

International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED)
Summit Overview
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The International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED) hosted the first ever Global South summit in Nairobi, Kenya from 24 – 25 May, 2017 under the theme “Evidence to Action - Towards an Evidence Based and Data Informed Policy, Action and Practice in Africa”. The main goal of the summit was to enhance collaboration between researchers, academics, private sector practitioners, policy makers, development agencies and civic society from all over the globe by outlining clear recommendations on how to promote utilisation of data generated from research and evaluation projects.

Various speakers presented at the summit on diverse topics. Evidence based recommendations were shared on how monitoring, evaluation, evidence based research and innovation, positively impact on national and regional priorities thereby contributing to fulfilment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2030 agenda.

Furthermore, the summit was also an exchange platform to share experiences and learn from one another so as to further the evaluation profession and practice in the Global South. Keynote address for this prestigious event was given by Professor Michael Kremer, Gates Professor for Developing Societies from Harvard University.

The most interesting lessons learnt and strategies for developing initiatives are as follows:

1. Need to increase uptake and utilisation of research and innovation in evaluation.
2. Need for integration of technology in evaluation in this diverse SDG era.

3. Need for Identifying good practice of what works, for whom, where, how and at what cost with aim of encouraging good practice initiative replication within developing societies.
4. Need to promote good practice documentation and dissemination of results and evidence coming out of evaluation and research projects to spur growth in Global South and contribute to a transformation agenda.
5. Need to encourage forging of working partnerships to drive development and evaluation agenda.
6. Need to strengthen and build a culture of evidence-informed decision making about the SDGs in the development arena.
7. Need to integrate social equity and gender dimensions into the evaluation processes from development of terms of reference (ToRs), management and conducting of evaluation.
8. Need to use evaluation findings from theory to practice i.e. evidence generation and utilization.

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