PRIORITIZING STAKEHOLDER MAPPING AND ENGAGEMENT: ESSENTIAL FOR INSTITUTIONALIZING KT PLATFORMS

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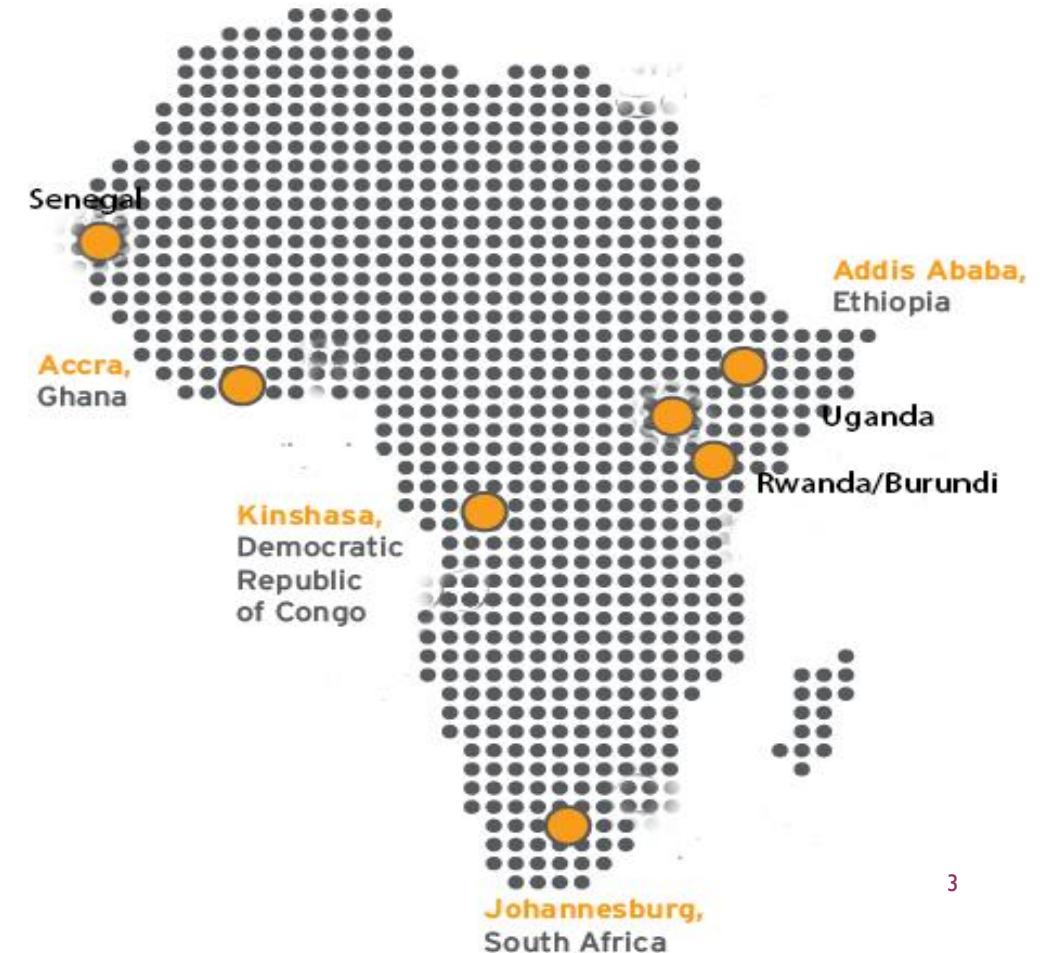Health Information Science

