**8th Annual EASST Summit: DRAFT Agenda**

Sarova Panafric (Nairobi, Kenya)

July 22-23, 2019

The [East Africa Social Science Translation](https://cega.berkeley.edu/initiative/east-africa-social-science-translation-collaborative/) (EASST) Collaborative, managed by the [Center for Effective Global Action](https://cega.berkeley.edu/) (CEGA) at UC Berkeley, will hold its 8th Annual EASST Summit in Nairobi, Kenya on July 22-23, 2019. Over the past eight years, EASST has built a robust network of nearly 30 talented East African scholars conducting rigorous impact evaluations of social programs in the region. The summit provides a forum for showcasing this locally-generated research alongside the research of U.S.-based academics in East Africa, while facilitating a dialogue between policy makers, practitioners, and researchers on opportunities for evidence-informed policymaking in East Africa.

This year, the summit will highlight work related to health, food security, labor markets, and urban development across East Africa, inspired by President Kenyatta’s “[Big Four](https://big4.president.go.ke/)” policy agenda and more broadly the Sustainable Development Goals for 2030. Day 1 of the summit (July 22) will feature a keynote address from UN Resident Coordinator to Kenya, [Siddharth Chatterjee](https://www.siddharth-chatterjee.org/), who has served with the UN for over 20 years. The keynote will be followed by a policy panel showcasing regional policy makers’ priority areas and advice for effective research production and dissemination; presentations on policy relevant research, and a roundtable discussion on the data systems and indicators governments in East Africa need to measure Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Day 2 (July 23) will feature early stage research on Youth, Health, Agriculture, and Financial Inclusion as well as three unique sessions: 1) New directions for the EASST fellow alumni-led organization, the [Network of Impact Evaluation Researchers in Africa](https://nieraglobal.org/), 2) A moderated panel of practitioners sharing insights on research capacity building in East Africa, and 3) A moderated panel of donors sharing their perspective on the best ways to support African impact evaluation capacity. After the close of Day 2, there will be two optional sessions: 1) A research transparency training facilitated by the [Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences](https://www.bitss.org/) (open, RSVP required) and 2) A researcher-policymaker matchmaking workshop (invitation only) facilitated by [Innovations for Poverty Action](https://www.poverty-action.org/).

In addition to IPA, EASST is excited to collaborate with local partner institutions including the UN Kenya’s SDG Partnership Platform/Innovation Lab, the [Africa Population Health Research Center](https://aphrc.org/) (APHRC), the [United States International University](https://www.usiu.ac.ke/) (USIU), and the [Network of Impact Evaluation Researchers in Africa](https://nieraglobal.org/) (NIERA), to maximize the relevance and impact of this event.

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| **Monday, July 22: Health and Economic Development in East Africa**  |
| 8:30—9:00 AM | **Registration** |
| 9:00—9:10 AM | **Opening Remarks** *(Carson Christiano, Executive Director)*  |
| 9:10—9:45 AM | **Keynote Address** *(Siddharth Chatterjee, UN Kenya Resident Coordinator)* |
| 9:45—10:45 AM | **Introductions of Policy Makers and Policy Panel** *This panel will introduce and feature 3-4 government ministry officials, who will describe areas of new research interest, and advise the academic community on research production and dissemination.* ***(Moderator and Panelists TBD)*** |
| 10:45—11:00 AM | **Coffee break** |
| 11:00 AM—12:00 PM | **Health in Kenya and the DRC** Impact of Amref Model of Alternative Rite of Passage on Health Outcomes in Kenya **(Anthony Mveyange and Samuel Muhula, EASST fellows)**Impact of Insecurity on the Ebola Response in the DRC **(Vedaste Ndahindwa, EASST fellow)** |
| 12:00—1:15 PM | **Lunch** |
| 1:15—2:45 PM | **Health in Uganda**The Weakness of Bottom Up Accountability **(Dan Posner, CEGA affiliate)** Nurses vs Doctors in the management of HIV patients **(Jayne Tusiime, EASST fellow)**Girls’ Education and HIV Risk **(Marcella Alsan, CEGA affiliate)** |
| 2:45—3:25 PM | **Data Systems for Universal Health Coverage: Insights from APHRC** *The African Population Health Research Centre (APHRC) will conduct a roundtable discussion on data systems for Universal Health Coverage in East Africa. Moderated by Damazo Kadengye, EASST fellow, APHRC.**Panelists:* ***Samuel Iddi*** *(Senior Statistician, APHRC);* ***Abdhalah Ziraba*** *(Head of Health Systems for Health, APHRC);* ***Hermann Donfouet*** *(Head of Data, Measurement & Evaluation, APHRC)* |
| 3:25 — 3:45 PM | **Coffee Break** |
| 3:45—5:15 PM | **Economic Growth and Development**Banking the Group: The Impact of Linking Savings Groups to Banks in Uganda **(Alfredo Burlando, CEGA affiliate)** Growth-Oriented Agricultural Program and Impacts on Poverty in Ethiopia **(Tigist Melesse and Alebel Weldesilassie, EASST fellows)**The Impacts of Internal Migration on Remaining Household Members: Evidence from Ethiopia **(Dagim Belay, EASST fellow)** |
| 5:15—5:20 PM | **Closing Remarks** *(Apollo Maima, EASST fellow)* |
| 5:20—5:45 PM | *OPTIONAL: Q&A for prospective EASST Fellows*  |
| 5:20—6:45 PM | **Cocktail Reception**  |

