locations. Additionally, Clarence House Hotel provides affordable accommodation and on-site meeting facilities, which facilitated a smooth and cost-effective workshop experience.

3.4 Workshop Structure

The three-day workshop (March 4th-6th, 2024) focused on examining synergies and trade-offs among SDGs in various contexts.

- **Day 1: Research Day:** PhD candidates from Uganda, Kenya, and Ethiopia presented preliminary findings on their projects related to governing SDG interactions. These presentations were followed by feedback from mentors and stakeholders.
- **Day 2: Impact Day:** Stakeholders from Ethiopia and Uganda presented on stakeholder engagement activities. Facilitated discussions with Kenyan stakeholders focused on climate-smart livestock practices in the dairy sector. Kenyan stakeholders from various organizations provided insights on understanding SDG interactions at local and national levels, proposing methods to address comprehension challenges.
- **Day 3: Field Trip Day:** Participants visited the Fresha Dairy cooperative processing plant in Kiambu to observe SDG interactions within the dairy sector and milk processing procedures. Additionally, they visited a local farm to witness some of the dairy farming practices.

4. Methodology

The workshop employed a multifaceted approach, blending research dissemination with interactive stakeholder engagement. The first day centered on in-depth research presentations that explored Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) interactions. Researchers and PhD candidates from Uganda, Kenya, and Ethiopia presented their preliminary findings, followed by discussions that invited stakeholder input and stimulated strategy development. This format allowed participants to delve into the complexities of SDG governance and provided a platform for critical feedback and knowledge exchange.

The second day took an interactive approach, featuring break-out groups that addressed the intricacies of SDG interactions at global, regional, and local levels. These collaborative sessions encouraged participants to share insights, discuss best practices, and develop solutions to governance challenges. The break-out groups fostered a rich exchange of ideas, allowing stakeholders to collectively tackle issues and identify practical ways to overcome obstacles to SDG implementation.

On the third day, the workshop moved beyond presentations and discussions to a field trip, offering participants a hands-on experience to understand real-world SDG governance challenges in East Africa. Participants visited the Fresha Dairy processing plant in Kiambu, gaining insights into how SDGs interact within the dairy sector, followed by a visit to a local farm to observe some of the sustainable dairy farming practices. This field trip provided a tangible perspective on the operational realities of SDG governance and allowed participants to see firsthand how these goals are applied in practice.

5. Target Audience

The workshop targeted a diverse group of stakeholders involved in SDG implementation and governance across East Africa, including:

- Academics and researchers studying SDG interactions.
- Policymakers shaping regional development agendas.
- Representatives from sectors like agriculture and livestock state departments.
- Professionals from NGOs, international development agencies, and local communities invested in sustainable development.

The organizing institutions compiled a stakeholder list, and a letter outlining the workshop program, objectives, and project concept note was sent to all potential participants. A total of 32 participants attended the workshop.

6. Theme Days

6.1 Day 1: Research Progress

The midterm review meeting commenced with a recap of previous engagements, providing a comprehensive context for the project. The recap began from June 16, 2021, when the Dutch Research Council announced funding for three studies examining the interactions between Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The day was dedicated to research presentations by PhD candidates from Uganda, Kenya, and Ethiopia. These candidates had completed their research proposals, received approvals, and started fieldwork, leading to the presentation of preliminary findings. The day's discussions focused on sharing research insights and exploring the early outcomes of fieldwork.

