

5<sup>th</sup>  
Biennial  
Conference



# Revitalizing the Evidence

## Community for Kenya's Education



**28th Nov – 1st Dec, 2023**



Tom Mboya University,  
Homa Bay County, Kenya



[www.educationevidence4action.com](http://www.educationevidence4action.com)

scan to see program



Join academics, researchers and policy makers to share and discuss evidence on education and revitalize connections and the relationships among members of the evidence community in Kenya.

**Education Evidence for Action Conference 2023**



## Message from Conference Co-Chairpersons

### Karibuni to EE4A@5

We welcome all to the 5th edition of the EE4A Conference. This conference is special in three ways. It is the first time we host this at a University. We are also partnering with the Association of the Deans of Education in Kenya, attracting to the conference a new evidence constituency to the table. It is the first conference to be preceded by pre-conferences. These three additions to EE4A support us to live our ideal of promoting partnerships for evidence generation and use.

We are happy to welcome the 200+ conference participants from the research and policy communities. The theme of this conference, **Revitalizing the Evidence Community for Kenya's Education**, revisits EE4A's vision of supporting the use of education for better decisions in policy and practice. The partnerships' sub-theme underlines the need for working together in pursuit of this vision. Unique to the achievement of the objectives of this conference, our hope that we will not just share emerging evidence and deliberate its application, but also that, the most critical knowledge gaps emerging from policy and practice will be picked for research projects by the heavily represented Kenyan academic community.

We request three things from the participants. Be open to learning and exploring new perspectives, even those that may make us uncomfortable, be animated to apply your reflections, and be ready to engage and contribute.

It is our hope that this conference will also revitalize the EE4A community in our movement to the year 2024. We welcome any reflections that would also help us to unlock the potential of this resilient platform, anything that could help achieve the highest impact possible from the meaningful and sustained collaboration between evidence producers and users, for Kenya's education and for our children.

v

Beyond the formal business, we do hope also, that your visit to Tom Mboya University and to the town of Homa Bay will bring you value and meaning, as we enjoy the hospitable and warm lakeside culture.

From Conference Co-chairs,  
**Dr. John Mugo**

Executive Director,  
Zizi Afrique Foundation.



**Dr. Samuel Ngaruiya**

For Director of Policy, Partnerships and East  
African Community Affairs,  
Ministry of Education.



TUESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2023				
PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS				
Time	Session		Moderator	Session Notes
8:30 - 9:00	<b>Arrival and Registration</b>		Dr. Vera Opiyo; Diana Chepkoech	
	<b>PLENNARY: DOME</b>			
9:00 - 9:30	<p>Welcome, introduction and remarks by the conference partners:</p> <p><b>Prof. Elyjoy Micheni</b>, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Tom Mboya University (TMU)</p> <p><b>Dr. John Mugo</b>, EE4A Secretariat and Co-Chair, Zizi Afrique Foundation</p> <p><b>Mr. Martin Opere</b>, CEC Education, Homa Bay County</p> <p><b>Dr. Ciriaka Gitonga</b>, Deans forum - Deans Education, Embu University</p>	Welcoming Participants to TMU and Logistics of the Day	Dr. Lucy Ogol	<p>Moses Mutinda</p> <p>Nora Riwa</p>



