2. Collect, analyse, manage and secure quality data in a timely manner and in formats appropriate for learning, policy and programme development
• Designing (quantitative, qualitative, participatory, etc.) data collection tools and methods.
• Training, coordinating and supervising teams of skilled enumerators and/or field staff.
• IT-enabled data entry and storage systems and running designed surveys to collect specific information from a target audience using mobile phones, tablets or PDAs and a special software application system.
• Real-Time Monitoring Methodologies and Tools. Common features of real-time monitoring tools include use of non-traditional feedback channels, GIS and ICT to collect and analyse large amounts of data - quickly and efficiently.
• Crowd-Sourcing: Large numbers of people actively and voluntarily reporting on a situation around them, often using mobile phones and open source software platforms.
• Developing automated reporting systems, Data visualisation and Data quality assurance.

3 Conduct baselines, evaluations, meta-evaluations, and customized assessments, and communicating findings in a timely manner and suitable platforms.
• Designing baselines, evaluations and research studies (quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods)
• Producing high quality analysis of evaluation and research results.
• Leveraging technical and thematic expertise to meet specific needs.
• Context analysis, stakeholder analysis, gender analysis, political economy analysis, risk analysis, organisational assessments.

4 Support learning within institutions and among different stakeholders, assess and develop capacity in MLE
• Strengthening capacities in MLE through training, technical backstopping and advisory services.
• Designing and facilitating learning processes and events (Communities of Practice, reflection workshops).
• Preparing evidence-based briefs for advocacy and influence.
• Assessing MLE Capacity in organisations.

Standards and Principles
We undertake honest, objective, and fair evaluations. Our professional performance and values are guided by evaluation guidelines and standards adapted from UN, OECD-DAC & AfrEA.

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Who We Are

The Measurement, Learning and Evaluation (MLE) Unit was established by Tegemeo Institute, Egerton University to respond to the need for independent, high quality and rigorous designs for evaluations and measurement of outcomes, and increased emphasis on learning from development interventions (projects, programs and policies) in the rural and agricultural sectors.

Why MLE?

The public and private sectors are under intense pressure to achieve and demonstrate results to stakeholders including farmers, citizens, development partners, and donors among others. Citizens are calling for increased transparency and accountability on how priorities are defined, funds allocated, and results reported, while demanding to be part of the process. It is no longer sufficient for organizations to introduce projects and programmes to reduce rural poverty, food insecurity, inequality and unemployment, they must demonstrate that such initiatives contribute to improvements in production and marketing systems, and rural livelihoods.

“...The MLE Unit builds on Tegemeo Institute’s experience in policy research and tracking of key indicators in rural and agricultural sectors, to provide quality services in development evaluation.”

Director, MLE Unit
Tegemeo Institute

MLE...

Measurement: Formulating, selecting and testing indicators; determining data needs; applying innovative data collection, analysis and visualisation tools; safeguarding data collection and management to ensure ethics and high standards are maintained and securing data

Learning: Promoting internal learning by: developing and challenging theories of change and learning from evidence, with respect to what works, what can be up-scaled, and building consensus on what needs to be changed. Also building capacity in MLE in relation to why evaluations, and when to evaluate, and the resource required.

Evaluation: Designing evaluation questions to test hypothesis and assumptions; applying relevant evaluation approaches; assessing the attribution and contribution of programmes while ensuring rigor; and packaging findings for users.

What We Do - Strategic Direction

Vision: Sustainable rural and agricultural development through evidence-based decisions and learning

Mission: To be a provider of premier measurement, learning and evaluation products and services to the agricultural and rural sectors for impactful policies and programmes in East, Central and Southern Africa

Goals:

- Design MLE frameworks and evaluations as a solid foundation for interventions in the agricultural and rural sectors, to inform and promote policies and programs that are gender equitable and inclusive
- Collect, analyze, manage and secure quality data in a timely manner and in formats appropriate for learning, policy and programme development
- Conduct baselines, evaluations, meta-evaluations, customized assessments, and communicate findings in a timely manner and through suitable platforms.
- Support learning within institutions and among different stakeholders, assess and develop capacity in MLE

Services Offered

The following services are offered by the MLE unit to support decision making and learning among policymakers, development agencies, researchers, practitioners and the private sector.

1. Design MLE frameworks and evaluations as a solid foundation for interventions in the agricultural and rural sectors, to inform and promote policies and programs that are gender equitable and inclusive.
   - Defining users and purpose, developing Theories of Change (suited to different types of intervention)
   - Developing M&E and measurement frameworks
   - Developing evaluation and learning plans and designing feedback mechanisms