



African Network for
Internationalization of Education

Mapping the Social Science Research Landscape in Kenya

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About ANIE

The African Network for Internationalization of Education (ANIE) is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental pan-African network and think-tank committed to the advancement of high quality research, capacity building, information sharing and exchange, transnational networking and cooperation, and policy advocacy on the internationalization of higher education to enable African universities and development stakeholders take optimal advantage of the opportunities presented by internationalization and globalization. Established in 2008, ANIE has its Secretariat based at Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya. ANIE takes the pioneering mandate of enhancing the understanding and further development of the international dimension of higher education in Africa by expanding knowledge and by strengthening and sustaining a cohort of highly competent professionals, scholars, and researchers in the field of international education and development. ANIE has developed three strong Special Interest Groups, namely (i) Network of Emerging Scholars on Internationalization (ii) Professional Group on Internationalization at Home, and (iii) Professional Group on Management of International Offices. Further detailed information about ANIE can be found on our website (www.anienetwork.org).

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Table of Contents

About ANIE.....	I
Acknowledgements.....	VI
Executive Summary.....	1
1. Introduction.....	3
2. Research Design and Methodology.....	3
2.1 Desk-based Search, Review, and Database Development.....	3
2.2 Reviewing Published Literature in the four Thematic Areas.....	4
2.3 Questionnaire Survey.....	4
2.4: Some Limitations and caveats.....	5
3. Kenya’s Social Science Research Landscape.....	6
3.1: Kenya’s Research System: Scope and Actors.....	7
3.1.1 Government Research Directorates.....	7
3.1.2 Public research Institutes.....	7
3.1.3: International Research Agencies.....	8
3.1.4: Higher Education Institutions.....	8
3.2 The National Research Policy Environment.....	8
3.3 Recent Institutionalization of Research.....	9
3.4 Shape and Size of Kenya’s Knowledge Production.....	10
3.5 Funding Kenya’s Research System.....	11
4. Summary of Survey Findings.....	13
4.1 Overview.....	13
4.2: Key Findings and Interpretations.....	14
4.2.1 Activities and Level of Importance.....	14
4.2.2 Geographical Scope and Research Issues.....	15
4.2.3 Research Capacity.....	15
4.2.4 Knowledge of Funders and Receiving Funding.....	16
4.2.5 Sources of Funding.....	17
4.2.6: Actual Funding Received.....	18
4.2.7 Research Outputs and Levels of Importance.....	19
4.2.8 Size and Geographic Scope of Collaboration.....	19
4.2.9: What Triggers Research Activity.....	20
4.3: Conclusions.....	21
5. The Social Science Research Landscape in Kenya.....	22
5.1 Economic Growth Research in Kenya.....	22
5.2 Actors, Capacity and Infrastructure.....	22

5.3	Thematic Landscape in Growth Research	23
5.3.1	Macroeconomic Growth, Policy Analysis, and Modelling.....	24
5.3.2	Microeconomics, Poverty, and Sustainable Development	24
5.3.3	Private Sector and Small & Medium Enterprises (SME) Development.....	25
5.3.4	Informal Economy, Livelihoods, and Food Security	26
5.3.5	Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Primary Commodities	26
5.3.6	Trade, Employment, and Private Sector Development.....	27
5.3.7	Conclusion	28
6.	Governance and Security Research.....	29
6.1	Key Actors and Institutional Capacities	29
6.2	Thematic Areas of Research.....	29
6.2.1	Devolved Governance	29
6.2.2	Democratic Institutions and Processes	30
6.2.3	Public Service Delivery & Management.....	31
6.2.4	Justice, Human Rights and the Rule of Law.....	31
6.2.5	Corruption	31
6.2.6	Security, Peace Building and Conflict Resolution.....	32
6.2.7	Media, Civic Organizations & Community Engagement	32
6.3	Conclusion.....	33
7.	Climate Change Research in Kenya.....	33
7.1	Key actors, Institutional Capacity and Policy Framework	34
7.2	Themes Covered in the Research	36
7.2.1	Impacts of climate change and vulnerability.....	36
7.2.2	Gender Equity, Climate Change, poverty and welfare.....	36
7.2.3	Climate change governance in Kenya.....	37
7.2.4	Climate change financing, food security and associated costing issues.....	37
7.2.5	Mitigation and adaptation interventions.....	37
7.3	Conclusion.....	38
8.	Urbanization Research in Kenya.....	38
8.1	Main Actors and Research Capacities	38
8.2	Thematic Areas of Research.....	39
8.2.1	Health, water and sanitation.....	39
8.2.2	Housing, informal settlements and infrastructure.....	40
8.2.4	Population and Sustainable Livelihoods.....	40
8.2.5	Urban Governance and Security.....	41

8.3	Conclusion.....	41
9.	Analysis and Mapping of Evaluation Studies.....	41
10.	Summary and Conclusions.....	43
11.0	Bibliography	44
	Appendix 1: List of Acronyms.....	46

List of Tables

Table 1: Number of publications by Kenyan researchers by discipline (2000-2010)	11
Table 2: Some of the top producers of research publications in Kenya (2000 – 2010)	11
Table 3: Gross Expenditure on R&D (GERD) for selected African countries 2007/08	12
Table 4: Funding for Kenya’s Research Technology and Innovation Sector (2007-2010)	13
Table 5: Number and type of research organisations (n= 62)	13
Table 6: Towns where research organisations are located in Kenya	14
Table 7: Number of researchers in research organizations (n=59)	15
Table 8: Sources of funding reported by research organizations	17
Table9:Total amounts of funding received	18
Table10: Total funding received by organization type	18
Table 11: Number of collaborations involvng social science research organisations	19
Table 12: Factors that trigger research in research organisations	20
Table 13: Number and types of economic research organizations in Kenya	22
Table 14: Number and types of governance research organizations in Kenya	28
Table 15 Number and types of climate change research organizations in Kenya	35
Table 16: Number and types of urbanization research organizations in Kenya	38
List of figures <i>Error! Bookmark not defined.</i>	
Figure 1: Activities and level of importance.	14
Figure 2: Geographical focus of research organization	15
Figure 3: Funders Known versus Funding received.	16
Figure 4: Research outputs and level of importance.	19
Figure 5: Factors that trigger research activityand their importanee.	20

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James Otieno Jowi

Project Leader

Executive Summary

This report is an outcome of a mapping research of the social science research landscape in Kenya undertaken by the African Network for Internationalization of Education (ANIE) on behalf of the Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom. The aim of the study was to enable DFID to gain a deeper understanding of Kenya's existing knowledge production and utilization capacities and gaps in the social sciences, particularly with respect to the priority thematic areas of economic growth, climate change, governance and security, and urbanization. The scope of the mapping exercise also covered an analysis of evaluation studies published in Kenya over the last decade by a range of agencies. This study focused on two main undertakings. The first task was to carry out a mapping and analysis of the social science research and evaluation landscape in Kenya in order to identify the key research organizations, policy framework, main sources of research funding, as well as thematic, methodological, and geographical priorities. The second activity was to develop a comprehensive and searchable database containing details of research organizations involved in social science research in Kenya, including within the four priority sectors identified above. Thus the project was to present two deliverables i.e. (i) Final Research Mapping Report, and (ii) searchable database of social science research organizations in Kenya.

This Final Research Mapping Report presents a summary of the research mapping and analysis conducted as part of the Kenya research mapping study. It should be noted that the database has been presented as a separate product accompanying this report. In carrying out the research mapping, we adopted a variety of research methods including desk-based reviews, analysis, and synthesis of selected published materials from the research organizations, administration of a survey questionnaire, and analysis of government policy documents relevant to the study. The research team compiled a comprehensive final database consisting of approximately 212 research institutions and research units conducting research within the four domains of social science research. An online survey questionnaire was administered to a total of 128 research organizations which were part of the approximately 175 research organizations that had initially been identified as at that stage of the mapping exercise. Some research agencies did not respond whereas others, especially departments in the newer universities and the smaller independent agencies, did not have reliable emails, websites, or contact details making it difficult to deliver the survey. Finally, a total of 62 questionnaires were fully completed and returned.

This sample therefore represents a 30% response rate which was relatively low but we took measures to ensure that the sample was as representative as possible across the various organization types, sizes, and thematic areas. The final purposive sample of 62 agencies consisted of 30 university departments and schools, government research institutes (5), non-profit organizations and NGOs (20), think tanks (2), and research institutes (4). According to our database, these numbers fairly represent the relative proportions of each of these types of organizations within the wider research landscape. This sample therefore provides a reliable overview of the organizational landscape of social science research in Kenya at this time. The team gathered articles, abstracts, and reports published by all the research units and organizations identified in our database, wherever available, over the last 10 years. These were then subjected to grounded thematic analysis and coding to draw out some of the key themes and issues that seemed to be represented in the published literature from a given organization. A synthesis was thereafter conducted to compare, contrast, and group the diverse themes and issues, identifying the varied ways and extents to which certain themes were represented across different organizations. The following key findings can be drawn for this study:

Main Research Actors and Thematic Landscape

The organizational dimensions of Kenya's social science research landscape has expanded in terms of size, complexity, and diversity. It includes independent think tanks, international agencies, university departments, public research institutes, NGOs with research capacities, as well as special agencies embedded within the government. The thematic landscape of social science research is quite varied and complex. The analysis found considerable thematic convergence amongst different research agencies; as well as multiple themes being emphasized to varied extents within the research organizations.

Funding Sources and Policy Frameworks

The study found out that funding for social science research in Kenya is predominantly drawn from international sources. The government is also involved in research funding with more focus on science and technology. In the Budget Estimates 2014/15, the State Department for Science and Technology received a total of KSh 53.8 billion in recurrent spending, higher than allocations to the Ministries of Health or Agriculture. The NACOSTI received KSh 592 million, Research Endowment Fund got KSh 398, while the 32 public universities and university colleges received a total of nearly KSh47 billion for recurrent spending. Details of the actual government allocations to the hard sciences and social sciences is not readily provided in the available literature. The survey reveals a strong role of international agencies in research funding possibly due to the constraint of government to fully fund research. This has led to limited space and capacity of local research actors to develop local research priorities, agendas, and knowledge systems. Furthermore, complete and reliable information about sources and amounts of research funding is difficult to find both in the public and private research organizations in Kenya. Research is currently held by the Government of Kenya as a development priority. A coherent research policy landscape has clearly emerged following the recent formulation of various policy instruments; particularly the Research and Development Policy (2014). A range of institutions have been developed to support the development of research in the country, particularly the National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI). However, the funding and policy environment is more focused on natural and applied sciences than the social sciences as is seen in government research policy documents and funding.

Shape of Social Science Research in Kenya

The Kenyan social science research scene was largely dominated by civil society organizations and think tanks especially in production of research publications. There were just a handful of government agencies and university departments producing research in these areas. It however should be noted that some few government agencies such as Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) and university departments such as the Institute for Development Studies (IDS) of University of Nairobi had produced quite some significant volumes of research outputs in these fields. There is however limited interaction or synergy between social science research organizations as evidenced by duplication and lack of partnerships between the organizations possibly leading to fragmentation of capacities and stretching of resources. Quite a number of organizations emphasized on similar themes, carried out similar research at times parallel to each other but without any platform to share, coordinate and streamline these endeavors at the national level. The lack of national

research platform is clearly evident from the absence of active research networks and national knowledge management systems within the Kenyan social science research landscape.

1. Introduction

As indicated above, this report is an outcome of a mapping research of the social science landscape in Kenya undertaken by the African Network for Internationalization of Education (ANIE) on behalf of the Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom. The aim of the study was to enable DFID to gain a deeper understanding of Kenya's existing knowledge production and utilization capacities and gaps in the social sciences, particularly with respect to the priority thematic areas of economic growth, climate change, governance and security, and urbanization. This study focused on two main undertakings. The first task was to carry out a mapping and analysis of the social science research landscape in Kenya in order to identify the key research actors, policy framework, as well as thematic and methodological approaches. The second activity was concerned with developing a comprehensive and searchable database containing key details of research organizations involved in social science research in Kenya.

2. Research Design and Methodology

The design and methodology of this study was formulated to respond to Terms of Reference given by the DFID (DFID 2013). The aim of the study was to undertake a mapping and analysis of the social science research landscape in Kenya with particular emphasis on the four thematic areas: economic growth, governance and security, climate change, and urbanization. The choice of specific data collection methods and techniques was also strongly shaped by the nature of the research questions and the overall objectives. This study adopted a multi-method approach to data collection whereby a combination of methods were deployed in an integrated manner to gather the required evidence. We used a combination of a survey questionnaire and the analysis and review of policy documents and published research drawn from government and institutional sources. . The next section provides some details on how each of the approaches was undertaken.

2.1 Desk-based Search, Review, and Database Development

The desk-based search and review was used at the start of the study. It involved an extensive desk-based and online search and review of various materials and websites to identify social science research organisations active within the social science fields of interest to this study. The information was then verified with some key agencies (such as NACOSTI) as well as experts drawn from University of Nairobi, Moi University and Maseno University who had expertise related to the thematic areas to verify their completeness. The research team's extensive network across Kenya and recent relevant research experience was an additional advantage in this process. This process was also useful in the development of a comprehensive and representative database containing key details of the research organisations involved in the social sciences broadly as well as with particular emphasis on the four thematic areas: economic growth, climate change, governance and security, and urbanization. The search for organisations remained active as the list continued to expand. An early version of the database was shared with various key stakeholders; including DFID, NACOSTI, and research practitioners based in the relevant university departments and research organizations for comments and input.

