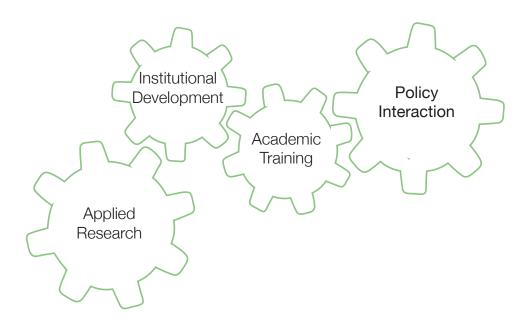


Kenya 2017

Environment for Development

The EfD Initiative is a global network of environmental economics' research centers.

We contribute to effective management of the environment in the global south through:





Director message

In 2017, the EfD center in Nairobi, Kenya - EfD Kenya (EfD-K) - restructured itself after the exit of key senior research fellows the previous year. Currently, the team is made up mainly of young researchers who have between one and 11 years' of postdoctoral experience. The center is also recruiting junior research officers from different universities. To best manage the center, we adopted the network approach and recruited research fellows from different research organizations and universities with an interest in environmental economics. Research has also improved and there is enthusiasm from individual researchers to collaborate amongst themselves and with associate researchers from other organizations.

In 2017, the center researchers visited different stakeholders in order to inform them about the center's activities, and enquire about their research needs and how they can collaborate in the future. These interactions brought to the fore several research questions, and researchers are responding to proposal calls from alternative funding sources to try and answer these questions. The center also introduced monthly seminar series to promote research dissemination and capacity building of researchers and students of environmental economics. EfD researchers are also supporting the University of Nairobi, School of Economics in teaching the environmental and resource economics course.



Prof. Gunnar Kohlin, Dr. Richard Mulwa and Dr. Daniel Mwai during the discussions on re-establishment of the Centre at the Nairobi Safari Club.



Prof. Edwin Muchapondwa during the EfD Secretariat visit to Kenya on re-establishment of the Centre at the Nairobi Safari Club.

Research

In 2017, EfD Kenya introduced a seminar and workshop series intended to promote research dissemination and capacity building of researchers and students of environmental economics. The seminars are offered by both researchers and students affiliated to EfD, and in other instances researchers from outside the EfD Kenya node.

The workshops are aimed at providing researchers and students with new tools and capabilities necessary for undertaking and disseminating high quality research outputs. The first seminar was held on 14 September 2017, presented by EfD researcher Dr Jackson Otieno. The presentation considered an economic analysis of climate change and wildlife utilization on private land in South Africa.

Six center researchers also published papers in journals in 2017.

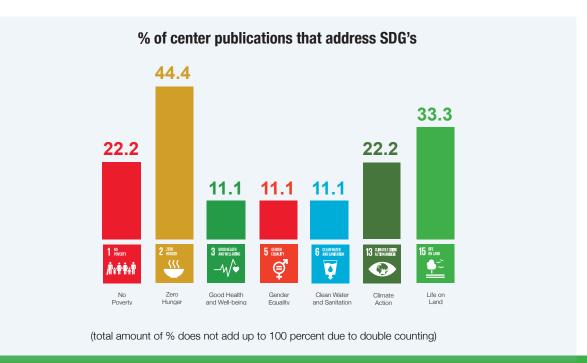


7 publications in 2017 6 Peer reviewed publications



Dr. Jackson Otieno making his presentation held at the University of Nairobi

In order to manage research activities, the center categorized the research agenda for the centre into eight thematic areas. These areas include agriculture and climate change, health, water, forestry, extractive industries, energy, wildlife, and pollution. The center also identified key stakeholders per research theme. This categorization is meant to ease management of research activities as well as encourage participation in areas of interest.



Collaborative Research Programs



Ecosystem Services Accounting for Development researchers at the 2017 workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

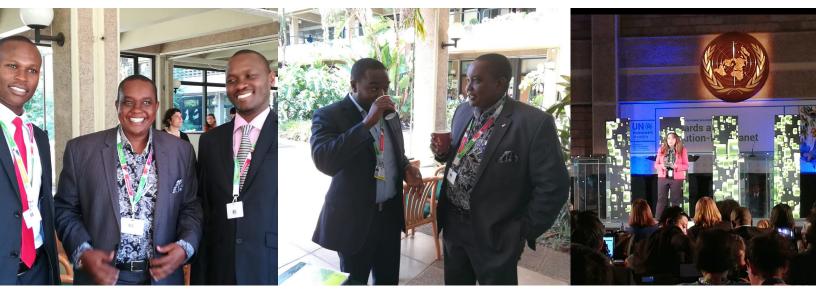
EfD has institutionalized south-south-north experience sharing through the research collaborations. The Sustainable Energy Transition Initiative (SETI) network, the Forestry Collaborative, and the Ecosystem Services Accounting for Development (ESAforD) that apply the "Community of Practice" approach have been very active during 2017. SETI organized a big workshop at Duke in May 2017 with more than 70 practitioners. Similarly, the forestry collaborative organized a meeting back-to-back with the EAERE annual conference in Athens in June 2017.

