



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR
RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND OUTREACH

POST WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE REPORT

CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP REPORT

Attendee Name: Prof. Chris A. Shisanya

Attendee Designation and Department: Geography Department

Title of workshop/conference: BRECCIA 2nd Annual Research Meeting

15-18 July 2019

Conference URL: NONE

Conference Summary: *Brief description, conference organisers, target audience, venue and duration.*

 This was our second annual review meeting of the project BRECCIA

Workshop/ Conference Objectives: *Describe conference objectives*

Purposes of the workshop were:

1. Understand Local Context: Hear from key Malawian stakeholders and visit Malawi field sites to gain a better understanding of context in country. Output: A collective increase in understanding of issues surrounding the impact of climate change on food and water security in Malawi
2. Understanding the range of SRPs and activities: Presentation of active SRPs and SRPs in proposal stage: Output: collective understanding of activities across the project, which builds a foundation for plans for broader activities in later stages.
3. Development of ideas for broader projects: Overview of current SRP and Theme activities and outputs, leading to discussion of linkages and synergies. Output: Development of cross cutting, synergising project ideas for Year 3.
4. Interaction with Strategic Advisory Board; allowing time for the Board to meet each other and the research team, gaining input to and feeding back on our project plans. Output: SAB report back to the project on its progress with suggestions to increase impact
5. Capacity Development; Introduce the concepts of networking and social networking analysis across countries and disciplines. Output: increased ability to understand our networks, how to utilize and increase them.
6. Focus on Publications: Following feedback on SRPs and themes progress, potential publications will be identified with interactive sessions to start planning (abstract and structure) and cover publication guidelines. Output: Abstracts and outlines of potential papers and an initial publication plan.
7. Strategic Dissemination planning: Horizon scan of upcoming conferences and dissemination opportunities (information collated prior to event) and agreement on where BRECCIA researchers focus. Output: Contribution to Communication Plan and

planning of attendance and submissions to a few strategic conferences.

8. Summer School Feedback: To share learnings from Summer School #1 with colleagues and plan for Summer School #2. Output: Learning documented and added to plan for next summer school.
9. Team Working: Introduction to Belbin's team working preferences and the opportunity to consider own team working preferences. ECRs and Co-Is will be able to discuss the use of this tool by drawing on the Summer school teams' experience. Output: Greater understanding of individuals team working preferences, and others, which can be applied to each SRP.
10. Progress to date: Review how far we have come in the first 18 months of BRECCIA. Compare against Theory of Change and LogFrame indicators. Output: Sense of achievement and motivation for continued work.
11. Future Plans: Where do we go from here? What do we do once the ~12 months SRPs are complete? What do years 3 and 4 look like? Output: The start of more detailed work plans for Y3 & Y4.

Lessons learnt: *Identify specifically what you are bringing back from the conference that relates to your departmental/school/University objectives.*

Team work at the level of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinarity in research has great potential for achieving wide ranging results and increasing the likelihood of achieving project objectives.

Title of Paper/Presentations/Lectures done by self:

Policy thematic area of BRECCIA project: Way Forward

Partnership/Collaborations/Funding Opportunities/Networks Developed: *List new contacts developed that may be useful for collaborations and funding*

We have developed and submitted the following small research projects (SRPs) for funding within the framework of the larger BRECCIA project. Funding has already been approved.

1. Evaluation of land use change on water and food security in Lagha Bor Catchment, Wajir county, Kenya
2. Capacity building and variability in the drylands of Ghana and Kenya
3. Building capacity for policy uptake in Kitui and Wajir counties of Kenya

Additional Comments.

The SRPs are aligned to the overall theory of change that guides the BRECCIA project. The co-design and co-production approach of the SRPs mirrors the iterative approach of BRECCIA. These SRPs have sought to build and expand

partnerships with stakeholders and communities in the study areas. Further development of these partnerships and collaborations will require continued on-the-ground involvement in the study areas. It will also be appropriate to hold further discussions with stakeholders and communities around context-specific, demand-led interventions that fall within the scope (both from a financial and technical capabilities perspective) of BRECCIA.