Development of a comprehensive and searchable databases of research agencies was one of the key deliverables of this project under the Terms of Reference. To deliver this item, we

formulated a template containing fields of the database using Microsoft Excel. We also exchanged ideas and approaches with the CREST team in South Africa which was also carrying out a parallel study to ensure consistency and comparability across the two studies. The database has been developed using Microsoft Excel to make it simple, flexible and accessible to a wide range of users. We used primary data from the questionnaire survey to populate the fields of the database. The main fields in the database include the names and contacts of the organizations, their research themes and capacities, their main funders and users of their research outcomes.

2.2 *Reviewing Published Literature in the four Thematic Areas*

In parallel, the research team searched and reviewed published research and literature from all the social science research organizations in our database and with particular reference to the four thematic areas specified in the Terms of Reference. Research mapping was accomplished by conducting a mapping and review of existing published social science studies conducted by researchers and institutions based in Kenya. The search for literature first entailed the identification of research organizations active within the social sciences and with particular emphasis on each of the four focal thematic area. Thereafter, the team gathered published and grey literature produced by each of the research organizations. We limited our literature search and review to the last 10 years; although we still exercised flexibility in specific cases, such as accepting older publications where the organization has a particularly thin publication profile.

In practical terms, the examination and mapping of research then focused specifically on published material linked directly to the research organizations already identified in our list. Selected article titles, abstracts, and full content from each organization were subjected to careful thematic analysis and coding to draw out some of the key themes and issues of interest in the published literature. A synthesis was thereafter conducted in which we compared, contrasted, and merged diverse themes and issues from different organizations, identifying the varied ways and intensities with which certain themes were represented across different research organizations. We looked at key research actors, the predominant research themes, and methodological approaches. The resulting review and thematic configuration reported here is meant to be a representative, not necessarily exhaustive, account for the current state of social science research in Kenya and areas of research strengths and knowledge gaps that may require cooperation and capacity building.

2.3 *Questionnaire Survey*

In order to gather key details about the research agencies and their research activities and profiles, we designed a survey questionnaire that was sent to the identified research organizations. It was first piloted across two universities and two non-university organizations to assess the adequacy of the instrument to the study objectives. The results of the pilot study were generally satisfactory and indicated that the survey instrument was precisely worded and captured valid data. This outcome suggested that there was no need to revise the questionnaire

The questionnaire was distributed to the identified respondents from 27th May 2014 to 30th June 2014. We used a two-pronged approach. First, we initially delivered the questionnaire online using the Survey Monkey tool. The online questionnaire was sent to a total of 128 research organizations through their registered emails that were held on our existing database. The database at that point consisted of 175 organizations. This sample (of 128 organizations) was less than the total number of research agencies in the final database (212 organizations). This was due to a number of reasons. First, the database kept increasing during the period after the survey had been sent out (at that point we had 175 agencies on database). Secondly, some research agencies,

particularly university departments and some less prominent independent research units did not have active or reliable email addresses, websites, physical addresses, or even telephone contacts so it was not possible to send out a questionnaire. Thirdly, some agencies chose to decline participation in the survey and hence could not be sent the questionnaire. Furthermore, we later found out that some agencies appearing on our database were irrelevant to our current focus; or had actually ceased to exist and therefore warranted removal. For example, we removed all university faculties or departments dealing with agriculture, natural sciences, engineering, and other disciplines that had no direct relevance to social sciences. For all these varied reasons, the actual number of research organisations on our database has been considerably reduced to 212 compared to the initial total of 275. The online survey failed to attract a strong response rate from the respondents, generating only 4 completed responses out of 128 organizations.

The second survey approach was the physical delivery of hardcopy questionnaires in order to increase response rates and leverage the time and resource constraints. The research team administered the paper-based questionnaires to a selected sample of 90 research agencies out of the total field of 212 research agencies on database. This subset of organizations was selected based on the criteria of representativeness and balance across the four thematic areas, types of organizations, organizational sizes, as well as the extent of research publications produced. The online survey had generated only 4 responses over a period of three weeks whereas the hard copy survey generated 60 completed responses (out of 90 questionnaires distributed), giving a total response rate of approximately 59 percent. The profile and analysis of the 62 responses is presented in section 4 of this report¹. Data from the questionnaire was used to populate the respective fields of the database of organizations. The data was also coded and entered into the SPSS software for more analysis. This generated findings that have been used to enrich the mapping of the social science research landscape.

2.4: Some Limitations and caveats

The design and sampling strategy for this study has a number of limitations. It was not possible to administer the survey questionnaire to all the 212 research agencies for reasons explained in the section above; but our sampling technique also explained above could have made our sample fairly representative. We gathered 62 validly completed questionnaires out of a total of 90 questionnaires distributed, suggesting a response rate of about 69%. While this response rate might not seem to be entirely discouraging, it becomes far smaller when compared against the actual total number of research agencies on our database (62 out of 212 or about 30% response rate). This low actual response rate means that we missed out a substantive amount of data and this could potentially create a negative impact on the robustness and validity of our findings. The potential biases include the possibility that organizations of certain types or sizes are either over-represented (particularly the larger ones) or under-represented (particularly the smaller and less visible ones) in the sample. This can also suggest that important research publications from these excluded organizations did not become part of the thematic analysis, leading to possible thematic biases as well. Although the questionnaire was well-constructed and had high validity based on the pilot studies, some of the questions attracted weaker or less reliable response rates. These included questions focusing on funding, numbers of various types of research outputs, and areas that required rankings.

¹ Two (2) out of the four (4) completed questionnaires from the online survey were excluded since one was from an irrelevant organisation while the other was invalidly completed. This results in 62 valid questionnaires.

3. Kenya's Social Science Research Landscape

This study had its focus on examining the context and character of social science research in Kenya. What is the shape, size, and direction of research and knowledge production in Kenya? Who are the main actors driving and shaping the trajectories of the country's research programs? Is there information regarding how research is funded in Kenya as well as the sources and amounts of such funding? What is the nature and drivers of the existing policy and regulatory environment within which social science research is embedded in Kenya? These are some of the key concerns of this section. Literature identified generally exploring the state of Kenya's social science research landscape is limited. A Report of an Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA) Workshop held in 2001 in Nairobi is one of the few published works discussing Kenya's social science. The report covered a wide range of critical issues, including the diminishing position and productivity of social science in Kenya's development and politics as well as the challenges facing Kenya's social science research (OSSREA, 2001). The next limited overview of Kenya's social science scene can be found in an evaluation report of OSSREA activities completed in 2008 (Francis, Bjorkman, and Manor, 2008). Since the focus of the report was on evaluating the successes of OSSREA across several African countries, the document had only a few pages on Kenya mainly emphasizing the absence of research funding for the social sciences and lack of cooperation between Kenya's social scientists and the Government of Kenya.

The International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP) has completed three studies of the Kenyan research landscape across a range of disciplines between 2011 and 2013 (INASP 2012a; INASP 2012b; INASP 2013). Their findings consistently show that Kenya's knowledge production landscape is deeply fragmented with the highest research productivity and funding being concentrated in agricultural, medical, and the natural sciences while social science research is persistently lagging far behind. SCOPUS data shows that between 2000 and 2010 the medical sciences, agriculture, and biological sciences commanded about 77% (8108 papers) of all publications produced in Kenya. The social sciences and economics contributed 13% (1356) while all other disciplines² combined together shared the remaining 11% (1116) of the total knowledge production (INASP, 2012). One of the most recent studies of Kenya's research landscape is the one completed in 2013 by the African Network for Internationalization of Education (ANIE) which mapped existing research and innovation actors, capacities, and policies in Kenya with an overall focus on all fields of research and a particular emphasis on science technology and innovation (Jowi and Obamba, 2013). The study identified the presence of a strong and increasingly coherent policy environment for the development of science and technology research; but little focus on the social sciences and humanities. The ANIE study further found increasing recognition of the role of knowledge and research in Kenya's economic growth and development. In the next section, we draw on our survey study and literature reviews to paint a portrait of Kenya's social science research; particularly in terms of its main actors and infrastructure, the policy and institutional arrangements, patterns and dimensions of knowledge production, as well as how the research establishment is funded.

² The category 'other disciplines' consists of nearly 20 quite diverse disciplinary and sub-disciplinary areas featured in SCOPUS. We felt that it does not make much point trying to reproduce them here.

3.1: Kenya's Research System: Scope and Actors

A recent study conducted by ANIE in 2013 found that Kenya's national research and innovation system encompassed six main categories of key actors: (i) two government ministries (Ministry of Higher education Science and Technology and the Ministry of Information and Communication) (ii) six research-oriented government Directorates; (iii) ten publicly-funded research institutes; (iv) Seven public universities and 26 private universities, and (v) seven locally-based international research organizations. This configuration reflects a relatively well-diversified research system by regional standards. The current national survey and mapping study completed by ANIE, which is more detailed than the previous one, has revealed a larger and more complex research landscape, particularly within the social sciences. We built an inventory of at least 212 social science research organizations of various types and sizes; including research institutes, independent think tanks, government research directorates, non-governmental nonprofit organizations, private consultancy firms, university departments and faculties, and international research organizations.

3.1.1 Government Research Directorates

The six key research-oriented directorates embedded within the Government include Directorate of Resource Surveys and Remote Sensing (DRSRS), Directorate of E-government (E-GOVT), Government Information and Technology Services (GITS), Integrated Population Registration System (IPRS), and Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS). These research-oriented directorates within the government provide vital research capacities and synergies to support specific domains of Kenya government's own independent research requirements and development agenda. The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics regularly publishes a vast range of macroeconomic and public policy analytical pieces focusing on the Kenyan economy, including the flagship Kenya Economic Survey and the Statistical Abstract series. In collaboration with the National Treasury, the KNBS also compiles and maintains one of the most comprehensive databases on economic statistics for Kenya. The Directorate of E-government and the GITS have the mandate of developing and powering the government's IT infrastructure, capacities, and services; including the delivery of key public services and data cross the government's new virtual electronic platform. Altogether, these government-embedded research directorates are attached to specific line ministries and generally represent a growing tendency and capacity for knowledge production and consumption within the Kenya government.

3.1.2 Public research Institutes

The publicly-funded research institutes are of three main types. These research agencies also have a profile in seeking competitive funding from local and international funding agencies, although accurate and complete details of the actual sources and amounts of funding are difficult to find. The first category constitutes medical-biological sciences research. Leading in the medical research landscape is the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) which has international recognition for its advanced research across a wide range of medical fields. The National Museums of Kenya (NMK) produces research in the areas of botany, zoology, biodiversity, and earth sciences research. Between 2000 and 2010, scientists affiliated to the NMK produced an extensive body of 524 scientific papers (INASP, 2012, p.17). The second category encompasses research focusing on agriculture and natural resource management. This segment consists of the largest number of specialist research institutes focusing on particular crops and natural resources, which perhaps reflects the importance of agricultural commodities and natural resources to the Kenyan economy. These include Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) and a coterie of relatively smaller agencies such as Coffee Research Foundation (CRF), Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI); Kenya Sugar Research Foundation

(KESREF), Tea Research Foundation of Kenya (TRFK); and the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI).

The third set of institutes is concerned with research in the social, economic and industrial sciences. This domain is covered by the flagship Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI), National Crime Research Centre (NCRC), and the National Economic and Social Council (NESC).

3.1.3: International Research Agencies

The country's research system is further diversified by the presence of a range of prominent international research organizations and intergovernmental organizations with research mandate. In the natural and applied sciences, the key agencies include International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), International Potato Centre, International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), World Agro-Forestry Centre (ICRAF), and Centre for Disease Control (CDC). In the domain of social and economic sciences, the key transnational agencies are mostly regional in scope; including African Economic Research Consortium, African Centre for Economic Growth (ACEG), and the Organization for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA). International agencies with research mandate include the World Bank, UN Environment Program (UNEP), UN Development Program (UNDP), and International Development and Research Centre (IDRC). This configuration demonstrates that Kenya has an increasingly diverse research landscape that is embedded within an increasingly coherent policy framework (see also Jowi and Obamba, 2013).

3.1.4: Higher Education Institutions

Public and private universities are a prominent feature in the Kenyan research landscape. Our survey identified a total of 32 public universities and university colleges in addition to some 26 private universities. The database contains a total of 129 social science research departments and faculties drawn from both the private and public universities; making the largest proportion (59%) of all the various organization types in our database. Although universities dominate the landscape in terms of their numbers, a review of the SCOPUS database reveals that knowledge production in Kenya is dominated by the large public research institutes, non-profit research organizations, and locally-based international research organizations.

According to the SCOPUS database records from 2000 to 2010, all the Kenyan universities were associated with an estimated total of 3781 papers compared to an estimated 5052 papers produced by the public and locally-based international research institutes (see table 2 in section 3.5). Another feature is the asymmetry in knowledge production. A large proportion of university research is concentrated in just a few major universities; particularly the University of Nairobi that commands nearly two-thirds (2133) of all publications on SCOPUS attributed to Kenyan universities (3781). The rest of the Kenyan universities, particularly the newer institutions and most of the private universities produce little research if any; and much of this limited research is also largely invisible.