All collaboratives had meetings during the EfD annual meeting in Addis, Ethiopia in October. We now start to see the outcomes of these collaborations. There is increased learning between centers, and increased joint participation in various international meetings etc. We expect to see much more impacts in the years to come while these collaborations continue to mature.

Sustainable Energy Transition Initiative Program leader Subhrendu Pattanayak presenting at EfD's 2017 Annual Meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Policy Interaction and Communication



Dr. Richard Mulwa (center) and Dr. Hillary Ndambiri (left) at the UN Environment forum held at the UNEP offices in Nairobi.

Dr. Mwai (right) and Dr. Mulwa (left) enjoying a cup of tea during a break at the UN Environment forum, Nairobi

One of the sessions held at the UN Environment forum, 2-3 December 2017, Nairobi.

The EfD-K centre did not have a policy day in 2017, however there were other activities that took place towards end of year which allowed for a degree of interaction with policy makers around key areas.

The researchers visited different stakeholders with an aim of informing them about the centre, enquire as to their research needs, and discuss possible future collaborate opportunities. We visited about 10 stakeholders in all, which allowed us to identify areas of collaboration for 2018. An important issue that rised from these engagements relates to mobilization and management of funds that are not from EfD global/SIDA.

We agreed that the issue of funding could be handled by donor organizations, except when the money comes from the government, in which case we would need further discussion. As a result of these stakeholder meetings, we plan on having one stakeholder workshop in 2018, in which we will discuss the way forward and exchange more ideas. We have more policy interaction activities planned for this year.

The EfD Kenya team also attended the UN Science-Policy-Business Forum on the Environment organized by the UN Environment held at the UNEP Offices in Nairobi from 2nd to 3rd of December 2017. The forum aimed to identify and promote opportunities for green investments that are driven by: advances in science and technology, empowering policies and innovative financing. From the different sessions held during the forum, EfD Kenya team established new contacts and intend to pursue collaborations with them in line with the Centre's thematic areas.

Academic Capacity Building



New postgraduate students during orientation held at the University of Nairobi in September 2017.

In 2017, the center's researchers continued to support the University of Nairobi, School of Economics in its teaching programme, in order to boost its institutional capacities for supporting innovative research in environmental economics. However, the number of students taking environmental courses is not optimal. To popularize the course in order to draw more students, the center introduced monthly seminars and workshops where master's and PhD level students are invited to present, participate in, or to be trained in a number of environmental economics issues identified by the center. One master's student, whose project focused on climate change, was supervised to completion by a center researcher.



30 Masters Students on Environmental Economics Courses



Dr. Anthony Wambugu, Director-School of Economics, addressing new postgraduate students during orientation held at the University of Nairobi in September 2017.





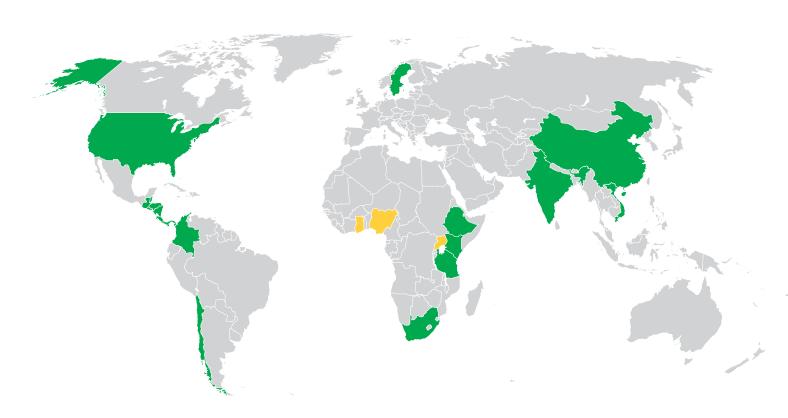
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