Panel Discussion on Evaluation as a Driver of Economic Recovery and Long-Term Growth: Patterns and Directions in Africa

Can evaluation help to drive economic recovery and growth?

What do evaluators have to say about the recent financial crisis and prospects for economic recovery? Can policy makers draw on relevant evaluation evidence in planning for recovery and growth?

Does evaluation theory and practice need to change to address these questions effectively?

Is there sufficient evaluation capacity in the region to make evaluation matter for Africa’s development?

These and other questions will be addressed by a panel of evaluation specialists: Benoit Chervalier, Guy Blaise Nkamleu, Eneas Gakusi, and Colin Kirk. Panel presentations will be followed by an open discussion. The session will be chaired by Aloysius Ordu, VP, Country and Regional Programs and Policy.

Don’t miss this opportunity to share your perspective on whether evaluation can help to drive economic recovery and long term growth in Africa!
Evaluation Panel at the African Economic Conference 2010:
Evaluation as a Driver of Economic Recovery and Long-Term Growth: Patterns and Directions in Africa

The fifth edition of the African Economic Conference will be held in Tunis from October 27 to 29, 2010, on the theme: “Setting the Agenda for Africa’s Economic Recovery and Long-term Growth”.

During the conference, the Operations Evaluation Department (OPEV) of the African Development Bank will host a panel session on “Evaluation as a Driver of Economic Recovery and Long-Term Growth: Patterns and Directions in Africa”.

OPEV’s objective is to provide a forum to discuss the evaluation-economic development nexus. Chaired by the Bank’s Vice-President for Country and Regional Programs and Policy, the two-hour session will feature presentations by four panelists, who will speak on the current context, theoretical and empirical evaluation results, and guidelines for strengthening the evaluation-economic development nexus in Africa. The presentations and discussions with participants are expected to develop a shared understanding of the scope and relevance of development evaluation and why it matters for economic recovery in Africa.

This should be a great networking event for those interested in evaluation and a lively forum for cross-disciplinary dialogue between evaluation practitioners and users.

Don’t miss this opportunity to share your perspective on the contribution evaluation makes to long-term growth in Africa.

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**About the Panelists**

**Aloysius Ordu** is Vice President, Country & Regional Programs & Policy at the African Development Bank (AfDB). He was previously Regional Director of the Bank’s East Africa Department. Before joining the Bank, Mr. Ordu served in a number of management positions at the World Bank. He has also worked at the Economist Intelligence Unit and with the Midland Bank. He holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Sussex.

**Benoît Chervalier** is the Head of the Evaluation Unit at the French Treasury (DG Trésor). He is also Vice-Chair of the OECD-DAC Evaluation Network. Mr. Chervalier has served at various times in the French Treasury and in the German Ministry of Finance. He was a Transatlantic Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States in Washington. He holds Masters degrees in International Economics and Public Administration from the Institut d’Études politiques de Paris and Institut d’Études politiques de Bordeaux, respectively. He is the author of several publications including “La mondialisation démystifiée, un iPhone à Bamako” (Autrement, 2008); and “Le tour de l’économie en dix étapes”(Dunod, 2010).

**Guy Blaise Nkamleu** is a Principal Evaluation Officer in the Operations Evaluation Department (AfDB). He is currently evaluating the Bank’s assistance to agricultural water management. Previously, he worked for the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, and has more than 15 years experience in agricultural research, evaluation and as a university lecturer. He holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics. His most recent publication is a book entitled *Root Causes of the Food Crisis: Technological Progress and Productivity Growth in African Agriculture* (NovaPublishers, 2010).

**Eneas Gakusi** is a Principal Evaluation Officer in the Operations Evaluation Department (AfDB). During six years at the Bank, Mr. Gakusi has led major evaluations in the education and health sectors. He is currently evaluating the Bank’s regional operations. Previously, he worked as a researcher and evaluator for the OECD, the World Bank, and the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (France). He holds a PhD in Economics from the Institut d’Études Politiques de Paris.

**Colin Kirk** is Director of the Operations Evaluation Department (AfDB). He previously worked with the UK’s Department for International Development (DFID) as Head of Evaluation and later as Head of DFID’s country office in Rwanda. He holds a doctorate in Social Anthropology from the University of Sussex.
Interested in this topic? You may also find the following evaluations useful:

- **Towards purposeful partnerships in African agriculture**
  A joint evaluation of the agriculture and rural development policies and operations in Africa of the African Development Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

- **Evaluation des dotations de la France au Fonds africain de developpement et a la Banque africaine de developpement. Ministere de l'economie, de l'industrie et de l'emploi, Direction Generale du Tresor. 2010**

Forthcoming Evaluations:


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**About OPEV**

OPEV is the Operations Evaluation Department of the African Development Bank (AfDB). It conducts independent, systematic assessments of the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of the Bank's strategies, policies, and operations.

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