3.2 The National Research Policy Environment

The Government of Kenya has a relatively long tradition of producing policy documents on research. One of the earliest policy documents touching on research include the *Sessional Paper No 5 of 1982 on Science and Technology for Development* (Kenya 1982) which generally recognized the need to promote research to address national economic challenges. The next one was the *Sessional Paper No 1 (2005) on the Policy Framework for Education Training and Research* (Kenya 2005)

which underscored the importance of scientific research for stimulating economic growth, creating wealth, and improving people's well-being. More recently, an overarching *Universities Act No. 42* (2012) put more emphasis on the role of the universities in research. Recent policy blueprints of the Kenyan government increasingly emphasize the importance of scientific research as an instrument for stimulating economic growth, poverty reduction, and sustainable development (Kenya 2007; Kenya, 2014).

The *Kenya Vision 2030* (Kenya, 2007) sets out in detail Kenya's agenda for promoting research capacity in science, technology and innovation and its role in economic development and poverty reduction. The Ministry of Higher Education Science and Technology (MoHEST) also captured the growing importance of scientific research in the national policy agenda and formulated a new *Strategic Plan 2008-2012* to reassert the government's commitment to promoting science and innovation research in Kenya (Kenya 2008). In 2009, the government undertook a further step toward embedding STI into the country's development and education policy by formulating the *National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy and Strategy* (Kenya, 2009). Apart from introducing and defining the idea of a *National Innovation System*, the Strategy further outlines a range of policy guidelines aimed at strengthening the capacity for the creation, diffusion, and application of research and STI to promote sustained economic growth and poverty reduction in Kenya in accordance with Vision 2030 (Kenya 2010, p. ii). Significantly, the STI Policy also recommended that the government should increase its investment in research and development to at least 2% of the GDP, up from the current 0.48% of the GDP. Although both documents (Vision 2030 and STI Policy Paper) make reference to multidisciplinary and collaborative research in both the basic and applied sciences, the predominant focus for policy and funding is clearly on science and technology research; and not the social sciences or humanities. For instance, all the 40 research projects funded by the NACOSTI since 2008 are concentrated in the natural and physical sciences (NACOSTI, 2012).

The *STI Bill* (2010) was enacted by Parliament in 2013 to become the *Science Technology and Innovation Act* (2013) which, among other major provisions, established the National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) to replace the older National Council for Science and Technology. In February 2014, the Government for the first time published the *National Research and Development Policy* (Kenya, 2014) which articulates an overarching approach and framework for promoting the development and utilization of research and innovation capacities. This brief overview suggests the emergence of a more coherent and broad-based policy framework for research in Kenya over the recent years.

3.3 Recent Institutionalization of Research

In parallel to the evolving policy framework, new institutional structures have emerged to support the realization of Kenya's national research and development agenda. The establishment of the *National Economic and Social Council* (NESC) within the Office of the President can be seen as part of this institutional embedding. The aim of NESC is to provide an integrated think-tank with the mandate and resources to strengthen the development, coordination, mainstreaming, and implementation of government policy and programs on Science Technology and Innovation for enhanced economic growth and achieving the Millennium Development Goals (NESC, 2008). Another similar recent institutional development is the *National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation* (NACOSTI); created through the *Science Technology and Innovation Act* (2013). NACOSTI is responsible for mobilizing and allocating public funds for research by Kenyan universities and research organizations on a competitive basis with more focus on the applied and natural sciences, medicine, agro biotechnology, and engineering as described in the *NACOSTI Strategic Plan 2008-2013* (NACOSTI 2008). One of the indicators of Kenya

Government's commitment to the mainstreaming of STI in its development management is clearly demonstrated in the establishment of the *Research Innovation and Technology* (RIT) sector during the 2008/09 Financial Year (Kenya, 2010b). The Government's *Research Innovation & Technology Sector* consists of Ministry of Education which embraces all seven public universities; Ministry of Information and Communications (MOIC); five public research-based directorates; and 10 publicly-funded research institutes. This move implies that RIT is now recognized as an economic sector institutionally embedded within the wider public economic sector and supported with public funding as well as a coherent policy framework. During FY 2011/12, the Sector was allocated approximately KSh44.2 billion for recurrent and development expenditures (Kenya 2010). Some recent public reports, particularly the *Wandiga Report on the Aims of University Education in Kenya* have raised serious concerns regarding the absence of synergies and linkages between universities, industry, and the public sector in Kenya (Kenya 2007). In the next section we explore the characteristics of Kenya's national research system in terms of its scope, actors, and capacities.

3.4 Shape and Size of Kenya's Knowledge Production

Kenya has a relatively strong knowledge production infrastructure by regional standards and has one of the most competitive research systems in Africa (Tijssen 2007). However, Africa accounts for just 1.5% of the global scientific publications (Bloom, Canning and Chan, 2005). Between 1999 and 2008 Africa published 27600 papers on international journals whereas Netherlands alone produced 27000 papers during the same period (Adams, King, and Hook 2010, p.5). The OECD *Frascati Manual* identifies human resource capacity as one of the core international indicators for national research and innovation competitiveness (OECD 2005). Adopting this approach, (NEPAD, 2010) reported that Kenya had a total of 6799 research personnel of which 3794 were classified as researchers. Notably, more than 2200 (33%) of the total number of research personnel in Kenya were holders of PhD or university degrees while approximately 70% (4680) had tertiary level training. Africa as a whole has relatively low levels of research human power compared to other regions in the world. African countries have an average of 35 research scientists per 1 million inhabitants, whereas Brazil has got 168, Europe 2457, and USA has 4103 (African Development Bank 2008, p.3; UNESCO, 2007).

The capacity of a national research system can also be examined based on knowledge production in the form of refereed research publications (Tijssen 2007). The recent African Innovation Outlook (NEPAD, 2010) reviewed knowledge production capacities in 19 African countries based on the number of research publications from all disciplines featured on the SCOPUS database between 1990 and 2009. The 19 countries produced a total of 234 861 papers on SCOPUS during the 10-year period. Based on relative share of scientific publications, Kenya contributed 5% of the total output of publications (12 874 papers); being placed in the fourth position after South Africa (37%), Egypt (27%), Nigeria (12%), and Algeria (5%). The study further shows that between 1990 and 2009, Kenya's overall science landscape was dominated by knowledge production in agriculture (26.5%), medicine (22.8%), immunology and microbiology (10.9%) and Biochemistry and molecular biology (10.0%). The social sciences are in fifth place with a relatively weaker contribution of 7.7% (NEPAD, 2010).

A more recent survey has examined Kenya's knowledge production profile using an updated SCOPUS database (INASP, 2012). According to this latest study, between 2000 and 2010 Kenya-based researchers produced 10508 published papers featured on SCOPUS database. The SCOPUS database contains an index of academic papers drawn from 16000 scientific journals worldwide; but excludes other types of documents such as government reports (NEPAD, 2010, p.88). Table 1 below provides the distribution of publications by disciplinary domains for each

year between 2000 and 2010. Significantly, the publication data indicates that Kenya experienced consistent annual growth rates in research productivity throughout the entire decade-long period. The data further illustrates the asymmetries and fragmentation of Kenya's knowledge production. It shows that the medical sciences, agriculture, and biological sciences combined still command about 77% (8108) of all publications produced in Kenya. The social sciences and economics contributed 13% (1356) while all other disciplines combined together shared the remaining 11% (1116) of the total knowledge production (INASP, 2012).

Table 1: Number of publications by Kenyan researchers by discipline (2000-2010)

Disciplines	Year and Number of Publications											
	200	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	Total
Medical sciences	191	190	197	292	334	319	377	440	561	648	707	4256
Agric.& Biol.	211	267	282	295	260	315	399	406	422	473	522	3852
Soc. sci./ econ.	63	75	85	73	86	120	102	144	151	204	253	1356
Other disciplines	108	78	120	149	124	110	111	163	72	19	10	1116
Total Publication	573	610	684	809	804	864	989	1153	1206	1344	1472	10580

Source: compiled by authors using data from the SCOPUS Database

Another important characteristic of the Kenyan science landscape is the domination of knowledge production by the large public-funded research institutes and locally-based international research organizations. According to the SCOPUS database records from 2000 to 2010, all Kenyan universities produced an estimated total of 3781 papers compared to an estimated 5052 papers produced by the public and locally-based international research institutes-which are considerably fewer in number compared to number of universities. Among universities, research productivity is dominated by the University of Nairobi. This asymmetric science landscape is well captured in the table 2 below.

Table 2: Some of the top Producers of Research Publications in Kenya (2000 – 2010)

Universities	No. of Papers	Research Institutes	No. of Papers	International agencies	No of papers
Nairobi university	2133	Tea Research	32	ICIPE	703
Kenyatta University	607	Coffee Research	11	ILRI	685
Moi University	562	Sugar Research	4	ICRAF	375
JKUAT	479	Forestry Research	64	ICRISAT	53
Maseno University	00*	Marine Research	116	Potato Centre	49
Masinde M. University	00*	KEMRI	1247		
Egerton University	00*	KEMRI-Wellcome	401		
26 Private Universities	00*	KARI	394		
		National Museum	524		
TOTAL	3781	TOTAL	3187		1865

Source: compiled by the authors using data from the SCOPUS database

3.5 Funding Kenya's Research System

Complete and reliable information about sources and amounts of research funding is difficult to find in the research literature in Kenya. The *Gross Expenditure on Research and Development* (GERD) is one of the key indicators of how much money a country dedicates to research and development as a percentage of its GDP. The African Union adopted a resolution that commits

each African country to spend at least 1 per cent of its GDP on Research and Development (African Union, 2006). The 2010 *African Innovation Outlook* (NEPAD, 2010), the most recent survey of research and development expenditure in Africa, shows that Kenya's gross expenditure on research and innovation exceeded KSh 7.6 billion during 2007/2008. If converted into comparable Purchasing Power Parity (PPP), the expenditure levels translate into a gross expenditure of PPP\$ 277.8 million on research and development (approx.US\$90 Million); this is equivalent to approximately 0.48% of Kenya's GDP. To put this into perspective, this Gross Expenditure on R&D (GERD) is just under half of the overall African target of 1 per cent of the GDP (see table 3 below for some cross-country comparisons).

Table 3: Gross Expenditure on R&D (GERD) for selected African Countries 2007/08

Country	Year	GERD (Millions) \$PPP	GERD as % GDP
Ghana	2008	120	0.38
Kenya	2007	277.8	0.48
Uganda	2007	359.8	1.10
Zambia	2008	55.3	0.37
S. Africa	2007	4976.6	1.05

Source: Compiled from Africa Innovation Outlook (2010)

The *Medium Term Expenditure Framework Report (MTEF)* (Kenya 2010) provides a useful and more general breakdown of the actual expenditure on research. It reports government spending on the various budget items, but does not include private sector expenditures on research and innovation. Table 4 below shows that total recurrent expenditure by the RIT sector increased from nearly KSh. 22.5 billion (US\$ 265M) in 2007/08 to approximately KSh 38 billion (US\$ 447M) in 2009/2010; representing a growth of 69% in sector expenditure³. In the Budget Estimates for 2014/2015, the new State Department for Science and Technology has been allocated KSh 53.8 billion (US\$633M) for gross recurrent expenditure. This represents a significant increment compared to the KSh 23 billion it received in 2011/12. Within this recurrent budget, NACOSTI received a gross allocation of over KSh 592 million (US\$ 7M), the Research Endowment Fund got KSh398 million (US\$ 4.7M), whereas all the 32 public universities and university colleges received a total of KSh47 billion (US\$553M) (National Treasury, 2014).The allocation to the Research Endowment Fund is clearly a significant development and signals the government's apparent commitment to research. The Fund was created by government to provide funding for research.

³ These estimates refer only to government expenditure and covers all categories of budget items including salaries, supplies, etc. that have nothing to do with R&D; whereas the Africa Outlook Report (NEPAD 2010) focuses on expenditure on R&D specifically and covers spending by the government as well as the business sector. In short the two estimates are not directly related or comparable.

Sectors	2007/2008		2008/2009		2009/10	
	Recurrent	Devmt	Recurrent	Devmt	Rec	Devmt
MOHEST	15,716	985	19,084	3,234	23,245	3,432
MOIC	750	1,607	1,124.3	1,426.2	1,424.	1,343.8
Directorates	1,532.8	927.9	2085.5	2495.6	7959	2446.1
Research Inst.	4,475.4	1,927.4	5246.3	2240.2	6778.2	1472.8
Total	22,474.2	5447.3	27,540.1	9396	37,890	6987.1

Table 4: Funding for Kenya's Research Technology and Innovation Sector (2007-2010)

Source: compiled from RTI Sector MTEF 2008/09- 2011/12 (Kenya, 2010)

This section has provided a broad overview of Kenya's social research landscape from various dimensions. In the next section, our attention now turns to the findings drawn from our survey.

