

Dear Friends and Colleagues of CLEAR AA

RE: INVITATION TO AN EXPERT PANEL SEMINAR AT THE INAUGURAL CLEAR AA DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION TRAINING PROGRAMME IN AFRICA (DETPA)

The Centre for Learning on Evaluation and Results Anglophone Africa (CLEAR-AA), based in Johannesburg South Africa, is hosting a two-week course in development evaluation. The Development Evaluation Training Programme in Africa (DETPA) will be taking place at the Wits Business School (WBS), at the CLEAR Centre in Johannesburg on the 14th to 25th August 2017. As part of the course delivery an expert panel seminar on “**Imperatives of the SDGs/2030 Agenda and implications for the evaluation function for Africa**” has been organized. We are pleased to invite you to participate in the seminar and engage in robust debate with the panelists. The details are as follows:

Date: 18th August 2017

Venue: Investec Auditorium, Wits Business School

Time: 12h30 – 16h30

PURPOSE OF THE SEMINAR

Evaluation is a discipline of critical inquiry and asking the questions: are we doing the right things that are relevant, are appropriate and would add value, would ensure impact and sustainability? Are we making a difference – did change occur, what are the non-intended consequences? What is the impact and what are alternatives? How sustainable are the results? The spirit of the macro development strategies (2030 Agenda for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the African Union Agenda 2063) is “all hands on deck”- but are we setting ourselves up for failure by not addressing country-level strategies and responses with more than just rhetoric?

Policy makers, development practitioners, evaluators, planners and M&E practitioners will have a role to play in answering questions on the achievement of the results of these plans in the years of evaluation and reporting that lie ahead. The Seminar hopes to provide an opportunity for all participants to hear experts in the field of evaluation and development answer some of these vexing questions, and engage in robust debate as part of the myriad incremental actions needed to contribute to Africa's development success.

PANELISTS

Dr. Sukai Sukai Prom-Jackson: Inspector-Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations System

Dr Sukai Prom-Jackson, a national of The Gambia, is a global expert on development evaluation, education, and institutional development. She has over 30 years of experience and leadership roles working at the international, national and private sector, and universities in policy research, measurement, evaluation, strategic planning and management. Her experiences also include work with major global partnership programmes for development and the conduct or management of extensive training on evaluation with the World Bank and The United Nations Evaluation Group. Her work experiences have covered all regions of the world and in over 80 countries.

Dr Sukai Prom-Jackson was endorsed by the Africa Union and elected by the United Nations General Assembly as an Inspector of the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations System (JIU) since 2013 – The only independent external

body with oversight over the UN System. At the JIU, she has focussed on complex system-wide analyses of systems in place for organizational effectiveness and on a pilot initiative for independent system wide evaluation of the United Nations system contribution to development effectiveness. Organizations she has worked with include: the UNDP

Independent Evaluation Office (2005 and 2012, the World Bank 1989-2005); USA Office of Education Research and Improvement and major USA universities on research and evaluation (1982-1086); Howard University (1978-1982), The Gambia Government, and Peace Corps, The Gambia.

She has an extensive number of technical reports, publications, and public presentations. She has served in several advisory panels and led several task forces and is mentioned in evaluation publications. 2005-2012: She was invited to the Bellagio Thought Leaders Forum on Evaluation in Africa in 2012 leading to a publication on the Rebirth, Restoration, Reclamation and Responsibilities of the Evaluation Function of Africa. She is a member of the Advisory Board of the Center for Learning on Evaluation and Results (CLEAR) - Anglophone Africa.

Prof. Zenda Ofir: Independent International Evaluator

Prof. Zenda Ofir is a South African scientist and since 2000, a full-time international evaluation specialist. She has conducted evaluation assignments in 40 countries, primarily in Africa and Asia, for around 40 national, bilateral and multilateral (primarily UN) clients on four continents. She has also provided advice on evaluation policy, strategy and practice to organizations such as GAVI, AGRA, UNDP, IFAD, Rockefeller Foundation, the World Conservation Council and the CGIAR.

Zenda is a former President of AfrEA, former Vice-President of the IOCE and former American Evaluation Association Board member. She is on the editorial boards of two evaluation journals, EPP and AEJ. She has been a visiting professor at the Hiroshima University in Japan, lectured for four years in development effectiveness at the United Nations University (UNU) in Tokyo, has been a STIAS fellow, and has since 2014 been appointed as Honorary Professor at Stellenbosch University. With a PhD in ecological chemistry, Zenda was a senior programme manager at the predecessor of the NRF, and Director of Research at the University of Pretoria - responsible for all grant-funded and contract research, intellectual property management and the international office - before she turned to evaluation. She is currently based near Geneva in Switzerland.

Ms. Adelaide Sibanda: African Evaluation Association (AfrEA) President

Adeline Sibanda is the African Evaluation Association (AfrEA) President. She is the founder and Managing Director of Troparg Consultancy Services, a development consulting firm. Adeline has 25 years' experience in the development field with a focus on gender equality, monitoring and evaluation, leadership and entrepreneurship. She is passionate about professional development and has provided mentoring and training to organisations in over 20 sub-Saharan African countries, with specific focus on gender responsive evaluations. Adeline is a coach on Managing for Development Results.

Dr. Ian Goldman: DDC - South African Presidency Department of Monitoring and Evaluation

Ian Goldman is Head of Evaluation and Research at the South African Presidency's Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation. He is also a Commissioner (board member) of the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie). Ian started his career as an agronomist in Mexico in 1978-9, worked in Zambia from 1982-7 facilitating rural development through strengthening local government, in the UK from 1988-1995 (rural economic development), and then back in South Africa from 1995-8 as a change management advisor with the Free State Department of Agriculture. He wrote up

this experience for his PhD in 2001. In 1998 he established a pioneering NGO (the African Institute for Community-Driven Development – Khanya-aicdd) working in Africa on issues of decentralization, rural development, sustainable livelihoods approaches, community-driven development across Southern and Eastern Africa. He has worked in 18 countries in Africa, Europe and Latin America, and with national, provincial and local government, as well as in the NGO and SME sectors

Moderator

Ms. Candice Morkel – Senior Technical M&E Specialist, CLEAR-AA

Candice is an accomplished Monitoring, Evaluation and public policy specialist with over 18 years' research and M&E experience in the public and non-profit sectors in South Africa. She spent more than 10 years in the public sector in South Africa as a senior M&E Specialist, focusing on building systems and capacity for evidence-based policy making. She has been involved in numerous policy reviews and programme evaluations, including more recently the Ministerial Review of the White Paper on Social Welfare (1997). She served as a Board Member and Chair of the South African Monitoring and Evaluation Association (SAMEA) from 2008-2010. She has also written a case study on the development of M&E in the Eastern Cape Provincial Administration published in 2015 by Stellenbosch University (South Africa) as part of a book entitled: Evaluation Management in South Africa. Ms. Morkel has an MPhil in Conflict and Conflict Management (cum laude) from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University and is currently reading for her PhD in Public Management and Leadership. Her research interests are focused around building a developmental state, state capacity, civil society and the co-production of public goods. She joined CLEAR-AA in August 2016 as a Senior Technical M&E Specialist, focusing on strengthening evaluation practice in Anglophone Africa. Candice serves as a board member of Afrea since April 2017.

Your participation at the seminar will be highly appreciated. Kindly RSVP Mokgophana Ramasobana at mokgophana.ramasobana@wits.ac.za.

Warm Regards

Candice Morkel

Senior Technical M&E Specialist

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