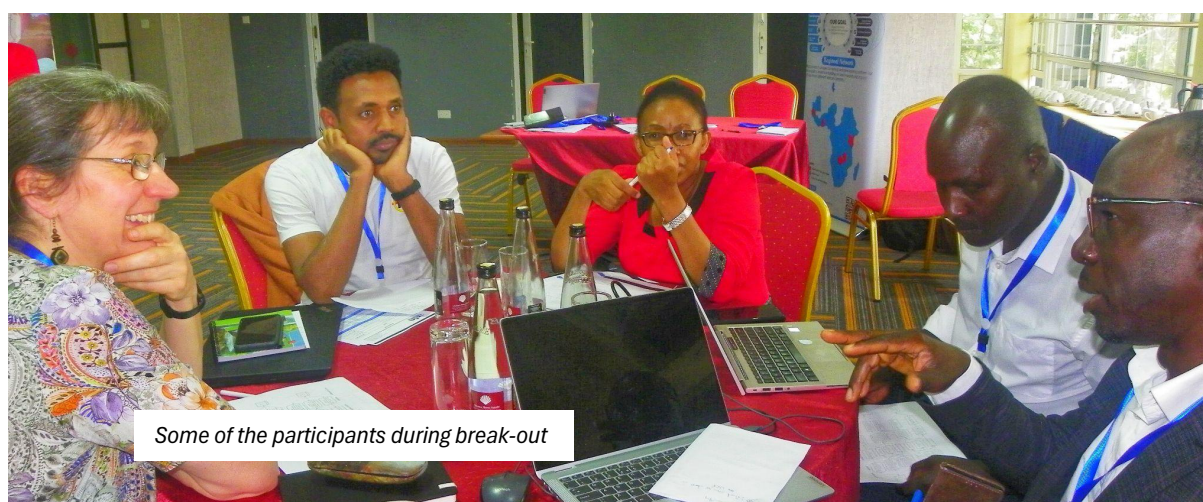


6.2 Day 2: Impact Day

Stakeholder engagement was a central theme on Day 2, with participants actively interacting to gain insights and collaboratively propose strategies for addressing challenges in understanding Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) interactions at local and national levels. The session facilitated a vibrant exchange of diverse perspectives and experiences, which contributed to a deeper understanding of the complexities involved in SDG governance. Through constructive dialogue, stakeholders explored ideas to overcome obstacles in SDG implementation, emphasizing the importance of community involvement, partnerships for capacity building, and the strategic use of technology in sustainable development.



The break-out sessions on this day provided an opportunity for participants to examine SDG interactions across various contexts—global, regional, and local. This collaborative effort enabled attendees to address key challenges and develop practical solutions for advancing SDG governance. By delving into different levels of governance, from international frameworks to community-based approaches, the sessions allowed for a comprehensive exploration of strategies to foster effective governance and implementation.



6.3 Day 3: Field Trip

The field trip to Kiambu, Kenya, offered participants firsthand experience with SDG interactions within the dairy sector. They observed the operations of the Fresha Dairy cooperative, gaining insights into dairy collection and processing.

The processing plant exemplified responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), with a focus on minimizing waste, optimizing resource efficiency, and reducing energy usage (SDG 7 - Affordable and Clean Energy). Additionally, the plant demonstrates commitment to efficient water management (SDG 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation).

Engagement with local farmers highlighted the importance of sourcing sustainable raw materials, including milk from farms committed to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) through sustainable agricultural practices. The focus on decent working conditions for employees (SDG 8) indicates a culture of inclusivity and equity. Partnerships with local communities further aligns with SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), promoting economic growth and social development through cooperative initiatives.



Observing dairy farming practices in the area and interacting with a farmer provided insights into how sustainable practices contribute to achieving multiple SDGs. These includes zero hunger (SDG 2), good health and well-being (SDG 3), responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), climate action (SDG 13), reduced inequalities (SDG 10), no poverty (SDG 1), and gender equality and empowerment (SDG 5).



Finally, participants learned about the role of technology and innovation in enhancing productivity while minimizing environmental impact, aligning with SDG goals related to industry, innovation, and infrastructure (SDG 9).



7. Workshop Proceedings

Day 1 - Research Day

This summary presents key points from the PhD candidate presentations on Day 1 of the workshop, focusing on governing SDG interactions in East Africa.

Governing Synergies and Trade-offs with SDG 15 in Ethiopia

- **Mr. Dereje Yimam:** Studied landscape restoration in the Lake Tana sub-basin, highlighting the area's importance for development and the complexities of stakeholder engagement. He employed a mixed-method approach to understand stakeholder interests and influence, using stakeholder mapping and social network analysis. Future research will focus on data collection, network visualization, and policy analysis.
- **Mr. Aytenew Tatek:** Also focused on Lake Tana, utilizing focus group discussions and stakeholder workshops to understand land degradation, restoration, and stakeholder dynamics. He employed the SDG Synergies tool and found positive interactions between SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and other SDGs related to energy, water, and food security. His research will be further refined based on preliminary findings.