4. Summary of Survey Findings

4.1 Overview

This section presents a summary of the survey outcomes. We collected a total of 62 validly completed questionnaires which represents 30% of the total number of organizations in our final database (n=212). Table 5 below depicts the distribution of the 62 research organizations by type. Clearly, university-based research units were the majority (n=30, 48%), followed closely by NGOs and non-profit organizations (n=20, 32%). It is important to note, however, that apart from the higher education units which can be distinctly classified, most other organizations could be attributed to more than one type of organization at the same time and therefore these results should be treated with this in mind.

Table 5: Number and Type of Research Organizations (n= 62)

Type of organization	Freq.	Percent
Government	5	8.1
NGO or non-profit	20	32.3
Higher Education (public)	26	41.9
Higher Education (private)	4	6.4
Think Tank	3	4.8
Research institute	4	6.5
Total	62	100.0

Interestingly, but not necessarily surprisingly, nearly three-quarters (71%, n=149) of all the research agencies in our database are based at the capital Nairobi. Others are concentrated in the major towns of Kisumu (n=29, 13.7%), Eldoret (n=18, 8.5%), and Mombasa (n=15, 7%). This pattern indicates an asymmetric and centralized distribution of research activities and infrastructure across Kenya. Very few research agencies had bases in other smaller towns and these were mostly the universities with established campuses in these regions. Table 6 below depicts the geographic distribution of research organizations in Kenya.

Table 6: The towns where research organizations are located in Kenya (Total = 212. ** Percentages add up to more than 100% since some organizations are located in more than one place)

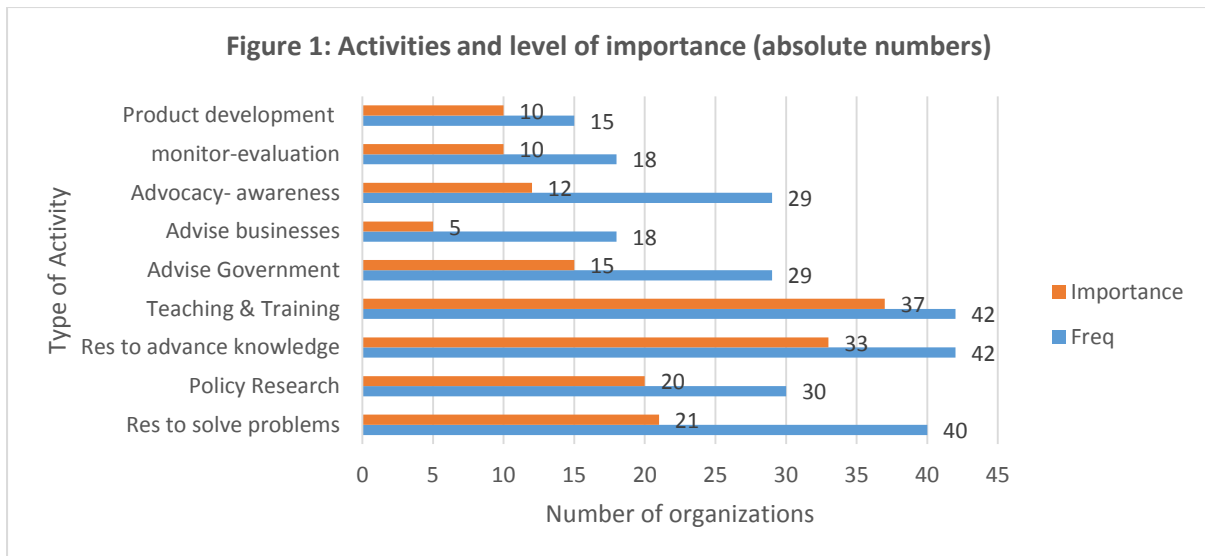
Town/City	No. of orgs	% total (212)	Town/city	No. of orgs	% total (212)
Nairobi	149	71	Mombasa	15	7.0
Eldoret	18	8.5	Bondo	7	3.3
Athi River	9	4.0	Maseno	5	2.3
Kisumu	29	13.7	Homabay	4	1.9
Kisii	6	2.8	Siaya	4	1.9
Nakuru	5	2.3	Nyahururu	4	1.9
42small towns	65	30.7	Overseas	13	6.0

4.2: Key Findings and Interpretations

This section briefly presents the key findings and interpretations from the survey.

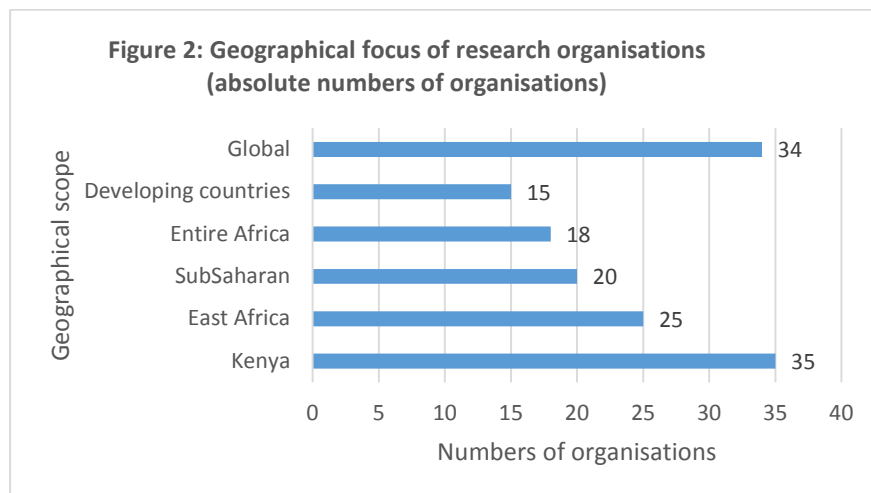
4.2.1 Activities and Level of Importance

We sought to understand the organization's main activities, as well as the level of importance attached to these activities. We combined the tallies for those who ticked 'relatively important' and 'most important' to get a sense of how 'important' an activity was. The percentages will add up to more than 100% since an organization could select more than one option at a time. The results are presented in Figure 1 which shows that research to advance knowledge as well as teaching and training emerged as the two most predominant activities for the organizations (n=42, 68%). Research to solve problems (n=40, 64.5%) came in second whereas policy research (30, 48%) and advising the government (29, 47%) are in the third and fourth positions respectively. The activity that attracted the least number of organizations is that of product development; which is not surprising given the focus on social sciences. In terms of importance, the table shows that "research to advance knowledge" and "teaching and training" were rated as the overall most important activities (n=37, 59.7%); followed by "research to solve problems" (n=21, 33.8%) and "policy research" (n=20, 32.3%). Advising businesses (n=5, 8.1%) activity has the least significance of all the activities measured in terms of organizations rating it as either most important or relatively important.



4.2.2 Geographical Scope and Research Issues

Figure 2 below shows that most of the research organizations focused on either Kenyan issues (n=35, 57%) or global issues (n=34, 55%). (NB: percentages add up to more than 100% since organizations could select more than one option in response to this question). Not many organizations had a focus on the entire African continent (n=18, 29%) while even fewer were concerned with issues of developing countries in general (n=15, 24%). It would be interesting to find out why nearly twice as many organizations are focused on global issues than on issues affecting the African continent.



We sought to understand the range of issues or problems that the organizations dealt with in the research activities. A total of 37 issues were identified. The results show that the top seven research and policy issues include environment (n=34), climate adaptation (n=30), sustainable development (n=29), education (n=29), agriculture (n=28), poverty reduction (n=25), and health (n=24). The top five issues with least attention are sociology (n=0), stabilization (n=0), state-building (n=5), geography (n=6) and international trade (n=6). A more detailed analysis of the distribution of all the 37 research and policy issues is provided in figure 6 (appendix iv).

4.2.3 Research Capacity

A total of 59 agencies provided data on the number of researchers they had. Table 7 below presents the survey results for this question.

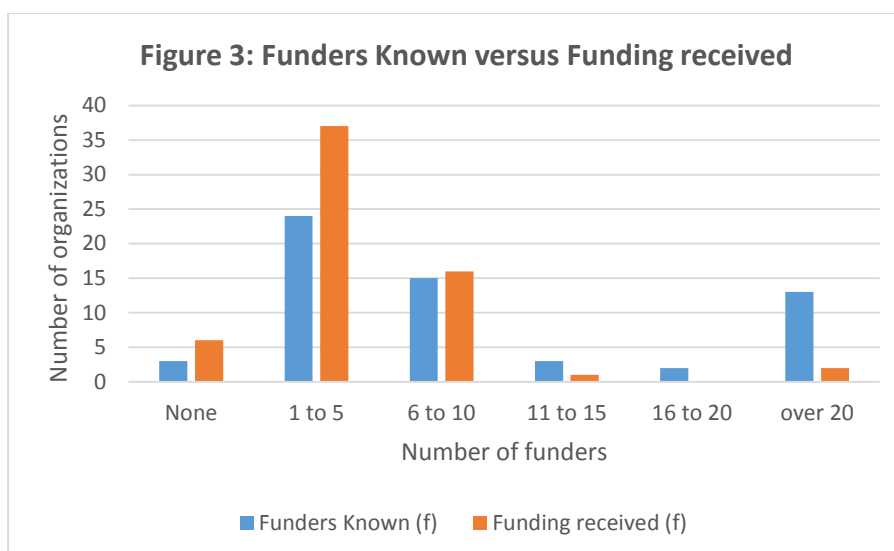
Table 7: Number of Researchers in Research Organizations (n=59)

No. of researchers	Government		NGOs		HE agencies		Think Tank		Res Institute		Total
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	
1-5	2	3.4	11	18.6	4	6.8	1	1.7	2	3.4	20
6-10	1	1.7	3	5.1	3	5.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	7
11-15	1	1.7	3	5.1	5	8.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	9
16-20	0	0.0	1	1.7	4	6.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	5
21-25	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.7	1
Over 30	1	1.7	2	3.4	12	20.3	1	1.7	1	1.7	17
Total	5		20		28		2		4		59

The table shows that the majority of the organizations had between 1-5 researchers (n=20, 32%) followed by the category with more than 30 researchers (n=17, 27%) whereas very few were located in-between. This pattern suggests a skewed distribution, with the highest numbers being concentrated at the start and at the end of the scale. Disaggregating the data further by organization type shows that most of the organizations with 1-5 researchers were NGOs and non-profit research organizations (n=11, 18.6% of 59) whereas the higher education organizations dominated the category with more than 30 researchers (n=12, 20.3%). Overall, about 80% of NGO agencies had between 1 to 15 research staff while university-based units were evenly distributed across all categories. Others had no clear pattern. A summary of this is presented in Table 5 below.

4.2.4 Knowledge of Funders and Receiving Funding

The largest number of organizations know 1-5 funders (n=24, 39%), followed by the organizations which know about 6-10 funding bodies (n=15, 24%). The third place is taken by organizations which know more than 20 funders (n=13, 21%). Intriguingly, some 3 higher education organizations do not know of any research funding body at all. This is presented in Figure 3 below. The disaggregated data suggests that most of NGO organizations know between 1 and 10 research funders (n= 15, 25%) while 29% of higher education organizations were in the same category (n=17). Higher education organizations are also the majority within the category that knows more than 20 funders (n=8, 13.3%), with two research institutes and two NGOs also recording knowing more than 20 funders. Figure 3 below compares the number of funding bodies known by the organizations and the number of funding bodies they have actually received funding from. In the two categories of 1-5 funders and 6-10 funders, the number of organizations who have actually received funding is higher than the number that reported knowing the respective number of funders. The reverse applies in the over 20 category, where the organizations who have received funding are far much smaller than the number that reported knowing over 20 funders; suggesting that the knowledge of many funding agencies does not necessarily translate into more sources of actual funding.



4.2.5 Sources of Funding

Table 8 below shows the sources of funding for the 62 research organizations. The leading source of research funding are international agencies (n=39, 63%). The government of Kenya (n=26, 42%) and research councils (n=23, 38%) are in the second tier of key funding sources. Business corporations and professional bodies are the least likely sources of research funding, while self-raised funding is also rare (n=9, 15%). (Note that percentages can add up to more than 100% since respondents could select more than one option for this question). Foreign governments provide funding to approximately one-third of the organizations (n=19, 31%) while international agencies finance more than two-thirds of all the research organizations (n=39, 63%), giving a total of 58 out of the 62 organizations. This suggests that international sources are the single most significant stream of research funding for most organizations in Kenya, judging by the numbers rather than the actual quantities of such international funding (data on actual funding amounts is scanty)

Table 8: Sources of Funding reported by Research Organizations

Funding Source	Number of organisations	Percent of total
Government	26	42
Research councils	23	38
Professional bodies	4	7
Self-raised funds	9	15
Business corporates	5	8
Foreign Government	19	31
International agency	39	63
Foundations	16	26
NGOs and non-Profits	14	23

To explore the funding landscape further, we cross-tabulated the sources of funding by the organization type to find out where different types of organizations obtained their funds from. NGOs/non-profit research agencies received their funding from three main sources: international agencies (n=16, 80%), NGOs and non-profits (n=7, 35%), and charitable foundations (n=5, 25%). Only about two of them (n=2) have obtained funding from the

national government. Higher education institutions demonstrate a good and quite broad funding capture from all sources. These include national government (n=14, 48%), research councils (n=18, 62%), international agencies (n=15, 52%), and foreign governments (n=12, 41%). Compared to other counterparts they also self-raised funding to a greater extent (n=7, 24%) but they do poorly in obtaining funds from professional bodies (n=4, 14%) and business firms (n=4, 14%). The numbers of think tanks and research institutes were far too small after disaggregation, leading to reduced confidence in making any generalizable findings.

