



Symposium on Women's Economic Empowerment and Women Groups in Uganda

School of Women and Gender Studies, Makerere University

Friday 13 January 2023



Aim

The purpose of this symposium is to increase awareness on the need to build evidence and a community of practice on women economic empowerment and women groups in Uganda. The symposium is intended to popularize evidence-based research approaches that support knowledge translation for relevant policy making and best practices in the field of women's economic empowerment. This will be a one-day event starting at 8:30am and ending at 5:00pm.

Objectives

- I. Enhance the awareness of the importance of fostering WEE and using innovative solutions to improve the evidence base and increase information storage and uptake
- II. Raising awareness on building a community of practice of evidence based research on WEE and SGs
- III. To facilitate opportunities for networking, collaboration and exchange of ideas with government and NGO leaders and experts in evidence-based practice and education on women empowerment
- IV. Reinforce the focus on the implementation of information exchange with policy makers to increase the efficiency of evidence-based decision making.

Time line	Activity	
8.30 – 9.00 am	Arrival & registration of participants	Elvis
9.00 – 9.15 am	Opening address by Assoc. Prof. Sarah Ssali, SWGS	Dr. Ekwaro
9.15 – 9.30 am	Welcome remarks by Prof. Eric Awich Ochen, Deputy Principal CHUSS	
9.30 – 10.00 am	Keynote address 1 by Commissioner Angela Nakafeero, MoGLSD	
10.00 – 10.30 am	Plenary discussions	Noor
10.30 – 11.00 am	COFFEE BREAK	
THEME: Improving Evidence on Women's Economic Empowerment		
11.00 – 12.30 am	PANEL PRESENTATION 1: Chaired by Fred Luganda/Fred Kindi <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The National Policy Regulatory Program Support (NPRPs) as model for evidence-based policy development by Edton Babu, Programme Director CARE International Methodology on the Evaluation of Women Economic empowerment outcomes in SACCOS and Saving Groups by Assoc. Prof. Fred Matovu, School of Economics, Makerere The Role of the National Operation Guidelines on SGs in paving way for women's economic empowerment by Nelson Mutatiina, Directorate of Supervision, Uganda Microfinance Regulatory Authority, UMRA The graduating to resilience project by Derrick Nsibirwa and Innocent Cwinyai (AVSI-Uganda) 	Dr. Ekwaro/Eve
12.30 – 1.00 pm	Plenary discussions	Edith
1.00 – 2.00 pm	LUNCH	Noor
THEME 2: Measuring women economic empowerment: some new directions		
2.00 – 3.30 pm	PANNEL PRESENTATION 2: Chaired by Dr. Ann Ninsiima <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Scoping study on the Evidence Synthesis of Women Groups in Uganda by Dr. Eve Namisango, the Africa Centre The role of Evidence Consortium on Women Groups in fostering evidence-based research on WEE and SGs. Some new methodological directions, By Dr. Thomas de Hoop, Managing Economist, the American Research Institutes, key note address 2 The Role of the National Policy Framework on SGs in strengthening pathways for women's economic empowerment by Prof. Isaac Nkote Nabeta, Makerere University Business School, MUBS Improving Evidence on Women's Economic Empowerment: the VSLA Women and Leadership Brac Methodology by Christine Nabulumba, Senior Research Associate, Brac-UG 	Dr. Ekwaro/Eve
3.30 – 4.30 pm	Plenary discussions	Elvis
4.30 – 4.45 pm	Way forward: Measuring women's empowerment: is it Time to Change our Methods?	Tabitha/Edith
4.45 – 5.00 pm	Closing address (CARE)	Eve
5.00 – 6.00 pm	Networking Happy Hour	Noor/Elvis

Masters of ceremonies: Dr. A. Ekwaro Obuku and Ms. Rita Namisango