

Science for Policy - how science can support policymaking

The example of the Pan African Network for Economic Analysis of Policies (PANAP)

In the era of complex policy challenges, making the best use of science for all policy-making processes is essential. The provision of scientific evidence ensures that policymakers are well informed when reviewing options and taking important decisions. Policies developed without sufficient science support are less likely to solve the underlying issues and more likely to give rise to unintended consequences. Science helps to define the policy problems, assessing different policy options, designing solutions that work, and distinguishing facts from attitudes in public debate. These principles are at the heart of the policy-making process called “Better Regulation” that the European Commission and many EU Member States have endorsed since 2016

(https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-making-process/planning-and-proposing-law/better-regulation_en).

Economic models can support designing policies with scientific evidence. Models can help policymakers exploring unknown or uncertain futures, setting appropriate targets, and assessing policy options for reaching these targets. The European Commission hosts several groups of analysts employing modelling in different areas of analysis. Such in-house modelling capacity increases the likelihood that results are considered during the policymaking process and therefore turned into policy action. The legitimacy of model-based policy advice stands and falls with the model’s credibility. Transparency of the tools is imperative for creating trust and is supported by the involvement of different stakeholders in the modelling process.

The Pan-African Network for economic Analysis of Policies ([PANAP](#)) brings together academic, research, and institutional partners that develop research on agro-economic and policy issues. It was established at the end of 2019 under the aegis of the African Union (AU) - European Union (EU) partnership. The main objectives of the network are to strengthen the liaison between researchers/scientists and policymakers in Africa and to foster scientific communities providing independent, evidence-based scientific support, data/information, and economic analysis of sustainable agrifood systems and related policies.

Side-event general goals

The general objective is to show case new and innovative scientific approaches advanced by the collaboration among and the African Union and the European Union Member States to influence policy formulation and implementation to contribute to resilient food systems.

Side-event specific objectives

- To discuss how science can contribute to development of tools to enhance evidence-informed policymaking within the EU, AU, and respective Member states.
- To share success stories on how PANAP is contributing to enhancing evidence-based policymaking.

Expected outcomes

Strengthened networks, frameworks, and partnerships for the exchange of scientific approaches and leverage on synergies for optimal resource use

Draft Programme

JUNE 30th, 2023

FAO Headquarters – Rome, Italy

Moderator: A. Zampieri, Director Sustainable Resources, EC-JRC

Time	Topic	Speaker(s)
12.30 – 12.35	Opening	
12.35 – 12.40	Introduction	J. Wojciechowski, EU Commissioner Agriculture
12.40 – 13.00	Why PANAP - Science for policy	S. Saastomainen, Deputy Director-General, EC-JRC A. Agumya, Executive Director, FARA
13.00 – 13.30	PANAP - activities examples	W. Mene, Secretary-General, AfCFTA Secretariat R. Ngugi, Executive Director, Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), Kenya A. Garba Modibo, Coordonnateur, Cellule d'Analyse des Politiques et d'évaluation de l'action gouvernementale (CAPEG) (Niger) A.P. Arnaud Assanvo, Secrétaire Exécutif, Initiative Cacao Côte d'Ivoire Ghana (Côte d'Ivoire – Ghana Cocoa Initiative)
13.30 – 14.00	Recommendations and Policy perspective	K. Rosenow, Head of Unit Research and Innovation, EC-DG.AGRI G. Bahigwa, Director Agriculture and Rural Development, AUC-DARBE C. Montesi, Director Green Deal, Digital Agenda, EC-DG.INTPA
14.00 – 14.05	Closure	J. Sacko, AU Commissioner Agriculture