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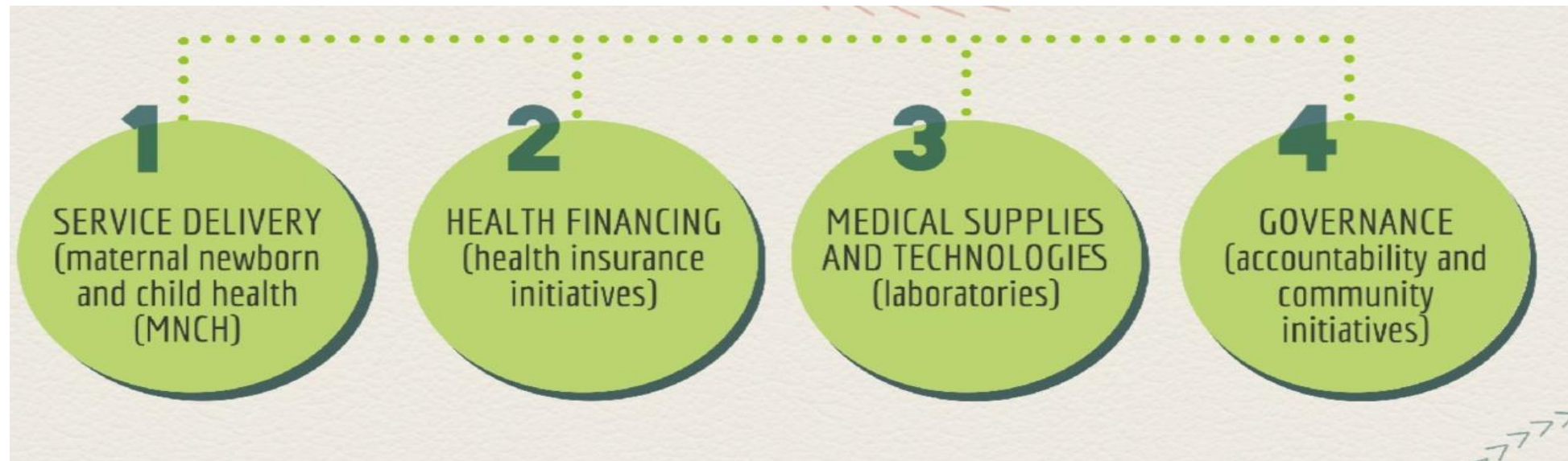# PRESENTATION OUTLINE AND OBJECTIVES

- To describe a lived experience of using KT strategies to establish and operationalize a KT platform
    - Stakeholder mapping
    - Stakeholder engagement
    - Integrated KT -work planning, KT products/outputs
    - Nurturing communities of practice-Reflexive learning

- To discuss how lessons learned can be seized as opportunities to institutionalize and sustain KT platforms
    - Project design and funding - addressing the sustainability question
    - Stakeholder engagement and managing expectations

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION NETWORK (KTNET) AFRICA PLATFORM

- One-million-euro grant

- Awarded to Makerere University School of Public Health

- By the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO/WOTRO)

- To establish and coordinate a health systems related KT platform aimed at supporting researchers and research users to maximize the impact of the research evidence generated on health systems to inform policy and practice

- Operated across eight Sub-Saharan African countries.

Senegal

Accra, Ghana

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Uganda

Rwanda/Burundi

Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

Johannesburg, South Africa

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BRIEF OVERVIEW- AREAS OF FOCUS

1 SERVICE DELIVERY (maternal newborn and child health (MNCH)

2 HEALTH FINANCING (health insurance initiatives)

3 MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND TECHNOLOGIES (laboratories)

4 GOVERNANCE (accountability and community initiatives)

- Rwanda
- South Africa
- Ghana

- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Rwanda

- Senegal

- Uganda
- Burundi & DR Congo

ESTABLISHING THE KTNET PLATFORM- THE PROCESS

- Signing memoranda of understanding

- Stakeholder mapping and analysis and KT capacity assessment

- KT capacity building (online and onsite)

