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**SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS  
STUDIES, SOKOINE UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, P.O. BOX  
3007, MOROGORO, TANZANIA**

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR A TRAINING WORKSHOP**

**Theme: Introduction to Systematic Reviews and Meta-  
Analyses – Two-Day Training Workshop**

23-24 October, 2017

**Venue: Conference Room, Agribusiness Building, School of  
Agricultural Economics and Business Studies  
(SAEBS)**

## Introduction

The International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED) in partnership with Campbell Collaboration and Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), Morogoro-Tanzania are organizing a two-day training workshop title “Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses.” The training workshop will be held at Sokoine University of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness from 23-24<sup>th</sup> October, 2017. These institutions are committed to promoting the demand and use of evaluation by national governments, researchers, policy makers, and academia, to inform and shape policy processes and practices, and development programmes.

The training is offered for people interested in understanding how evidence can be synthesised and used to inform policy and decision making. The evidence for making policy, programme and practice decisions is best based on careful analyses and syntheses of multiple studies.<sup>1</sup> These may be studies of the same topic or across several areas of a single program.

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<sup>1</sup> Multiple studies on the same problem or hypothesis arise because investigators are unaware of what others are doing, because they are skeptical about the results of past investigations, or because they wish to extend (that is, generalize or search for influences on) previous findings. Visit:  
[https://www.russellsage.org/sites/all/files/Cooper\\_Hedges\\_2d\\_Chap1\\_0.pdf](https://www.russellsage.org/sites/all/files/Cooper_Hedges_2d_Chap1_0.pdf)

**Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses** explore a variety of questions: What is the extent of the problem? Which risk and protective factors are associated with specific conditions? How acceptable are certain interventions in different populations? Which interventions have been rigorously evaluated with what results? What works best, for whom, under what conditions, and at what cost?

**Objectives:** The goal of the training workshop is to equip the participants with relevant knowledge and skills for conducting systematic reviews and meta-analysis.

## Course Methodology

The workshop will employ the use of lectures, group discussions, and computer exercises. Participants should bring their own laptops.

## Course Contents

This training workshop presents the scientific principles, methods, analysis, and reporting standards that guide the process of conducting systematic reviews and meta-analysis in social sciences and natural sciences. Topics to be covered include:

- Principles and methods of research synthesis
- Common sources of bias and errors in research reviews
- Steps in conducting systematic reviews and meta-analysis
- Strategies for minimizing bias
- Reporting standards and guidelines for systematic reviews
- Problem formulation, and developing review questions in the African context
- Uses and misuses of research synthesis to inform policy, practice and further research
- Registering titles and protocols, and conducting reviews with the Campbell Collaboration

## Financial Support.

Limited financial assistance is provided by the organizers in the form of tuition fee waiver and lunches during the two-days training workshop. Participants will cover their own travel, accommodation and incidental costs related to their participation in the workshop.

## Target Audience

Researchers, government ministry representatives, civil society representatives, academics, as well as a select number of Masters and Post-graduate students in Social and Natural Sciences.

## Facilitators

Dr.EkwaroObuku (Africa Centre for Systematic Reviews and Knowledge Translation at Makerere University, Uganda), and Laurenz Langer (Africa Centre for Evidence at the University of Johannesburg, South Africa)

## Expected Outcomes

At the end of the 2-day programme, participants will:

- Have deepened their knowledge of the core substance and processes related to steps in conducting systematic reviews and meta-analysis.
- Have had a first-hand exposure to good practices in the area of research synthesis
- Have gained knowledge and skills on systematic reviews and meta-analysis in context

## APPLICATION

Apply on-line on or before 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017. Applicants will be selected on a first come first served basis. Apply now as only a limited number of 35 participants will be selected.

## Enquiries

Questions related to the training workshop can be addressed to [mrarieya@iced-eval.org](mailto:mrarieya@iced-eval.org), [info@iced-eval.org](mailto:info@iced-eval.org) or [akyoo63@suanet.ac.tz](mailto:akyoo63@suanet.ac.tz), [gabagambi@suanet.ac.tz](mailto:gabagambi@suanet.ac.tz)