

**Date**

December 14, 2021

# Locally-Grounded Research: Strengthening Partnerships to Advance the Science and Impact of Development

More needs to be done to expand the engagement of researchers from low and middle-income countries in development research. But what are we learning about the emerging best practices for engaging researchers? From mentorship to network building, from targeting funding to strengthening the pipeline of researchers, what are we learning about what works? And where should we increase our focus?

On December 14 and 15, 2021, a group of individuals from various universities, research and policy institutions, and funding organizations shared their experiences and learnings to create greater opportunities for locally-based research. The event was organized in the following sessions:

## Tuesday, December 14, 2021

### Welcome and Keynote Address

Dr. Radha Rajkotia, Innovations for Poverty Action, and Professor [Leonard Wantchekon](#), African School of Economics

### Building Networks Across Countries and Continents

Led by Associate Professor [Eugénie Maïga](#), Université Norbert Zongo with the participation of [Frank Odhiambo](#), Doctoral Student, ETH Zürich; [Jennifer Nyakinya](#), The Network of Impact Evaluation Researchers in Africa; and Professor [Andrew Dillon](#), Northwestern University

## Wednesday, December 15, 2021

### Better Data, Better Policy

Led by Professor [Gituro Wainaina](#) of the University of Nairobi with the participation of Professor [Kabiru Kinyanjui](#), Chuka University; and Dr. [Emmanuel Manyasa](#), Usawaagenda

### The Role of Funders in Supporting Low- and Middle-Income Country Researchers

Professor [Hellen Inyega](#), the University of Nairobi with the participation of [Jane Mariara](#) from the Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) and [Juliette Seban](#) from the Innovation Fund for Development

## Closing

Led by [Karine Kouacou](#), Innovations for Poverty Action

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***Read a short summary of the main takeaways from this event in the below Twitter thread:***

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We recently held a workshop with [@ASE\\_cotonou](#) [@Uonbi](#) [@UniversiteZongo](#) on locally grounded research & strengthening partnerships in low- and middle-income countries. <https://t.co/mbr4E5idxw>

Opening the event, [@Iwantchekon](#) shared this picture from his Benin primary school, which [pic.twitter.com/b9evyrGCnO](https://pic.twitter.com/b9evyrGCnO)

— IPA (@poverty\_action) [December 30, 2021](#)

## City

Virtual Workshop

## Country

United States