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| **Tuesday, July 23: New Research and Capacity Building** |
| 8:30–9:00 AM | **Registration** |
| 9:00–9:10 AM | **Introduction to Day 2** *(Maya Ranganath, EASST Senior Program Manager)*  |
| 9:10 AM–9:50 AM | **New Research on Education and Employment**Getting Girls Back in School: The Returns to Alternative Education in Tanzania **(Ketki Sheth, CEGA Affiliate)**Meet your Future: Job Search Efforts and Aspirations of Young Jobseekers **(Livia Alfonsi, UC Berkeley)** |
| 9:50—10:40 AM | **New Research on Health**Impact of an instructional video for TB case detection in Tanzania **(Grace Mhalu, EASST fellow; Rain Mocello, UC Berkeley, Marcella Alsan, CEGA Affiliate)**Using Observational Data Analysis to Understand the Impact of TB Treatments **(Werner Maokola, EASST fellow; Chad Hazlett, CEGA Affiliate; David Ami Wulf, UCLA)** |
| 10:40-10:55 AM | **Coffee break** |
| 10:55–11:35 AM | **New Research on Agriculture and Financial Inclusion**Using iBeacons to Track the Distribution of Fertilizer in Kenya **(Muthoni Ng’ang’a, EASST fellow; Jennifer Hamilton, UCLA)**The effect of labeling and modern depositing mechanisms on savings behaviour in Ethiopia **(Tewodros Tesemma, EASST fellow)** |
| 11:35 AM-12:05 PM | **Network of Impact Evaluation Researchers in Africa: Future Directions** *(Amos Njuguna, EASST Fellow, NIERA Chair)**This presentation will introduce new directions of the EASST fellow alumni-led organization, NIERA, and discuss results from a 5-country scoping study on impact evaluation capacity and demand within governments.*  |
| 12:05–1:20 PM | **Lunch**  |
| 1:20–2:05 PM | **Research Capacity Building in East Africa: Current Landscape and Opportunities** *This presentation will invite representatives from various research capacity building programs, to speak about their respective model and its advantages and disadvantages. Moderated by TBD*Panelists: **Mawazo Institute** (Joy Kiiru); **J-PAL** (Aimee Hare), **APHRC** (Evelyn Gitau); **ESRF** (Constantine Manda) |
| 2:05–2:45 PM | **Donor Perspectives: Supporting African Impact Evaluation Capacity** *This panel will invite representatives from various donor organizations to offer their perspectives on supporting IE capacity. Moderated by Maya Ranganath, CEGA.*Panelists: **Hewlett Foundation** (Norma Altshuler, Program Officer); **International Development Research Centre** (Flaubert Mbiekop, Senior Program Specialist); **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** (Diva Dhar, Senior Program Officer)  |
| 2:45–2:50 PM | **Closing Remarks** *(TBD)*  |
| **EVENT CLOSED** |
| 3:00–5:30 PM | **OPTIONAL SESSION: RSVP REQUIRED****Research Transparency Training, led by Soazic Elise Wang Sonne***This workshop will introduce junior researchers, research practitioners, and policy analysts to the “open science toolkit.” Participants will learn about and discuss the open science movement, the benefits and how-to’s of pre-registration, pre-analysis plans, and other tools for a reproducible and transparent research workflow.* | **OPTIONAL SESSION: INVITE ONLY*****Policy Opportunity Matchmaking Workshop, facilitated by IPA****This workshop will bring together EASST fellows, CEGA affiliates, policy makers, and partner organizations. It will aim to start new scale-up and impact evaluation consulting opportunities that will be partially funded by EASST through its “Policy Engagement Grant” program.* |
| 5:30–7:00 PM | **Cocktail Reception** |