The Water-Energy-Food Nexus

- **Ms. Nishai Moodley:** Explored the challenges in achieving SDGs in Uganda despite abundant water resources. She identified governance issues as a primary obstacle, hindering the translation of SDGs into actionable policies. Her research focuses on the water-energy-food nexus in large-scale irrigation schemes, examining governance mechanisms, decision-making processes, and sectoral priorities.
- **Mr. Tonny Ssekamatte:** Investigated the water, energy, food, and health nexus (WEFH) within informal settlements in Kampala, Uganda. His project utilizes a systems approach and the polycentric governance framework to understand SDG interactions and governance. Preliminary findings indicate an alignment with SDGs in policy documents, but less so during implementation. Further research will explore facilitators and challenges to improved coordination.

Climate-Smart Livestock in Kenya

- **Ms. Rachel Gitundu:** Studied the dairy sector in Kenya, focusing on power dynamics within public and private sector collaborations. She employed a qualitative approach with a framework incorporating intersectionality and power dynamics. Preliminary findings revealed synergies and trade-offs between SDG goals, including complexities around youth employment and access to services within cooperatives.
- **Ms. Annita Kirwa:** Examined greenhouse gas emissions reduction and coordination mechanisms among international and national actors within the dairy sector. Her research focuses on trade-offs and synergies experienced by policy actors concerning SDGs. Preliminary results suggest more synergies than trade-offs, particularly between

SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and others like gender equality (SDG 5), decent work (SDG 8), reduced inequalities (SDG 10), and climate action (SDG 13). She plans to explore interactions across different policy programs.

Polycentric SDG Governance

- **Mr. Charles Tonui:** Investigated the role of shared systems of rules in achieving SDGs in East Africa, drawing on Van Zeben's polycentricity theory of governance. His research focuses on exploring the characteristics of the SDG governance framework. Future work will delve into access to justice and a deeper understanding of SDG elements.

Day 2: Impact Day

Opening Remarks

- **Professor Art Dewulf** opened Day 2 by outlining the project's scope, focusing on understanding interactions between SDGs across Ethiopia, Uganda, and Kenya. He emphasized a stakeholder-driven approach with diverse participants, including international donors, local communities, governments, and NGOs. Case studies on landscape restoration, water-energy-food nexus, and climate-smart livestock provided insights into specific SDG interactions and trade-offs. The project's robust impact plan aims to contribute to more effective SDG implementation by minimizing trade-offs and maximizing synergies.

Stakeholder Presentations

- **Ethiopia:** Mr. Dereje Yimam presented insights from a stakeholder workshop on governing SDG 15 interactions in Addis Ababa. He highlighted Ethiopia's alignment of SDGs with national development plans and progress in achieving SDG indicators. However, challenges included institutional fragmentation, poor coordination, and donor-driven initiatives. A stakeholder mapping workshop identified motivations, interests, and roles of stakeholders in landscape restoration around Lake Tana. Outputs included stakeholder involvement mapping and data collection strategies, fostering continued collaboration.
- **Uganda:** Dr. Richard Mugambe presented key findings from stakeholder consultations on SDG implementation in Uganda. He highlighted uneven progress across districts and sectors, with challenges like funding shortages, sectoral silos, and limited data. Stakeholders identified government efforts including the SDG roadmap, coordination frameworks, and capacity building initiatives. The need for an enabling policy environment, increased funding, and interdisciplinary research was emphasized.
- **Kenya:** Dr. Joanes Atela provided insights from the Nairobi workshop. He outlined the project's focus on identifying governance mechanisms for SDG interactions and stakeholder involvement. Trade-offs and synergies were explored, with the dairy sector as an example, where positive health impacts (SDG 3) could conflict with gender equality (SDG 5). Systemic analysis revealed more synergies than trade-offs between SDG 2 (Zero

Hunger) and other goals. Stakeholder engagement was highlighted for ensuring projects address local needs and contribute to desired impacts.

PhD Candidate Research

- **Ms. Rachel Gitundu:** Presented her research on the governance of SDG interactions in the Kenyan dairy sector, starting at the local level. Her preliminary findings highlighted interactions between the sector and various SDGs, including food security, climate action, and gender equality. She emphasized that these interactions vary based on social identities and access to resources. Future research will focus on stakeholder impacts on these interactions.
- **Ms. Annita Kirwa:** Presented her research on governing the Kenyan dairy sector, adopting a global-to-local approach. She examined coordination mechanisms among international and national actors, including project duplication, alignment with SDG interactions, and program interactions. Challenges were identified in managing cross-program interactions, highlighting the importance of monitoring and evaluation.
- **Mr. Charles Tonui:** Presented his research on the polycentric governance of SDGs in East Africa, focusing on the role of shared rules. He emphasized the need for integrated approaches to SDG implementation and identified key areas for investigation, including shared rules and financing systems. Stakeholder engagement plans include government agencies, regional institutions, and civil society.