4.2.6: Actual Funding Received

Table 9 below shows that more than one-third of the respondents had received funding worth more than 20 million over the last two years (n=20, 36%). This suggests a good funding capture for the majority of the organizations. The distribution across the rest of the categories appears to be uniform, with about 15% of the organizations (n=8) earning between 500001 – 1 million being the second highest. Cross-tabulation suggests that there is no consistent connection between the number of funders an organization knows and the amount of research funding it actually received over the last two years. We observed some general consistency within the category of organizations which knew 1-5 funders. About 28% of them have obtained between 0 and KSh 10 million and nearly 10% of them obtained more than Ksh 20 million. Organizations that knew over 30 funders had nearly 20% of them attracting between Sh 2.1 million and over Ksh 20 million. Those who know 6-10 funders and those who knew over 30 funders did not feature in the KSh 0-500000 funding category. This pattern suggests at least that organizations which knew more funders tended to attract higher research funding compared to those who knew none or fewer.

Table 9: Total Amounts of Funding received by Organizations in the last two years (KSh)

Total Funding (KSh.)	Frequency	Percent (n=55)
0 - 500000	3	5.5
500001 – 1000000	8	14.5
1000001 - 2000000	4	7.3
2000001 - 5000000	5	9.1
5000001 - 10000000	7	12.7
10000001 - 15000000	6	10.9
15000001 - 20000000	2	3.6
More than 20000000	20	36.4
Total	55	100

The actual funding data were then disaggregated by organization type. The results are presented in Table 10 below (the numbers are small hence relative percentages are omitted). Table 9 shows that NGOs and higher education organizations are the dominant actors in the pursuit of research funding. In overall terms, the higher education organizations out-numbered the NGOs in terms of the amounts of research funding obtained across most income categories; however, the NGOs were slightly more represented (n=7) than the higher education institutions (n=5) in the category of those who had earned more than KSh 20 million. . In aggregate terms, however, the picture becomes quite different and suggests that the NGOs are doing much better than HE organizations in terms of levels of funding capture. For example, the table 9 shows that nearly 70% of NGOs earned over KSh 1 million compared to 63% of HE organizations. Similarly, about 35% of NGOs (n=7) garnered more than KSh 20 million in research funding while only

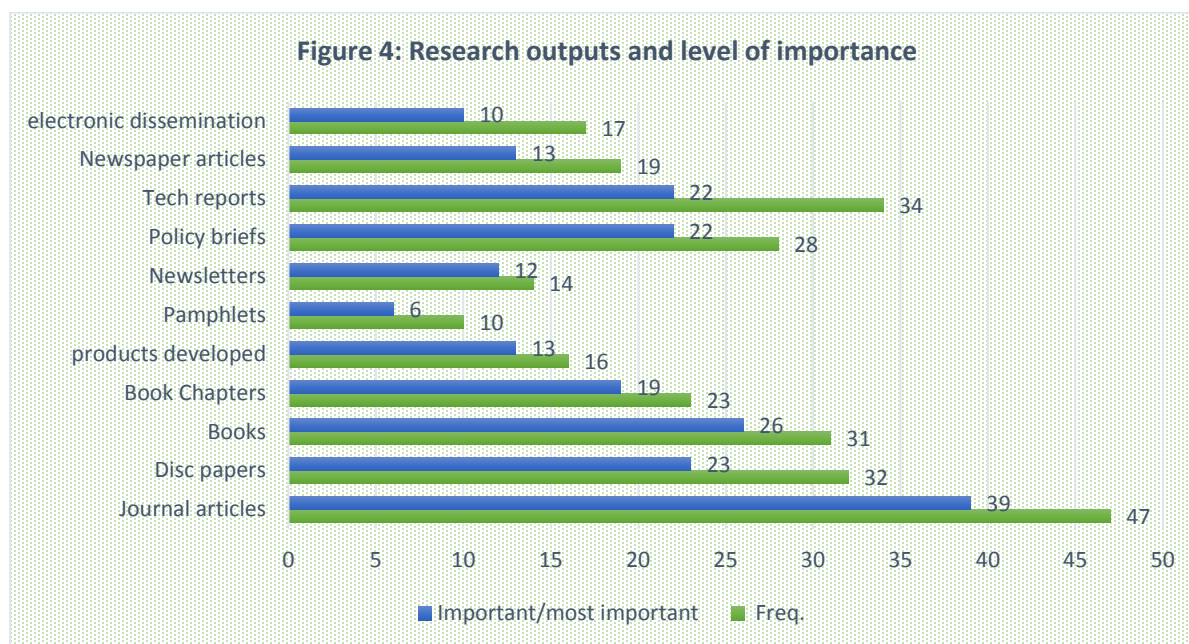
23% of universities (n=5) were in this category (Note that the numbers are small hence percentages should be treated with caution).

Table 10: Actual Funding Data disaggregated by Organization Type (frequencies)

Org. type	Total research funding received over last 2 years (Mil. KSh.)								
	0-500	500-1.0M	1.1M-2.0M	2.1M-5.0M	5.1M-10M	10.1M-15M	15.1-20M	OVER 20M	Total Freq.
Govt. agency	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	5
NGOs	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	7	18
Higher Educ.	2	5	2	3	4	5	0	5	26
Think Tank	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Research Insti.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Total	3	8	4	5	7	6	2	20	55

4.2.7 Research Outputs and Levels of Importance

Figure 4 below shows the type of outputs from the research organizations and the level of importance attached to each. The tallies for “moderately important” and “most important” have been combined to get a single tally for “importance”. Journal articles was the most widespread research output in most research organizations (n=47, 76%), followed distantly by technical reports (n=34, 55%), discussion papers (n=32, 52%), and books (n=31, 50%). The survey also gathered data on the level of importance attached to each type of research output. Column 3 in table 8 gives the tallies for all the output types while column 4 provides percentages for each. Again, journal articles emerged as the most important output with 39 organizations (63%) selecting it as either most important or moderately important. Books beat the competition to take up the second position (n=26, 42%) whereas discussions papers were placed third (n=23, 37%).



4.2.8 Size and Geographic Scope of Collaboration

Table 11 below shows that a total of 60 research organizations (96%) were involved in at least some kind of collaborative activity. More than half of the organizations (54.8%) reported 1-5

collaborations whereas about one-quarter (24%) were involved in 6-10 collaborations. Nearly 80% of all the research agencies (49 out of 60) had between 1 and 10 collaborations; and very few had more than 20 collaborations (n=5). It could be enlightening to conduct face-face interviews to find out more detail about the nature, scope, and dynamics of these collaborations in order to draw out more confident findings and conclusions regarding the actual state of collaboration within the research landscape.

Table 11: Number of Collaborations involving Social Research Organizations in Kenya

No. of collaborations	Frequency	% of total
1-5	34	54.8
6-10	15	24.2
11-15	5	8.1
16-20	1	1.6
Over 20	5	8.1
Total	60	96.4

The study further collected data on the scope of collaboration in terms of the location and type of the collaborating third-party organisation. The top two organisations that collaborate with Kenyan research organisations in our sample are mainly Kenya higher education institutions (n=43, 69%) and departments of the government of Kenya (n=36, 58%). Other key collaborators include international agencies (n=30, 48%), other Kenyan research organisations (n=30, 48%) and Kenya-based NGOs (n=29, 47%). From a UK perspective, it appears that there are more collaborations with UK higher education institutions (n=12) and NGOs (n=7) than with all other kinds of UK organisations. The research agencies have no links at all with think tanks in the UK and other non-UK foreign countries.

4.2.9: What Triggers Research Activity

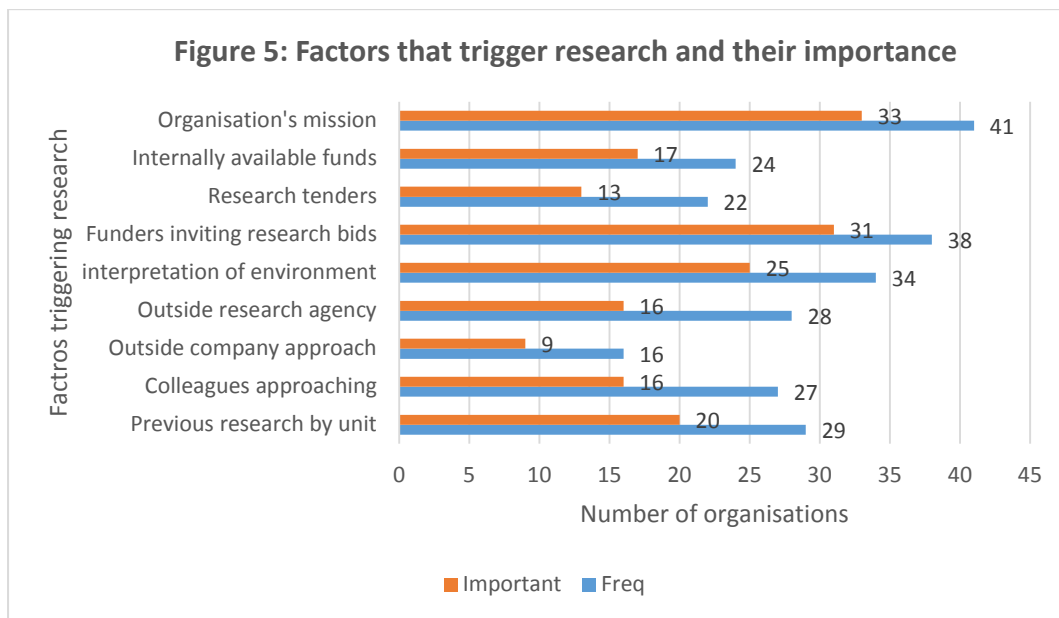
Table 12 below presents the results for the range of factors that trigger research activity.

Table 12: Factors Triggering Research activity

Research Trigger	Freq.	%total	Importance	%total
Previous research by unit	29	46.8	20	32.3
Colleagues approaching	27	43.5	16	25.9
Outside company approach	16	25.8	9	14.5
Outside research agency	28	45.2	16	25.8
interpretation of environment	34	54.8	25	40
Funders inviting research bids	38	61.3	31	50
Research tenders	22	35.5	13	20.9
Internally available funds	24		17	

	38.7	27.4
Organisation's mission	41 66.1	33 53.2

Table 11 above shows that the organization’s mission is the most likely trigger for research in most organizations (n=41, 66%). Funders inviting bids for funding was the second most likely trigger for research activity (n=38, 61.3%) followed by the organization’s own interpretation of the prevailing research environment (n=34, 54.8%). The least likely factor was that of an external company or firm influencing the onset of research activity (n=16, 25%). With regard to the level of importance attached to each of the trigger factors the same pattern is replicated. The organization’s mission was selected as important by the highest number of organizations (n=33, 53.2%) followed by funders inviting research funding bids (n=31, 50%) and the organization’s interpretation of the environment (n=25, 40%). In all instances, the number of organizations rating any trigger factor as important was lower than the number of organizations mentioning the factor as being a research trigger. This information is depicted in the graph below.



4.3: Conclusions

This section has reported findings from 62 research organizations in Kenya. The NGOs and higher education units were the majority, constituting nearly three-quarters of all the organizations. The majority of research organizations focused either on Kenyan or global issues, with surprisingly less focus on Africa-wide research problems. The top seven research and policy issues included environment, climate adaptation, sustainable development, education, agriculture, poverty reduction, and health, in that order. Results suggest that the strongest trigger of research activity is the “organization’s mission statement”, while calls for bids from research funders constitutes the next most likely trigger. In terms of capacity, most of NGO research organizations had 1 to 5 researchers whereas higher education units mostly had over 30. The overall leading source of research funding are international agencies; but higher education units have a broader funding base compared to non-governmental organizations. Knowledge of funding sources can be characterized as moderate, with about two-thirds of the research

organizations knowing less than 10 sources. But the results show that knowledge of funders does not necessarily translate into actual funding. With respect to research output, the journal article is the leading output across majority of organizations and is also judged to be of greatest importance. Collaborative activity is a priority for almost all the organizations (96%). Overall, nearly 80% of the organizations were engaged in up to 10 collaborations but a very small number had more than 20 collaborations. In the next section, we now turn to a review and thematic analysis of published social science research with particular focus on economic growth, governance and security, urbanization, and climate.

5. The Social Science Research Landscape in Kenya

In this section we review published research in order to identify and examine the key themes, actors, paradigms, and policy frameworks that characterize social science research in Kenya, with particular focus on economic growth, governance and security, urbanization and climate change. Evaluation studies conducted in Kenya are also analyzed before we draw some conclusions on Kenya's social science research landscape. The analysis will show that poverty and livelihoods, climate change, environment and natural resource management, and widening civic participation are emerging as core thematic issues that cut cross many of the focal areas of research.