PRE-CONFERENCES: PARALLEL SESSIONS			
	Deans/Evidence for Impact ROOM: Dome	Early Childhood Development ROOM: R006	Education Technology ROOM: R009
	<b>Co-creating sustainable pathways to ensure evidence informed implementation of the new curriculum in Kenya</b>	<b>Unlocking the development of 0–3-year-old children through evidence</b>	<b>Education Technology for Equitable Quality Education</b>
9:30 - 10:30	<p><b>Dr Lucy Heady</b> (ESSA); <b>Dena Lomofsky</b> (Southern Hemisphere), <b>Dr Ciriaka Gitonga</b> (University of Embu) &amp; <b>Dr Joab Kinzi</b> (TMU)</p> <p>This interactive session will focus on the question of ‘How universities offering Teacher Education in Kenya can use and generate evidence to enhance the implementation of the new curriculum at all levels of education?’ The session is the start of a consultation process with Education Sector stakeholders in Africa to identify solutions to build a strong education research field in Africa. The session will co-create a Theory of Change (ToC) for education research in Africa, while taking the Competency-based Teacher Education reforms in Kenya as a case study. The objective of the ToC for education research in Africa is to support Deans of Colleges to carry out evidence-based Teacher Education Reforms.</p>	<p>Session Chairs: <b>Prof. Enose Simatwa</b> (TMU) &amp; <b>Dr. Mary Chepkemoi</b> (Zizi Afrique Foundation)</p> <p>This session co-hosted with County governments seeks to chat ways of generating and sharing contextualised evidence on the drivers, barriers, and interventions to unlock the development of 0-3 years and pre-school children and contribute to advancing the field of early childhood development and education in the Kenyan context.</p>	<p>Session Chairs: <b>Jennifer Otieno</b> (Edtech Hub) &amp; <b>Dr. Alphonse Odondo</b> (TMU)</p> <p>This session seeks to understand how technology in education can transform systems for equity and delivery of quality education to reach populations farthest left behind; demonstrate existing interventions and innovations in deploying technology and their wider benefits including access to materials for personalized learning, support to teachers to improve their pedagogies and create content for learning among others.</p>
	<p><b>Deans/Evidence for Impact</b> Session Notes: Dr. Kevin Okoth &amp; Mr. David O. Odera (TMU) &amp; James Mburu (Zizi Afrique Foundation) Distiller: Dr. Irene Okello (TMU)</p>	<p><b>ECD</b> Session Notes: Dr. Joyce Boke &amp; Mr. Calvine Odiwour (TMU), Dr. Silas Onyango (APHRC) Distiller: Dr. Rosemary Ogada (TMU)</p>	<p><b>EdTech</b> Session Notes: Dephine Otieno (Zizi Afrique Foundation) &amp; Dr Christopher Mayero (TMU) Distiller: Dr. Lillian Kimaiyo (TMU)</p>
10:30 - 11:00	Health Break	Health Break	Health Break
10:30 - 1:00	CONTINUATION OF PRE-CONFERENCES		
1:10 - 2:00	Lunch Break		



INAUGURAL/PUBLIC LECTURE: AT THE DOME				
Time	Session	Objective	Moderator	Session Notes
2:00 - 2:30	Arrival of Guests, Registration and Tree Planting		Dr. Mercy Anna/ Diana Chepkoech	
2:15 - 2:45	Entertainment			
2:45 - 3:15	Welcome Remarks: <b>Dr. John Mugo</b> , EE4A Secretariat and Co-Chair, Zizi Afrique Foundation  <b>Prof. Charles Ochola</b> , Vice Chancellor, TMU	To draw inspiration from Tom Mboya's legacy as a classic case of Evidence Community for revitalizing Kenya's Education.	Prof. Elyjoy Micheni	TMU
	<b>Hon Gladys Wanga, Governor</b> , Homa Bay County	To appreciate the contribution of universities as knowledge producers and spaces for innovations and constructive discourse to realising equitable and inclusive education for all.		
3:15 - 4:15	Public Lecture <b>Prof. P.L.O Lumumba</b>		Prof. Charles Ochola	TMU
4:15 - 4:45	Plenary Q & A			
4:45 - 4:50	Announcements		Prof. Elyjoy Micheni	TMU
4:50 - 5.00	<b>Mr. Darius Mogaka</b> Vote of Thanks and Departure			



WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2023

MC: DR. JOYCE BOKE, TMU

SESSION 1				
OPENING CEREMONY				
Time	Session	Theme	Moderator	Session Notes
8.30 - 8.50	<b>Welcome remarks by TMU</b> Prof. Elyjoy Micheni, Deputy Vice Chancellor, TMU Prof. Charles Ochola, Vice Chancellor TMU	<i>Welcome Remarks from the Host Institution</i>	Dr Mark Okowa	Ruth Nanjekho  James Mburu
8:50 - 9:05	<b>Welcome Remarks by EE4A</b> Dr. John Mugo, EE4A Secretariat and Co-Chair, Zizi Afrique Foundation	<i>About EE4A and the objective of the Conference; Welcome of Participants to the Conference.</i>	Dr Mark Okowa	Okello Irine
9:05 - 9:30	<b>Remarks by MoE</b> Mr. Darius Mogaka, Director, University Education Dr. Elyas Abdi, Director General, MoE Dr. Beatrice Inyangala, PS, State Department for University Education and Research, MoE Dr. Belio Kipsang', PS, State Department for Early Learning and Basic Education, MoE	<i>Welcoming Remarks</i>	Dr. John Mugo	
9:30 - 9:50	<b>Official Opening</b> Hon Ezekiel Machogu, Cabinet Secretary of Education, Kenya	<i>Revitalizing the Evidence Community for Kenya's Education</i>	Dr. Samuel Ngaruiya	
SESSION 2				
KEYNOTE ADDRESS				
9:50 - 10:35	<b>Dr. Kilemi Mwiria</b> , Education.Org The use of evidence in Kenya's education policy making successes, challenges, and prospects	<i>Deepen understanding on the political economy of evidence use.</i>	Dr. Emmanuel Manyasa, Usawa Agenda	Winrose Bett, Dr. John Muchira
10:35 - 10:50	Media Briefing and Photo		Raynor Osare & Immaculate Ndanu	
10:50- 11:20	<b>Health Break</b>			
11.20 - 11:40	<b>Dr. Sara Ruto</b> , GEEAP Response to the keynote speech	<i>Reflections on the keynote speech and challenging the evidence community.</i>	Dr. Emmanuel Manyasa, Usawa Agenda	Winrose Bett, Dr. John Muchira
11:40 - 12:00	<b>Q &amp; A</b>			



SESSION 3		COMMISSIONED PAPERS		Moderator	Session Notes
Highlights of key evidence and emerging issues and their implication for policy and implementation					
12.00 - 12.15	<b>Dr. Evelyne Jepkemei</b> The Competency-Based Curriculum: Prospects and challenges			Mr. Daniel Wesonga	Moses Mutinda, Tharaka University
12.15 - 12.30	<b>Ciku Mbugua</b> The Role of Education in Bridging Educational Inequalities				
12.30 - 12.45	<b>Dr. Wangui Chege</b> Partnerships in Education: Catalysts for Reform, Equity, and Sustainability in Kenya				
12:45 - 1:10	Q & A				
1:10 - 2:00 Lunch (Gallery Walk - Poster Presentations)					
SESSION 4 PARALLEL SESSION 1: SHARING EVIDENCE AND SYNTHESIS IN SUB-THEMES					
ROOM: DOME		ROOM: R006		ROOM: R008	ROOM: R009
<b>Examining CBC Implementation Assessment and Transition in Kenya</b>		<b>The potential of Education Technology for Equitable, and Quality Education</b>		<b>Positioning Higher Education to transform Education and Training</b>	<b>Optimizing Partnerships for Successful Education and Training</b>
<b>Session Chairs:</b> <i>Dr. Ciriaka Gitonga &amp; Dr. Mical A. Otieno</i>  <b>Session Takers:</b> <i>Dorise Ng'ong'a, David Alela, Dr. Stephen L. Okelo</i>  <b>Policy Distillers:</b> <i>Ruth Nanjekho, Dr. Lilian C. Kimaiyo</i>		<b>Session Chairs:</b> <i>Dr. Alphonse J. Odonde &amp; Nganga Kibandi</i>  <b>Session Takers:</b> <i>Dr. Solomon E. Nuni, Dr. Moses W. Sichangi</i>  <b>Policy Distillers:</b> <i>Ciku Mbugua &amp; Wamaitha Mutie</i>		<b>Session Chairs:</b> Prof. Julius Maiyo & Dr. Rosemary Ogada  <b>Session Takers:</b> Dr. Johnson K. Kwach  <b>Policy Distillers:</b> Mary Chepkemoi & John Muchira	<b>Session Chairs:</b> Nyambura Thiong'o & Dr. Irene A. Okello  <b>Session Takers:</b> Alice Ngahu & Dr. Jackline N. Murimi  <b>Policy Distillers:</b> Sheilla Mwanje and Dr. Mark O. Okowa
2:00 - 2:15	<b>Dr. Boke Wambura</b> , Tom Mboya University & Dr. Omondi Odero, Rongo University  <i>Portrayals of gender in CBC teaching and learning materials: A critique of gender equity in themes, strands, and competencies in the implementation of English language teaching and learning in the Competency Based Curriculum.</i>	<b>Beatrice Akoth Owino</b> (USIU) & Mahona Joseph Paschal (St. Augustine University of Tanzania)  <i>Exploring barriers and enablers to technology adoption among marginalized Students.</i>		<b>Dr. Eunice Matere</b> (CUE)  <i>Insights into higher education and training</i>	<b>Kawira Gikambi</b> (MoE)  <i>Situational analysis of education and training in refugee and host communities in Kenya.</i>