Farmer and Government Perspectives

- **Ms. Naomi Wamboi:** A farmer, highlighted the connection between SDGs and farming practices, emphasizing climate resilience, women's empowerment, child welfare, and zero hunger. She described her journey in dairy farming and the transformative impact of empowerment initiatives.
- **Ms. Rosalyn Matofari:** A government of Kenya representative, described the State Department's role in establishing and distributing dairy industry policies. She highlighted their data collection and analysis efforts, oversight of breeding programs, and capacity building initiatives for counties.
- **Ms. Veledinah:** A government of Kenya representative, expressed gratitude for stakeholder participation and collaboration, emphasizing the importance of coordination for project implementation. She acknowledged progress made in coordination efforts, particularly through the SDG coordinating mechanism.

Open Discussion

- Stakeholders discussed challenges in livestock management, including conflicts between livestock keepers and health departments. The importance of collaboration between agriculture and health organizations to manage disease risks and balance economic benefits with public health was emphasized.
- The importance of an impact plan to ensure project outcomes reach relevant stakeholders was highlighted. Stakeholders also emphasized the need for stakeholder engagement at all levels, integrated governance models, and mentorship for PhD students navigating complex policy environments.

Break-out Group Session

The Governing SDGs Interactions Project convened break-out group discussions to brainstorm strategies for maximizing the project's impact. These sessions focused on three key questions:

1. **Desirable Outputs:** How can the project ensure it generates practical and valuable results that contribute to effective SDG implementation?
2. **Dissemination of Research Findings:** How can the project effectively communicate its research findings to a wide range of stakeholders, including policymakers and farmers?
3. **Strategic Partnerships:** How can the project build strong partnerships with other organizations to enhance coordination, resource utilization, and ultimately, achieve its goals?

Participants in the break-out groups discussed these questions and identified several key outputs, dissemination strategies, and partnership opportunities. These discussions will be crucial in guiding the project's future direction and ensuring it delivers impactful results.

Break-out Group Session Outputs Summary Table

Theme	Key Outputs
Desirable Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on impactful activities. • Tailor solutions to specific contexts (national & subnational). • Enhance project efficiency and coordination. • Implement effective monitoring and evaluation. • Identify gaps in stakeholder coordination (e.g., SDG branch). • Track key indicators for communication and policymaking. • Define and specify outcome indicators at different levels. • Acknowledge variations in administrative structures across countries. • Consider trade-offs in policy implementation (livelihoods vs. health/economy). • Recognize multifaceted financial impacts (farmer returns, health, and economic growth). • Address competition for resources within departments.
Dissemination of Research Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create policy briefs and working papers (national & subnational). • Raise awareness among farmers (extension guides, field days, demonstrations). • Tailor communication for policymakers (concise, readable documents). • Communicate data effectively and ensure actionable feedback. • Establish local data infrastructures for sustainability. • Utilize postdocs to share lessons learned from other regions. • Communicate research in languages accessible to grassroots stakeholders.
Strategic Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move from siloed approaches to integrated governance models. • Collaborate with organizations implementing solutions. • Build partnerships with government, NGOs, and development partners. • Foster vertical and horizontal synergy in governance (across levels & sectors). • Organize workshops that facilitate cross-sectoral collaboration. • Explore cross-country case studies and feedback loops for enhanced learning. • Integrate inter-donor and public-private alignment into project outcomes. • Partner with grassroots organizations for knowledge uptake. • Recognize and incorporate the informal economy in project implementation.

Closing Remarks

- Dr. Atela commended stakeholders for collaboration and expressed appreciation for their engagement and the ARIN team's dedication to workshop planning.
- Professor Dewulf emphasized the importance of stakeholder engagement at all levels.
- Dr. Isayvani Naicker advocated for integrated governance models for research and policy.
- The team acknowledged the project's potential impact and the importance of supporting PhD students.