5.1 Economic Growth Research in Kenya

Economic growth and wealth creation represents one of the key thematic areas identified in the Terms of Reference issued by DFID in respect of the Kenya Research mapping project. Given the broadness, importance, and complexity of this area of research, we subdivided it into a set of relatively smaller and more specific domains that are more suitable for empirical analysis. We based this characterization on our reading of the economic sector literature and the issues or key words that seemed to attract greater attention within the sector. Some of the issues identified included wealth creation, poverty studies, economic performance, monetary and fiscal policy, public expenditure, public investment, Millennium Development Goals, development planning, private sector development, labor market and employment, primary commodities, infrastructure, socioeconomic inequalities, macroeconomic policy, small and medium enterprises, infrastructure development, trade, science and technology development, productive sub-sectors (agriculture, industry, trade, tourism), microeconomics, and rural-urban economies. However, this is basically a representative and not an exhaustive corpus of all possible issues or concepts that are relevant to economic growth research.

5.2 Actors, Capacity and Infrastructure

Research capacity can be understood in terms of the infrastructure, financial resources, and human resources available for undertaking research activities. It also includes the capability to absorb, use, and translate the outputs of research projects. Our empirical survey shows that a broad range of research organizations are involved in research focusing on economic growth. Although many economic organizations increasingly encompass the new and broader areas of economic-oriented research such as agriculture, food security, primary commodities, and natural resources we excluded research units that focused primarily and entirely on these disciplinary domains- such as faculties of agriculture, environmental sciences, or natural resource management. We identified at least 36 organizations or research units of diverse kinds involved in economic and economic-oriented research as shown in the table 13 below.

Table 13: Number and types of economic research organizations in Kenya

Organization Type	Numbers
Think Tanks	3
Public research agencies	4
University departments	25
Private Consultancies	2
Research institutes	2
Total	36

Table 12 from the survey data suggests that university departments dominate this research sector at least in terms of the numbers of research organizations and might mislead some observers into thinking that the same strength is replicated in terms of research productivity. Our review and mapping of research outputs from various research organizations indicate that this is not the case. Apart from the economic research units located at the leading universities such as the University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University, Strathmore University, and USIU, a large proportion of these 25 university-based schools of economics and business studies are not associated with any substantive and nationally visible research productivity. Many are preoccupied with teaching rather than empirical research and in many cases even the little economic research that they may produce is hardly available on the websites and hence particularly difficult to access, describe, and evaluate. The reality is that the handful of non-university research actors clearly dominate Kenya's economic research landscape on the level of their research output, public influence, and national visibility., by far the most prominent and productive research agencies in this research domain include the Kenya Institute of Public Policy Analysis (KIPPRA), Institute for Development Studies (IDS), Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), African Centre for Economic Growth (ACEG), University of Nairobi's School of Economics, Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA), and The World Bank Kenya. Other less prominent actors include Samuel Hall Research, Inter-Region Economic Network (IREN), National Economic and Social Council (NESC), International Development Institute Africa (IDIA), and the Centre for Enterprise and Economic Development (CEED) at the United States International University.

5.3 *Thematic Landscape in Growth Research*

As noted above, we conducted a thematic analysis of both published and grey literature to identify some of the key research themes from each organization's publications. We then conducted thematic synthesis of literature in this field to understand the research landscape across the different organizations. The review indicates that economic growth research and publication in Kenya has grown substantially in recent years in terms of number of publications as well as research producers. This growth trend can be observed by analyzing the SCOPUS database that contains the most comprehensive index of research publications in all disciplines and across all the leading academic journals worldwide. Our analysis of Kenya's profile on SCOPUS shows interesting trends between 2000 and 2010. In 2000 the social sciences and economics produced just 63 papers that featured on SCOPUS. This doubled to 120 papers by the year 2005 before soaring exponentially to hit a decent 253 papers in 2010. Overall, social science and economic research had a total of 1356 papers during the entire period, representing 13% of the total national publication productivity on SCOPUS. Similarly, the research landscape currently embraces a broad spectrum of thematic and policy issues. In this section we look

briefly at some of the research themes we have distilled from the literature. The five main groupings of thematic areas include: *macroeconomic growth, policy analysis and modelling; microeconomics, poverty, and sustainable development; private sector and small and medium enterprises development; informal economy, livelihoods and food security; agriculture, natural resources and primary commodities*; as well as *trade and labor markets*.

5.3.1 Macroeconomic Growth, Policy Analysis, and Modelling

Kenya has a long tradition of research in macroeconomic analysis. In terms of organizational size and research publications, the leading actors in this category of research has been the Institute of Development Studies, KIPPRA, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and other think tanks; including African Economic Research Consortium, Institute of Economic Affairs, and the African Centre of Economic Growth. Nearly every research organization in this field has a well-developed research program and publication profile on macroeconomic analysis and public policy analysis. They have focused on macroeconomic analysis of Kenya's economic environment, including economic growth profiling and modelling, monetary exchange rates, prices and interest rates, economic liberalization, tax reform, revenue mobilization, public expenditure and investment analysis, as well as the complex linkages between poverty and economic growth. Examples of research organizations addressing these areas include University of Nairobi School of Economics (28 papers), KIPPRA (21 papers), Institute of Economic Affairs (6 papers), Institute for Development Studies (12 papers), Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (several annual issues of the Kenya Economic Survey and statistical abstracts), and African Economic Research Consortium (10 papers). Interestingly, some organizations such as the Institute for Economic Affairs, the University of Nairobi-School of Economics (21 papers), and the African Economic Research Consortium (5 papers) are demonstrating increasing research interests in gender analysis and gender mainstreaming, particularly in regard to the idea of engendering the national budget process or emphasizing a gendered approach to growth and poverty analysis. Thematic review of 25 publications produced by African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) further shows that ten of their published papers focused on macroeconomic reforms, suggesting the dominance of this research theme.

5.3.2 Microeconomics, Poverty, and Sustainable Development

Our review of economic research programs and publications across different organizations has identified some interesting shifts and transformations in the nature and organization of economic research programs in Kenya. The year 2000 or thereabout saw the emergence of a new genre of economic research that can be loosely characterized as the holistic paradigm in economic research and analysis. This basically refers to research that takes a broader and comprehensive approach to the study and analysis of economic issues. This kind of research focuses on empirical analysis and measurement of poverty profiles and asset inequalities across social groups and regions. It also puts emphasis on the importance of the interaction among a diverse range of environmental and sociocultural variables and their role in shaping the outcomes of economic growth for different social groups. Much of the heightened research interest in poverty and inequality studies can be attributed to the wider shift in the World Bank's development policy focus. During the mid-1990s, the World Bank abandoned the Structural Adjustment Programs and introduced the Poverty Reduction Strategies Papers as the new tools for managing the Bank's development assistance programs in the developing regions. The emergence of poverty research also coincided with the UN Declaration of the Millennium Development Goals in 2000 in which poverty reduction formed the core thrust of the entire package of Millennium Development Goals.

As part of this unfolding shift, a new research paradigm has emerged that departs from exclusively quantitative and macroeconomic analyses towards a greater focus on broader issues related to basic socioeconomic well-being and sustainable development. Another significant dimension of this paradigm shift relates to the increasing focus on climate change and environment and how their interactions have implications for economic growth and sustainable development. This puts a growing focus on new transdisciplinary development issues such as spatial analysis of poverty and inequality, labor markets, climate change, natural resource management, livelihoods and food security as well as the interfaces among these elements. The current research themes across many organizations include microeconomic studies focusing on household economic dynamics, gender analysis, and the interplay between the environmental and socioeconomic dimensions of growth.

Research programs and publications across a range of selected research organizations can illustrate the emergence of the holistic approach to economic research. The African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), KIPPRA, Institute of Economic Affairs, and the Institute for Development Studies, for instance, have research programs that signal a new focus on holistic economics. These organizations now focus on increasingly multidisciplinary and broad-based issues including: poverty studies, sources and spread of growth and distribution of benefits; natural resource management, climate change and economic development nexus; and livelihood systems. Most of the older and even newer Kenyan universities have established schools or faculties of economics with relatively genuine interests in teaching and conducting economic research; for instance, Kenyatta University, Maseno University, Strathmore University, Moi University, University of Nairobi, Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University, and several others. These universities all have varying levels of research outputs and focus, although our review and publication data available on the SCOPUS database strongly suggest that the largest and most visible body of economic research production comes from the University of Nairobi's School of Economics. Over the last 10 years, for instance, researchers at the School produced at least 60 papers dealing with the theme of poverty analysis and inequality.

A set of key research organizations provide striking illustrations of research and publications focusing on microeconomics and poverty analysis. The African Centre for Economic Growth (ACEG), one of the leading regional economic think tanks, has research programs focusing on the themes of poverty and equity with a clear orientation towards household economies. Within KIPPRA, the Social Sector Program has a focus on social and microeconomic development issues including household health, education, poverty analysis, inequalities, vulnerability, employment and unemployment, as well as food security and livelihoods. KIPPRA's Productive Sector Program, on the other hand, is home to research focusing on issues including natural resource management, climate change, and environmental management. The IDS at the University of Nairobi is also demonstrating research programs on areas such as environment and sustainable livelihoods, institutions and governance, and social inclusion and identity. Similar themes that emphasize multidisciplinary, sustainable development, and microeconomic analysis can also be found at Samuel Hall Research, a consulting firm registered in Afghanistan and with limited but emerging research experience in Kenya. Some of their research themes in this category include education, urban studies, gender analysis, and marginalized communities as well as human migration and displacement.

5.3.3 Private Sector and Small & Medium Enterprises (SME) Development

Research focusing on the theme of SME development occupies a central location across a number of research organizations examined. The emergence of this theme seems fairly recent

and is likely to be linked to the growing focus on small enterprise development and poverty reduction strategies by the Government of Kenya. SMEs development is strongly represented in Kenya's Vision 2030 and is widely viewed as possible instrument for poverty reduction and wealth creation (Kenya 2007) In 2012, the Kenya Parliament passed the *Small and Medium Enterprises Act* (2012) which sets out the government's key priorities for strengthening the development and contributions of small enterprises to economic growth and poverty reduction. These signal the importance of SME's.

Some useful examples of research on SMEs can be drawn across a range of research organizations that have shown more significant research interest and productivity in this thematic area. KIPPRA, the flagship think tank on economic policy analysis and research, produced at least 13 research publications between 2005 and 2010 examining various dimensions of SME development and its role in Kenya's economic growth. A similar pattern is replicated at the African Centre for Economic Growth where a large majority (over 60%) of the 40 policy briefs and 32 research reports examined the development and dynamics of Small and Medium Enterprises. The Institute for Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Nairobi has paid keen attention to SME development research as well. Since 1990s, IDS produced at least 70 publications on SME. SME development theme is examined from a range of perspectives, particularly focusing on the analysis of issues such as business clusters, inter-firm networks, enterprise linkages, policy and institutional landscape, as well as gender dimensions of SME development. The World Bank Kenya Office, and University of Nairobi's School of Economics, Maseno University School of Business and Economics also have small but considerable pockets of research publications focusing on SME development and microfinance. The Africa Technology Policy Studies (ATPS) has produced research focusing on the modes and outcomes of technology transfer and adoption within and across small-medium enterprises, particularly in the agricultural and small informal industries sector (6 papers).

5.3.4 Informal Economy, Livelihoods, and Food Security

The themes of informal economy, food security, and livelihood systems are embedded within the new holistic approach to economic research and analysis outlined above. These themes can be found across a number of research organizations that we reviewed, including KIPPRA, University of Nairobi's School of Economics, Institute for Development Studies (IDS), Samuel Hall Research, and Institute for Economic Affairs. However, these themes attain their strongest manifestation at the IDS, based on the number of publications addressing this particular theme over the period under review. The overall thematic focus of IDS research is on micro-economy, informality, and spatial interaction. KIPPRA's Social Sector Research Program also focuses on the informal economies, livelihood systems, and food security studies. Research at Samuel Hall Research, KIPPRA, IDS, and tend to examine the evolving structure, organization, resilience, vulnerability, and policy framework surrounding various informal economic activities and livelihood systems in urban areas, including the informalisation of urban livelihood systems. Research examines the social and economic organization of a range of informal economic activities such street vending, public taxi transport, street hawking, prostitution, informal trading, among others. Similar themes are encountered further at University of Nairobi's School of Economics with livelihood systems having more focus, occurring together with discussions of socioeconomic vulnerability, social protection, and the informal economy.

5.3.5 Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Primary Commodities

Our review of existing economic-focused research suggests that agriculture, food production, and natural resources have gained increasing prominence within economic research. Agriculture

is also the leading sector of the Kenyan economy, creating more employment opportunities and contributing to foreign exchange earnings than all other sectors (KNBS, 2014). Agriculture and food production are constantly high on the public policy agenda among Kenya's international development partners. Many economic research agencies that we reviewed have established distinct research programs focusing entirely on agricultural production and natural resource management. In KIPPRA, agricultural and primary commodities research is located within the Productive Sector Program which focuses on critical economic subsectors such as natural resource management, trade, industry, agriculture, environment, and tourism. The aim is to create and promote an innovative, commercially-oriented and modern agricultural sector. Between 2000 and 2012, KIPPRA produced 166 papers out of which 13 focused on primary commodity markets and agriculture. Inter-Region Economic Network (IREN), a relatively small Nairobi-based think tank, has produced two books focusing on how increased public investment in small-holder agriculture could precipitate economic growth and wealth creation for Kenyans. Institute of Economic Affairs does not currently have a stand-alone research program on agriculture but the subject is widely researched from a macroeconomic perspective, where studies examine the adequacy and efficiency of public spending and investment budget in the agricultural sector (6 papers out of 24). At University of Nairobi's IDS, agriculture and primary commodity research are actively undertaken within Environment and Sustainable Livelihoods Program.