- Joint development, implementation and monitoring of work plans

- Annual partners' meetings

- Provision of hands-on support in packaging of evidence products

- Fostering collaborations and linkages with external stakeholders

- Nurturing communities of practice-Reflexive learning

KT CAPACITY BUILDING AND JOINT WORK PLAN DEVELOPMENT
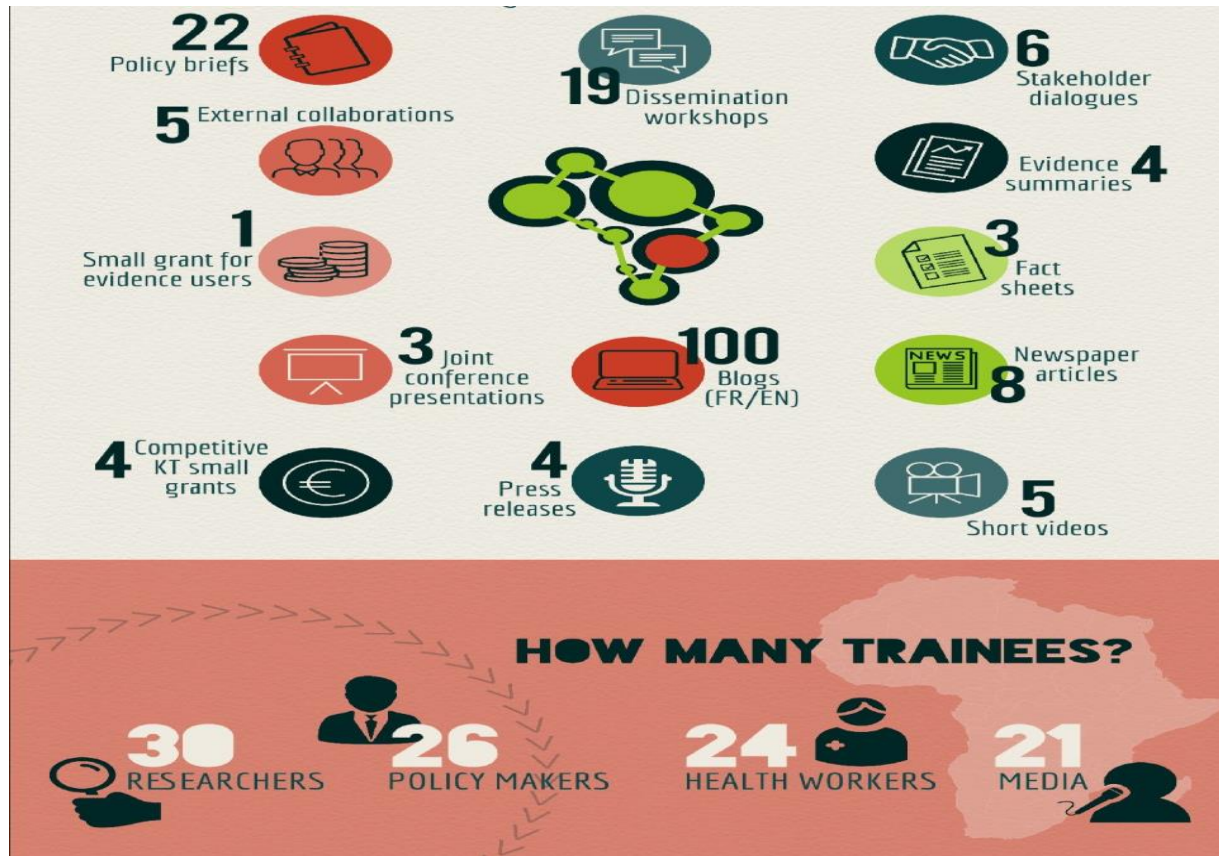
SUPPORTED PARTNERS TO DISSEMINATE RESEARCH FINDINGS

PROVIDED TECHNICAL SUPPORT DURING MID-TERM VISITS

ORGANIZED ANNUAL PARTNERS' MEETINGS & POLICY DIALOGUES

- A functional KT platform

- Enhanced capacity to package research evidence in multiple formats

- Increased research dissemination to, and engagement of grassroot partners

- Emergence of communities of practice within the network

- Increased capacity and interest to engage in KT and research communication among stakeholders

SUMMARY OF LESSONS LEARNT

- Managing stakeholder expectations across political, social and economic contexts is challenging

- Appreciating variations in context and customizing KT approaches is essential for securing buy-in of stakeholders

- Early stakeholder engagement essential for establishing mutual respect and understanding within KT partnerships/platforms

- Adopting a flexible approach to the implementation of the KT work plans enables all stakeholders to seize impromptu opportunities that may contribute to uptake of evidence into policy and practice

- It is critical to embed institutionalization and sustainability of KT platforms at conceptualization and design phase.

INSTITUTIONALIZATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF KT PLATFORMS : REFLECTIONS

Embedding stakeholder mapping and analysis at the conceptualization and design phases of KT platforms /interventions is critical for their institutionalization

➢ Who are the key stakeholders?

➢ What is their level of interest in the KT platform?

➢ How knowledgeable are they about the KT platform? (Capacity assessment)

➢ What contributions will they bring to the KT platform?

➢ How and when do they prefer to be engaged in the KT platform?

➢ How shall we jointly monitor and evaluate the activities, outputs, outcomes and impacts of the KT platform/intervention?

INSTITUTIONALIZATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF KT PLATFORMS : REFLECTIONS

Beyond the initial funding for the platform

➢ What is the projected future of the KT platform?

➢ How do the funders, implementers and beneficiaries of the KT platform/ intervention intend to ensure continuity of the activities and benefits beyond the initial funding period?

➢ How will the funders, implementers and beneficiaries measure and evaluate the sustainability of the platform and its contribution/ effects?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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LET THE QUESTIONS FLOW

RESOURCES

- Varvasovszky, Z., & Brugha, R. (2000). A stakeholder analysis. *Health policy and planning*, *15*(3), 338-345.

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- Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (2005). "Is research working for you." A self-assessment tool and discussion guide for health services and policy organizations. Ottawa: Canadian Health Services Research Foundation.

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