Day 3: Field Trip Day

The Governing SDGs Interactions Project dedicated Day 3 to a field trip, aiming to bridge the gap between research and real-world application. The day unfolded in two key locations:

- **Fresha Dairy Processing Plant (Kiambu):** Here, participants gained a firsthand look at the dairy value chain. They toured the processing plant, observing how raw milk is transformed into various dairy products. This visit shed light on the complex relationship between SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and various aspects of the dairy industry.
- **Ms. Wamboi's Mid-Scale Farm:** This visit provided a contrasting perspective, showcasing the on-the-ground realities of SDG implementation at the community level. Ms. Wamboi's farm demonstrated the crucial role of research and innovation in promoting sustainable farming practices in Kenya. The visit emphasized the importance of collaboration between researchers, farmers, and other stakeholders to achieve broader development objectives within the agricultural sector.

Day 3 served as a valuable learning experience for project participants. By witnessing the dairy industry from both large-scale processing to small-scale farming, they gained a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities associated with achieving SDGs in the context of food production.

8. Concluding Reflections

In the East African context, particularly in countries like Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda, governing, aligning, and coordinating Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) presents both opportunities and challenges. SDG governance requires establishing mechanisms at various levels across government, civil society, and the private sector to ensure effective implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of SDG targets. However, achieving alignment and coordination among diverse stakeholders with differing priorities and capacities remains a significant hurdle.

Inevitably, synergies and trade-offs exist between different SDGs and their targets. Careful balancing is required to optimize outcomes. Polycentric governance, a system with multiple decision-making centres, offers a promising approach. It leverages local knowledge and resources for tailored solutions while maintaining coherence with national and global agendas. Stakeholder engagement and interdisciplinary collaboration are essential. In East Africa, where

communities have diverse cultural and socioeconomic contexts, engaging a wide range of stakeholders, including marginalized groups, is crucial for achieving inclusive and sustainable development.

Interdisciplinary collaboration is key. Bridging the gap between academia, government, and grassroots organizations fosters holistic problem-solving, resource mobilization, and cross-sectoral dialogue. To overcome siloed approaches, East African countries should prioritize interdisciplinary research and knowledge exchange platforms. Partnerships between researchers, policymakers, and practitioners will generate context-specific evidence to inform decisions and address systemic barriers to SDG progress.

Strengthening data infrastructure and capacity building are crucial for effective monitoring and evaluation of SDG impact at all levels. Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda can improve their SDG monitoring by solidifying data collection, analysis, and reporting systems. Investments in statistical capabilities and information systems are necessary to track progress, identify gaps, and prioritize interventions. Furthermore, fostering transparency and accountability through citizen participation and open data initiatives empowers citizens to hold decision-makers responsible for SDG commitments.

The workshop acknowledged the inherent complexities of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Strategic coordination and communication across various governance structures were highlighted as crucial. Participants emphasized the need for spaces that foster alignment and concerted efforts towards achieving these goals.

Polycentric governance, a system with multiple decision-making centers, was seen as essential for managing interdependent processes related to the SDGs. Additionally, a call was made for policy coherence, which emphasizes the integration of knowledge and inclusive development approaches. Participants also recognized the need to address synergies and trade-offs inherent to the SDGs, while acknowledging the challenges and methodologies involved in implementation. Understanding governance obstacles hindering SDG integration was deemed critical.

The workshop further emphasized comprehending SDG interactions within informal settlements. Stakeholder alignment and resource utilization were stressed in this context. Policy integration and the development of polycentric governance with shared rules were identified as areas requiring further attention.

Finally, the workshop identified strategic coordination, research collaboration, and a deeper exploration of governance dynamics as essential for advancing SDG achievement in East Africa.

Appendix

Meeting Agenda

Governing SDG interactions Project – Mid-Term Review Workshop, Nairobi

Monday to Wednesday, 4-5-6 March 2024

Jointly organized by ARIN, ILRI and WUR (Local organization by ARIN)

Location: Clarence House Nairobi, 8 School Lane, Westlands Nairobi, Kenya

Participants

▪ Review team

- Martijn Wienia (NWO)
- Isayvani Naicker (NWO Programme Board)

▪ Netherlands team

- Art Dewulf (WUR)
- Sylvia Karlsson-Vinkhuyzen (WUR)
- Verina Ingram (WUR)
- Melanie van Driel (UvA)