African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) has two related research programs that deal with agriculture, primary commodities and food security which focuses on the analysis of national and household food production systems and food entitlement and utilizing the emerging conceptual frameworks of resilience, sustainability, and vulnerability. They also have research programs on Natural Resource Management and Agricultural Policy which emphasize on agricultural production (1 paper) and primary commodities (3 papers). Similarly, a review of 10 recent publications by the African Technology Policy Studies (ATPS) shows research focus on *mechanisms and systems of STI transfer and adoption* with emphasis on the agricultural sector and small and medium enterprises. The centrality of agricultural research as a key economic subsector is also clearly reflected within the university sector where distinct schools and departments dealing with agriculture, food security, or food sciences have emerged in nearly all the universities. This is evident throughout the sector from the oldest institution (College of Agriculture, University of Nairobi) to the most recently-established entities (e.g. School of Agriculture and food Sciences, Jaramogi Odinga University). Unlike agriculture research within the non-university institutes, agricultural research within Kenya universities are more academic than applied and is largely directed at scholarly audiences rather than the general development practitioner and stakeholders. Tegemeo Institute at Egerton University represents one of the leading research outfits focusing entirely on applied agricultural and food systems research.

5.3.6 Trade, Employment, and Private Sector Development

The private sector is widely viewed as the engine that drives economic growth, competitiveness, poverty reduction, and wealth creation in most emerging economies. Research on private sector development focuses on examining and improving the legal and policy environment within which businesses operates in Kenya to stimulate economic growth and poverty reduction, particularly the development of small and medium enterprises. Private investment is also closely linked to larger corporate businesses associated with both domestic and international trade which is also a critical component of the country's macroeconomic performance. Our review of research organizations in the economic field found a strong presence of research focusing on

private sector development, investment and trade, together with well-established research programs. KIPPRA has a research program on Private Sector Development and another on Trade and Foreign Policy. Between 2005 and 2012, KIPPRA research published 15 papers focusing on trade investment, including both domestic trade as well as international trade including Kenya's relative position in the global trading landscape.

Trade and market competition constitute the dominant research themes at the IEA, with particular emphasis on international and regional trade involving Kenya. The IEA also has two research programs focusing around trade issues; namely Trade Information Program and Regulation and Competition Policy Program. International trade and regional integration are also treated by many authors at the School of Economics University of Nairobi, especially with a focus on Kenya's relative position in the global trading system generally and the implications of regional integration and trade. The African Economic Research Consortium also has a research program on Trade and Regional Integration, with the themes of trade (1 paper) and private sector development (2 papers) being fairly represented. The School of Business at the University of Nairobi has a body of research that reflects the growing importance of enterprise development and private sector involvement in economic growth. A review of the 103 publications produced by the School of Business since 2000 clearly identifies four dominant themes: corporate strategy and performance; human resource management; consumer behavior, and the accountancy profession. A large majority of the research focuses on the impact and implications of a wide range of environmental and organizational factors on corporate performance and corporate strategy.

5.3.7 Conclusion

The economic research landscape currently consists of at least 36 research organizations of various types. Whereas university-based research units are numerically more dominant within the landscape in terms of the number of organizations, they have lower research productivity compared to the independent research agencies. Research is organized differently in universities than in non-university research organizations. Our review and mapping of organizations and their research profiles indicated that, in the independent organizations, research activity is commonly organized into distinct research programs and thematic clusters, whereas in universities research tends to be mostly fragmented and unstructured and seems to be driven largely by varied academic interests of individual researchers without any systematic organization. A wide range of thematic issues were identified in the research and five thematic groupings could be established: macroeconomic growth, policy analysis and modelling; microeconomics, poverty, and sustainable development; private sector and small and medium enterprises development; informal economy, livelihoods and food security; agriculture, natural resources and primary commodities; as well as trade and labor markets. The review identified a gradual shift in economic research focus since 2000. This can be termed as the holistic approach to economic research characterized by a new focus on a range of multidisciplinary issues; including poverty studies, environment and natural resource management. It also encompasses economic impacts of climate change, socio-cultural dimensions, as well as interactions among these elements and economic growth. As part of this shift, there is a departure from exclusively quantitative and macroeconomic analyses towards a greater focus on much broader sociological issues related to human well-being and sustainable development using social science approaches.

6. Governance and Security Research

Research into governance and security has been perennial and has been a subject of numerous studies that involve several and diverse organizations. This section focuses on the governance research landscape in Kenya which is one of the thematic areas of the mapping study.

6.1 Key Actors and Institutional Capacities

From the outcomes of our survey, the main actors engaged in governance research in Kenya are civil society organizations, government agencies, academic institutions and some international agencies in that respective order. From a review of institutional publications this thematic area was divided into sub themes including devolved governance; democratic institutions and processes; public service delivery and management; justice; human rights and the rule of law; corruption; security, peace building and conflict resolution; media, civic organizations and community engagement. Based on research publications, the main players from the non-governmental organizations include Centre for Governance and Development, Centre for Multiparty Democracy, Society for International Development, African Centre for Open Governance, Centre for Governance and Development and International Institute for Legal Affairs. The key government agencies included the Commission for Implementation of the Constitution, Kenya Human Rights Commission, National Intelligence Services and National Cohesion and Integration Commission. The lead academic departments included the Institute for Development Studies at University of Nairobi, the School of Law at Nairobi and Moi University have also undertaken extensive research in this field. There were 42 organizations in our database which dealt with governance as shown in Table 14 below.

Table 14: Number and Types of Governance Research Organizations in Kenya

Organization Type	Numbers
Think Tanks	04
Public research agencies	06
University departments	18
Private Consultancies	02
Research institutes	12
Total	42

6.2 Thematic Areas of Research

Below is a discussion of the main areas of research within the theme of governance. The section discusses the research being undertaken in the respective sub themes and by which organizations.

6.2.1 Devolved Governance

Kenya enacted a new constitution in 2010 which has brought in a new governance and management framework. Prior to this, there have been several studies by different research organizations which focused on the centralized government system, inequality, poor service delivery, marginalization of some regions or communities, political manipulation by the central government amongst others. These studies were carried out mainly by civil society organizations such as the Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD), Centre for Governance and Development (CDG), Transparency International, League of Kenya Women Voters, Mazingira Institute, African Centre for Open Governance (AfriCOG), African Research and Resource Forum

(ARRF), Uraia Trust, AmkeniWakenya. Some government agencies such Kenya School of Government have also undertaken research focused on constitutional reforms, decentralization and devolution, and economic governance. The Commission for Implementation of the Constitution (CIC) has also undertaken reviews to assess the implementation of the constitution and give relevant advice to government and other stakeholders. Research units within some Kenyan universities have also researched on the new governance transformations. These include the Institute for Development Studies (IDS) of University of Nairobi and the Department of History, Political Science and Public Administration at Moi University. Some of the glaring research challenges in this sector include institutional capacities and uptake of the research outcomes. From our mapping, research on the new constitution has mainly been carried out by public sector bodies, non- governmental organizations and to a large extent funded by international agencies. One of the surveys by Society for International Development, Kenya Office records increasing public optimism with the new constitution.

6.2.2 Democratic Institutions and Processes

The other key research area on governance is focused on democracy, its associated institutions and processes. Just like in other African countries, the democratization of the Kenyan society has been a critical issue which has led to several transformations in the post-independence period. It begins from the early years after independence characterized by the absence of a democratic culture, weak governance institutions and legal frameworks which were have been the principal barriers to democratic governance. For several years this sector has attracted significant research attention especially from academic research units of universities, civil society organizations, international agencies and a little from government agencies.

Some significant research has looked at the national frameworks for democratization and the shifts that have taken place since independence. Over the same period, there have been research on political parties and the electoral process in Kenya. The research has identified several factors inhibiting the development and institutionalization of political parties in Kenya including lack of resources, personality cults, lack of internal party democracy, poor party management structures and lack of ideological basis. Other studies have looked into the electoral processes especially of the past two elections which have been disputed with the 2007 one leading to the infamous post-election violence. Research in this sector is also spearheaded by civil society organizations such as Centre for Governance and Development (CGD), Uraia Trust, AmkeniWakenya, Usawani Haki, and Society for International Development (SID). Other such studies have focused on electoral challenges and malpractices and made several recommendations for interventions. In addition to research, several of them also engage in civic education and capacity building related to electioneering. Some of the research has focused on the works of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) which was set up by the government to be an independent and credible electoral management body committed to strengthening democracy in Kenya.

The Centre for Governance and Development (CGD) leads with extensive research in this area with additional focus on strengthening institutional capacities for democratic governance. CDG envisions an informed, equitable, democratic and prosperous Kenya. Other studies are focused on funding and governance of political parties and also corruption which is rife in the parties especially during nomination of candidates for elective positions. The studies find a link between corruption, funding and governance of political parties. The research have also focused on citizenship, democratic governance, and gender issues as they relate to democratization. There have also been research by relevant departments in Kenyan universities with main topics being on electoral reforms, building democratic institutions, political parties, electoral process, civic

education and engagement, constitutional implementation. Though governance is a serious national issue, much of the funding for research in governance has been from external sources as was shown by the survey conducted by this study. Generally, devolution has led to promoting a people-centered government, decentralization of power and sharing of national resources countrywide.

6.2.3 Public Service Delivery & Management

Governance of public organizations has been a serious concern especially due to the mismanagement which had for long characterized the sector (SID, 2012). The Center for Corporate Governance (CCG) has been undertaking action oriented research in corporate governance and leadership. There have been studies on ethnicity, nepotism and how they impact on institutional governance mainly by African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) African Research and Resource Forum (ARRF), Inter Regional Economic Network (IREN) and Kenya Institute of Management (KIM). The Institute for Development Studies (IDS) of University of Nairobi has extensively researched on the link between public service delivery and development in Kenya. The Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) has also played a leading role in research and policy advice within this sector. It develops and maintains research resources and databases on public policy and governance and avails these to government, the private sector and academic institutions. On the other hand, the Institute for Social Accountability (TISA) has contributed to research and capacity building in provision of quality services, and social accountability especially within the devolved units of government. The Institute of Policy Research and Analysis (IPAR) has also worked on research which identified weaknesses in public service delivery and proposed some policy interventions. Compared with the public sector, private sector has been better managed.

6.2.4 Justice, Human Rights and the Rule of Law

The enactment of the new constitution in Kenya has brought in an expansive Bill of Rights that addresses the rights of individuals and also focuses on inequalities encountered by different groups especially the minorities and the marginalized. There has been research on human rights in Kenya mainly spearheaded by civil society organizations such as the Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC), International Center for Policy and Conflict, Inter Region Economic Network (IREN) African Centre for Open Governance (AfriCOG), International Institute of Legislative Affairs (IILA) and Mazingira Institute. They have focused their research on the administration of justice with emphasis on economic, social and cultural rights. Other studies by these organizations are on the inclusion of previously under-served or marginalized groups and communities. Research in this field has also been linked to the process of constitutional reforms, development and application of law in Kenya. This has been spearheaded by the International Institute of Legislative Affairs and academic institutions such as the School of Law at Nairobi and Moi University. Other research in this field have been on gender related issues, access to justice, judicial reforms, ethics and the rule of law. These have also been led by the faculties of law by especially at the University of Nairobi and Moi University.

6.2.5 Corruption

Corruption has been perennial in the Kenyan society and has thus been considered as a serious challenge for the development of the society. The leading research organizations in this theme include: Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA); Integrity Action; AfriCOG, Transparency International; Kenya School of Government; Society for International Development; Mazingira Institute and Centre for Governance and Development, among others, which demonstrate the extent to which public funds and other resources are wasted through

corruption. These organizations also make attempts to use their research evidence for interventions to minimize corruption. The Centre for Governance and Development (CGD) has also carried out studies on money laundering and relates it to corruption. There are several other groups that deal with governance and anti-corruption. There have also been publications on mismanagement of public enterprises, a phenomenon that some studies refer to as a crisis in the Kenyan society. Other studies have focused on the revitalization of these institutions through capacity building and enhanced governance. Performance contracting in the public sector to enhance governance and productivity is therefore a subject attracting quite a lot of research attention especially on its implementation and outcomes.

6.2.6 Security, Peace Building and Conflict Resolution

Security and peace have attracted increasing research attention in recent years. Evidence based research in the public domain has mainly been carried out by Institute for Security Studies (ISS) and demonstrate that deep rooted social, political economic, religious and environmental factors have contributed to insecurity and conflict in the country. Other studies by ISS are on crime and justice, conflict prevention, conflict management and peace building. There have also been publications on these fields by government appointed commissions such as the Truth Justice & Reconciliation Commission, Kriegler Commission and Waki Commission with focus on causes of violence, insecurity and disharmony amongst Kenyan societies.