2:15 - 2:30	<p><b>Martin Kisilu</b> (KEMI), Louisa Kadzo &amp; Gatwiri Nkonge (VVOB – Kenya)</p> <p><i>Readiness of school leaders to lead implementation of the Competency-Based Curriculum at the junior school education level</i></p>	<p><b>Dr. Paul Okeyo Ogembo</b> &amp; Dr. Amos Otieno Wanjara (MMUST)</p> <p><i>Impact of information communication and technology on the implementation of higher education in Kenya: The Case of Public Universities</i></p>	<p><b>Mr. Cavens Kithiji</b> (APHRC)</p> <p><i>Positioning research training in higher education to facilitate evidence generation for change in Kenya</i></p>	<p><b>Dr. Benta A. Abuya</b> (APHRC)</p> <p><i>Schools cannot do it alone: The power of partnerships with education stakeholders to enrich the learning experiences of Kenya's children.</i></p>
2:30 - 2:45	<p><b>John Ochieng</b> (IPA)</p> <p><i>Evidence on teacher professional development on student outcomes.</i></p>	<p><b>Dr. Winnie Tubey</b> (TUK) &amp; Mr. Boaz Ochi (Usawa Agenda)</p> <p><i>Harnessing education technology for equitable and quality education: A study of Kenyan Schools</i></p>	<p><b>Dr. Napwora Wekesa Jesse</b> (Tom Mboya University)</p> <p><i>Role of teacher maxims on student motivation in English language in public universities in Kenya: Students' perspectives</i></p>	<p><b>Darmi Jattani</b> &amp; Stephene Maende (Usawa Agenda)</p> <p><i>The state of stakeholder collaboration in the education sector: A problem-driven political economy analysis</i></p>
2:45 - 3:00	<p><b>Dr. Brenda Wawire</b> &amp; Dr. Fridah Kiambati (APHRC)</p> <p><i>Competence Based Curriculum implementation: A scoping review of implementation practices in sub-Saharan African countries</i></p>	<p><b>Ng'ang'a Kibandi</b> &amp; Deborah Kimathi (Dignitas)</p> <p><i>Stawisha instructional leadership institute – Integrating digital training and coaching to improve impact.</i></p>	<p><b>Dr. Lucy Heady</b> (EESA)</p> <p><i>Understanding education research productivity in Kenya: Insights from published and unpublished literature</i></p>	<p><b>Dr. Rachel Hinton</b>, Holly Scott, GEC Representative Kenyan (GEAPP)</p> <p><i>The government adoption of Complementary Basic Education (CBE) by the Government of Ghana (Carter et al, 2023), compared with the role of relationships and partnerships in facilitating research uptake in select Girls Education Challenge (GEC) projects in Kenya</i></p>
3:00 - 3:30	Q & A	Q & A	Q & A	Q & A
3:30 - 3:50	<b>Health Break</b>			