▪ Kenya team

- Todd Crane (ILRI)
- Renee Bullock (ILRI)
- Rachel Gitundu (ILRI)
- Annita Kirwa (ILRI)
- Joel Onyango (ACTS)
- Eric Magale (ACTS)
- Charles Tonui (ACTS)
- Joanes Atela (ARIN)

▪ Uganda team

- Richard Mugambe (Mak-SPH)
- Tonny Ssekamatte (Mak-SPH)
- Nishai Moodley (Mak-SPH)
- James Muleme (Mak-SPH)

▪ Ethiopia team

- Gete Zeleke (WLRC)
- Aytenew Tatek (WLRC)
- Dereje Yimam (WLRC)
- Desalegn Amlaku (WLRC)

▪ Kenyan stakeholders invited for Impact Day (Tuesday 5 March)

- Bernard Kimoro - Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries

- Rose Makenzi - Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Nairobi
- Florence Syevuo - SDG Kenya Forum for Sustainable Development
- Jos Creemers - ProDairy East Africa
- Teresa Mugadza - International Development Law Organization Kenya
- Bishar Fille Elmi - State Department for Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture
- Benjamin Kibor - Livestock officer, State Department for Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture
- Margaret Kibogy - Managing director, Kenya dairy Board
- Jackline Makokha - State department for Gender and Affirmative Action, Ministry of Gender
- Mr. Juma Naburi - Head of the Agriculture Projects Coordination Unit, Ministry of Agriculture
- Roselyne Matofari - Senior Livestock Production officer, Ministry of Agriculture
- Anthony Gichuki - Director Livestock Production, Kiambu County
- Naomi Wamboi - Dairy Farmer Githunguri, Kiambu county
- Gituro Wainaina - University of Nairobi – SDG national task force
- Faith Ngige - Kenya Private Sector Alliance
- Bheki Bembe - United Nations Development Programme Kenya

Monday March 4. Research Day

Morning Time keeper and Chair: Todd Crane

Afternoon Time keeper and Chair: Richard Mugambe

09:00 Opening and welcome by ARIN (Joanes Atela)
09:15 State-of-affairs of the project research and cross-cutting framework (Art Dewulf)
10:00 Break
10:30 Preliminary results of the PhD research (Part 1 – Ethiopia and Uganda)
12:30 Lunch break
13:30 Preliminary results of the PhD research (Part 2 – Kenya and cross-cutting)
15:00 Policy coherence research Netherlands (Melanie van Driel)
15:30 Break
16:00 Reflection on cross-cutting framework, results and questions
17:00 Closure
18:00 Dinner

Tuesday March 5. Impact day

Morning Time keeper and Chair: Gete Zeleke

Afternoon Time keeper and Chair: Verina Ingram

08:30 Opening and welcome by ARIN (Joanes Atela)
08:45 Introduction to the impact day (Art Dewulf)
09:00 Reporting back from Stakeholder Engagement Ethiopia (WLRC, Aytenew/Dereje)
09:30 Reporting back from Stakeholder Engagement Uganda (Mak-SPH, Richard)
10:00 Break
10:30 Presentation on overall project progress and stakeholder engagement (Art Dewulf)
11:00 Reporting back from Stakeholder Workshop Kenya (ARIN/SDG Kenya Forum)
11:30 Presentation on Kenya case preliminary results and further plans (Charles, Annita, Gitundu)
12:30 Lunch
13:30 Round of stakeholder feedback on project progress and plans (5 min per stakeholder)
14:30 Project impact plan and productive interactions (Art Dewulf)
15:00 Breakout groups on opportunities and activities for impact
16:00 Break
16:30 Conclusions and next steps
17:00 Closure

Wednesday March 6. Field visit Kiambu county (Githunguri sub-county)

Field guides: Rachel Gitundu and Renee Bullock

08:30 Departure by bus from Clarence House Nairobi
21:00 Return to Clarence House Nairobi


Githunguri Farmers Dairy Cooperative. At the Fresha processing plant, we will be guided through the organizational structure of the cooperative and how they support their farmers. Subsequently, we will tour their collection centers.


Githunguri Dairy Farm. Engaging with a female dairy farmer we can discuss aspects such as household dynamics, labor distribution, decision-making processes, ownership of key assets, effects of climate change and interactions with markets and government entities.

Joint Closing Dinner




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