SESSION 4		PARALLEL SESSION 1: CONTINUED		
3:50 - 4:05	<p><b>Simon Mukwambo &amp; Deborah Kimathi (Dignitas)</b></p> <p><i>Ustadi School Leadership Institute: Equipping education Officers to improve teaching and learning.</i></p>	<p><b>Dr. Fridah Kiambati (APHRC)</b></p> <p><i>Usability of digital libraries during information retrieval by persons with visual impairment in selected public universities in Kenya</i></p>	<p><b>Atieno Rose Opiyo (MMUST)</b></p> <p><i>The disjunction between availability of opportunities in STEM careers and lack of enthusiasm to go into the careers: Disentangling the paradox.</i></p>	<p><b>David Alelah &amp; Dr. Purity Ngina (Zizi Afrique Foundation)</b></p> <p><i>Collaboration as a tool for strengthening data generation and analysis for resilient, inclusive, and better performing education systems in Sub-Saharan Africa</i></p>
4:05 - 4:20	<p><b>Eva Muluve, Ruth Nanjekho &amp; Karen Austrian (GIRL Center, Population Council)</b></p> <p><i>The gender and education landscape in Kenya: Where do the most persistent gender gaps remain?</i></p>	<p><b>Frank Odhiambo &amp; Isabel Gunther (NADEL)</b></p> <p><i>Does EdTech use improve numeracy and literacy skills for children with functional difficulties? Evidence from Kenya?</i></p>	<p><b>Renaldah Mboje &amp; Beria Wawira (Zizi Afrique Foundation)</b></p> <p><i>Making TVET work for Kenya.</i></p>	<p><b>Irene Chepngetich, James Mwangi Mburu, Nairobi, Kenya &amp; Ann Cheptoo (Zizi Afrique Foundation)</b></p> <p><i>Parental Empowerment and Engagement: Pathway to effective partnership in education.</i></p>
4:20 - 4:35	<p><b>Dr. Samuel Marigat &amp; Dr. Joyce Kinyanjui (Kirinyanga County)</b></p> <p><i>Sustaining foundational learning programmes beyond donor funding through strengthening policy and practice.</i></p>	<p><b>Rebecca Daltry; Ciku Mbugua; Louis Major; Mary Otieno &amp; Kevin Otieno (EdTech Hub):</b></p> <p><i>Integrating digital personalised learning into Kenyan classrooms: using evidence to develop and implement equitable approaches.</i></p>	<p><b>Grace Bunyi (KU) &amp; Dr. Lucy Ogol (TMU)</b></p> <p><i>Creating a culture of research utilization: Perspectives garnered from education research conducted from 2005 to 2020 in Kenya</i></p>	<p><b>Dorise Ng'ong'a &amp; Muhsin Sheriff (Centres for Health and Education Programmes)</b></p> <p><i>Fostering educational enhancement in challenging rural contexts through local partnerships.</i></p>
4:35 - 4:50	<p><b>Mr. Shete Wangira (Jesuit Hakamani Centre)</b></p> <p><i>Levels of preparedness and management of Transition to junior school in Kenya</i></p>	<p><b>Q &amp; A and Evidence Synthesis</b></p>	<p><b>Q &amp; A and Evidence Synthesis</b></p>	<p><b>Dephine Otieno, Enock Imani, Walter Odondi &amp; Diana Chepkoech (Zizi Afrique Foundation)</b></p> <p><i>From primary to secondary: Enhancing transition in Kenya through a Community Surveillance System.</i></p>
4:50 - 5:45	<p><b>Q &amp; A and Evidence Synthesis</b></p>			<p><b>Q &amp; A and Evidence Synthesis</b></p>



THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2023				
PLENARY ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS				
MC: NGANGA KIBANDI				
SESSION 5				
ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS IN PLENARY: REFLECTION ON EMERGING EVIDENCE AND OPPORTUNITIES				
Time	Session	Theme/Sub-Theme	Moderator	Session Notes
8:30 - 10:00	<b>Higher Education</b>  Positioning Higher Education to transform Education and Training	<b>Panelists:</b> 1. Dr. Eunice Matere, CUE 2. Dr. Kefa Simwa, ANNIE 3. Dr. Kipkirui Langat, DG, TVETA 4. Dr. Ciriaka Gitonga, Deans Forum, Univerity of Embu 5. Mr. Darius Mogaka, Director University Education, MoE 6. Mr. Geoffrey Monari, CEO, University Fund	Dr. Moses Ngware	Dr. Lydia Chege, Dr. Martin Ogola
10:00 - 10:30	<b>Tea Break</b>			
10:30 - 12:00	<b>CBC/Basic Education</b>  Examining CBC Implementation Assessment and Transition in Kenya	<b>Panelists:</b> 1. Prof. Charles Ong'ondo, KICD 2. Dr. Norman Kiogora, KISE 3. Ms. Evelyne Owoko, Quality Assurance 4. Dr. Rachel Hinton, Foundational Learning 5. Ms. Elizabeth Otieno, MoE	Ms. Raynor Osare	Dr. Fridah Kiambati, Wamaitha Mutie
12:00 - 1:15	<b>Education Technology</b>  The potential of Education Technology for Equitable, and Quality Education	<b>Panelists:</b> 1. Mr. Francis Karanja (N3IC) 2. Jeniffer Otieno, Edtech Hub 3. Dr. Moses Ngware, APHRC 4. Dr. Lucy Heady, ESSA	Mr. Frank Odhiambo	Dr. John Muchira, Ciku Mbugua
1:15 - 2:15	<b>Lunch Break</b>			

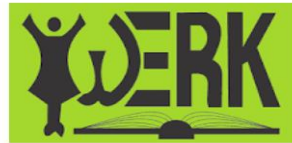


SESSION 6				
PARALLEL SESSION 2: DISCUSSION/RECKONING/IDENTIFYING AND AGREEING ON RECOMMENDATIONS				
	ROOM: DOME	ROOM: R006	ROOM: R008	ROOM: R009
	CBC	EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY	HIGHER EDUCATION	PARTNERSHIPS
2:15 - 3:30	Applying evidence to inform policy formulation, review, and implementation in basic education.	Closing the gap between research and Policy: Exploring and showcasing solutions to the challenges of education in practice.	Strengthening collaboration with universities as core drivers of the evidence community in Kenya.  Promoting research capacities and evidence use in Kenyan universities. What must we do? Who must do what?	Optimising partnerships for successful education and training
3:30 - 4:00	Health Break			
SESSION 7				
PLENARY SESSION: REPORTING BY SUB-THEMES				
Reckoning: Bringing the sub-theme discussions together under the umbrella of the sub-theme				
4:00 - 4.30	CBC	Reporting by sub-themes on the key priority areas and strategy for 2024	Samuel Otieno	Dr. Charles Gachoki
	Education Technology			
	Higher Education			
	Partnerships			
SESSION 8				
CLOSING CEREMONY				
4.30 - 4.40	Way forward from Co-chairs: <b>Dr. John Mugo and Dr. Samuel Ngaruiya</b>		Mr. Nganga Kibandi	Dr. Charles Gachoki
4:40 - 5:00	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <b>Prof. Charles Ochola</b> , Vice Chancellor, TMU <b>Dr. Emmanuel Manyasa</b> , EE4A and Usawa Agenda <b>Mr. Martin Opere</b> , CEC Education, Homa Bay County Representative, MoE			
5.00 - 5.10	Vote of Thanks		Dr. Maurice Mutisya	
FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2023				
EE4A Business Meeting /Excursion/Well-being Day				





Ministry of Education



[www.educationevidence4action.com](http://www.educationevidence4action.com)