Other research such as those by Centre for Forced Migration at Moi University have looked into the influx of refugees from the neighboring countries and their link to insecurity in Kenya. There have also been research on the country's uneven growth and inequalities which have also fueled conflict and insecurity. This has mainly been done by the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) which was set up by the government to facilitate equality of opportunity, good relations, harmony and peaceful coexistence amongst Kenyans. There have also been studies on organized crime especially by militia groups such as *mungiki* and Mombasa Republican Council (MRC). These have been mainly by The National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) with focus on the causes of crime, its prevention and the administration of criminal justice. Other research organizations in this field include Society for International Development (SID), Institute for Security Studies and Uraia Trust. The Department of History, Political Science and Public Administration at Moi has also undertaken studies on peace and security and has a journal to publish such research outcomes. The same is with the School of Development and Strategic Studies at Maseno University.

Some limitations to research in this area is attributed to the fact that security is a sensitive and exclusive area where government and other security agencies are mostly reluctant to divulge information to the public domain. While government does its own intelligence research through the National Intelligence Services (NIS), these are inaccessible.

6.2.7 Media, Civic Organizations & Community Engagement

The media has played a key role in enhancing awareness and accountability in governance. There have been studies on the role of media in creating and sustaining a democratic society, in ethnic tolerance and in voter enlightenment amongst others. Participatory Methodologies Forum of Kenya (PAMFOK), Uraia Trust, AmkeniWakenya and UN Women Usawani Haki are just some of the civil society organizations focusing their research on civic engagement and gender and governance. The Institute for Civic Affairs and Development (ICAD) has been undertaking studies in community participation in different aspects of development, policy change and also enhancing capacities of civic societies. Civic engagement has been important in creating

awareness amongst different stakeholder groups. In community engagement, PAMFORK has been carrying out studies and initiatives to deepen the understanding and methodologies in participatory development and community engagement. Their studies and interventions have targeted action learning processes with civil society and public sector organizations. Resource Conflict Institute (RECONCILE) also does policy research and analysis and capacity building for community organizations for enhanced governance. They empower resource dependent communities to participate in the management of their resources for improved livelihoods. In addition to African Institute for Development Policy (AFRIDEP) has also facilitated the creation, translation and utilization of research for community development. They have several empirical research in these areas. They have mainly focused on issues of identities, citizenship and belonging, and the general attitudes and perceptions and knowledge of the constitution of Kenya amongst different stakeholders and society groups. The main premise is that for citizens to gain the benefits that accrue from the new constitution, they need extensive civic education and more ways of engagement.

6.3 Conclusion

The above section dealt with the governance research landscape in Kenya. It analyzed the identified the main thematic areas in governance research. These included devolved governance; democratic institutions and processes; public service delivery and management, justice; human rights and the rule of law; corruption; security, peace building and conflict resolution; media, civic organizations and community engagement. It then identified the main actors in the different sub-themes in governance. In almost all sub-themes, the non-governmental organizations were the leading in research productivity based on their publications. In some areas such as, legal reforms, university departments were also playing a key role in research. Government agencies especially the commissions established by the government also produced some publications in their domains of operation. It was notable that funding for research in governance was largely from international agencies as demonstrated by our analysis of research funding for this sector. The government mainly funded the government agencies engaged in governance research. Generally, governance as a thematic area is gaining prominence in research in recent years especially due to the recent constitutional reforms and emerging issues such as security, democracy, institutional governance and human rights. The organizations surveyed within this sector mainly faced the challenge of funding. Most of them were also not aware of available funding opportunities. Governance remains a key area of research in Kenya in which much research still need to be enhanced. The study identified research gaps that still will require research attention in the future.

7. Climate Change Research in Kenya

This section provides an assessment and synthesis of the existing social science research landscape on climate change in Kenya. By social science, the focus is on the various social, economic, psychological and cultural drivers of human behaviour that have influenced and are being influenced by climate change science, especially with regard to questions of human adaptation and mitigation interventions to climate change. Data for the section has been got from a desk review of existing literature. Climate change research in Kenya is shaped and driven by a range of Government policy and funding instruments. . The policies include the National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS), launched in 2010 and the National Climate Change Action Plan, 2012, (KCCAP) to be implemented from 2013- 2017. This survey reveals

that most of the climate change social science research undertaken in Kenya has focused on examining the interactions between climate change, poverty, livelihoods, and natural resources.

7.1 Key actors, Institutional Capacity and Policy Framework

A review of the literature reveals that the size and capacity of institutions engaged in social science related climate change research have increased in the last decade. These are not however institutions that have been established solely as social science institutions. Rather, most are agriculture and natural science institutions that are increasingly incorporating social science paradigms to enrich their research work. This survey identified five categories of such research institutions. The first category consists of government regulatory institutions in the area of climate change and management including the Environment and Climate Change Unit (ECCU) and the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA). Some research work and policy interventions have been launched by government through relevant ministries, though funding is from various development partners. For example in Isiolo County a pilot climate adaptation fund launched in April 2013, is designed to support community-prioritised adaptation investments with funding from the DFID through the Global Climate Facility. Based on the success of the Isiolo intervention, a consortium composed of UK Met office and other development partners is providing £6.5 million to scale up the policy intervention to other counties in the arid areas. These are interventions that draw on social science knowledge to implement climate policy.

The second category of organizations are government research and policy institutions including KARI, KEFRI, ILRI, KWS, KIRDI, and NMK. These government institutions undertake social science research on weather variability and climate change, as social processes and their impacts on agriculture, forestry water and aquatic resources, terrestrial ecosystems, human health, human settlement and socio economics, energy, transport, industry and waste management. Public universities have also established environment and climate- related teaching and research units and housed them within schools of Social sciences and increasingly engage in research on natural resources and socio-economic issues

The third category are intergovernmental institutions. For example In Western Kenya, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)'s *Climate Predictions and Application Centre*, led a research that brought together traditional forecasters from the Nganyi 'rainmaker' clan with officials from the Kenya Meteorological Office. The aim was to test whether the local relevance of seasonal forecasts could be improved by linking scientific and indigenous knowledge. . The Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC), an institution of the East African community countries, also undertakes research on vulnerability and mitigation measures around the Lake Victoria basin, including studies on community based approaches to mitigation.

Non-Governmental organizations constitute the fourth group of institutions engaged in climate change social science-led research in Kenya. This study revealed over 20 such NGOs, most headquartered in Nairobi and with national, regional and global reach in terms of their engagements in climate change research and advocacy. The work of the various NGOs revolves around research and advocacy usually using holistic, multidisciplinary, and community-based social science perspectives for engagement and reduction of climate change vulnerability among poor communities. Some key NGOs in this area include African Conservation Centre (ACC), Utafiti Centre for Research and Technology, and the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS). The survey also established instances where international and local NGOs and government institutions have partnered to undertake research on climate issues. For example,

the *Steps Centre*, the *E.S.R.C*, the *Centre for African Bio-entrepreneurism*(Nairobi), *KARI* and *ACTS* have partnered in a research on Environmental change and maize innovation in Kenya. Some NGOs are focused in undertaking research on environmental governance and community mobilization. Transparency International (Kenya Chapter), and the Institute of Law and Economic governance (ILEG) fall under this category.

Lastly are international agencies that engage directly in research or are critical in funding social science research in climate change. The agencies include DFID, IDRC, DANIDA, USAID, CIDA, JICA, among others. For example, in 2010, the World Agroforestry centre (ICRAF) headquartered in Nairobi launched a 10 year research programme on ‘*Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security*’ (CCAFS). The research programme seeks to overcome the threats to agriculture and food security in a changing climate, exploring new ways of helping vulnerable rural communities adjust to global changes in climate. The DFID, through the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) and the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) has initiated the *Climate Impact Research Capacity and Leadership Enhancement in Sub-Saharan Africa* (CIRCLE). The aim of the program will be to develop the skills and research output of early career African researchers in the field of Climate change and its local impacts on development. CGIAR, under its *climate change, agriculture and food security programme*, has supported Futures Agriculture to undertake research on long-term adaptation measures, linking knowledge and action, gender and equity and policy analysis with regard to climate change vulnerability in Kenya. Leading UN agencies based in Nairobi such as the UN Environmental Program (UNEP) and UN Development Programme (UNDP) are also key actors in the funding and undertaking of climate change research.

The literature survey reveals that most international agencies are not directly involved in research but mobilize and fund most of the research undertaken by NGOs and government agencies. The Government of Kenya also provides funding for research in this sector but this is at a lower level and often in partnership with international development partners. The level and actual amount of research funding from all these agencies and sources could not however be established from the review. What is clear from the review and data on the websites of the various institutions is that there is limited funding for climate change social science- led research coming from government. A study by the embassy of Sweden dated 2010 provides some overview of funding sources and levels for various climate change projects in the country; but it does not show exactly how much of these funds were actually used to support social science-oriented climate research. There were a total of 29 organizations included in the climate change sector as depicted in Table 15 below.

Table 15: Number and types of climate change research organizations in Kenya

Organization Type	Numbers
Think Tanks	17
Public research agencies	03
University departments	13
Private Consultancies	02

Research institutes	05
Total	29

7.2 Themes Covered in the Research

The various institutions identified above engage in research and have produced a diverse amount of literature on different thematic areas related to climate change. The review reveals that most climate change social science-led research in Kenya focuses around the most important development goals of the country and is consistent with national development priorities. The most commonly covered themes are the following:

7.2.1 *Impacts of climate change and vulnerability*

Research under this theme has been conducted by institutions categorized above as government research and policy institutions and NGOs. As an example, KARI and affiliates, through its Climate Change Unit (CCU) established in 2010 with support from the Rockefeller Foundation has six on-going projects on climate vulnerability and its impact on various sectors and community livelihoods in different parts of Kenya. Under this theme, the various research projects have sought to examine the social and economic effects of climate change and variability on the farming systems and livelihoods of some communities in Kenya as well as the role of Indigenous Technical knowledge (ITK) as an adaptive coping strategy. The international Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Nairobi, under the Climate change and social learning (CCSL) research programme focuses on three approaches that together will help transform and empower community decision-making on climate change adaptation, namely: 1) participatory action research, 2) participatory communication, and 3) Collective Social Learning. Among NGOs, ACTS has the most ambitious programme covering the theme of vulnerability from social science perspectives known as *'Integrating vulnerability and adaptation to Climate change into sustainable development policy planning and implementation in Eastern and Southern Africa (ACCESA)'*. The goal of these projects is to contribute towards reducing the vulnerability of communities to the impacts of climate change, thereby improving their well-being and protecting their livelihoods.

7.2.2 *Gender Equity, Climate Change, poverty and welfare*

This research theme has generally been the focus of studies by all the categories of research institutions reviewed here, and show that despite existing evidence of the impact of climate change on women, there is still relatively poor gender dimension in the Kenya government responses in terms of policies and legal framework. For example research studies commissioned by *Policy innovation systems for clean energy and Security (PISCES)* have looked at the issues of gender equity in charcoal production and the value chain in Western Kenya (Delahunty-Pike Alannah, 2012). Research under this theme has also looked into how poverty, welfare and gender act as mediating factors to the negative effects of climate change. For example, research by the African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP) and Population Action International (PAI) (2012) presents an assessment of the role of population dynamics and climate change in sustainable development in Kenya.

7.2.3 *Climate change governance in Kenya*

Studies and research programmes under this theme is mostly by NGOs and individual researchers. These studies and publications have been to critique the legal and institutional framework for climate change activities in the country in terms of their enabling and limiting characteristics. Most research under this theme has been driven by advocacy inclined NGOs such as KCJWC and the Kenya Climate Change Working Group. They argue that more research needs to be undertaken to show that on matters of climate change, women need differentiated adaptation and mitigation policies. There is also research by various NGOs, undertaking a gender audit of Kenya's Climate Change governance.

7.2.4 *Climate change financing, food security and associated costing issues*

Studies under this theme examine the implications of various climate change funding mechanisms on food security. For example, DFID and the Royal Danish Embassy in Nairobi (DANIDA) have funded studies under this theme exploring the impacts of economic and social costs of climate change on economics of adaptation, costs and opportunities of low carbon growth for Kenya. ACTS Kenya with other partners from outside Kenya are engaged in studies on advancing climate compatible development for food security through the implementation of national climate change strategies. The research is based on an analysis of funding instruments, including an assessment of indicators for adaptation and mitigation effectiveness.

Several studies produced by government agencies and NGOs document trends in food insecurity occasioned by climate change within the main food production areas of the country. The studies also document how over the years, a combination of climate change and poor economic performance have led to general increases in food prices as well as input prices. Among NGOs, CGIAR has taken a leadership role both in commissioning studies and producing policy publications on this theme. The centres affiliated to CGIAR working with networks of public sector and civil society partners, have helped advance agricultural development research and food security in Kenya. , The studies focus on enhancing regional collective action in agricultural research, extension and education in the region so as to facilitate economic growth, food security and export competitiveness through productive and sustainable agriculture.

7.2.5: *Mitigation and adaptation interventions*

Studies under this theme show that there is an increasing number of actors, with different starting points, interests and goals in researching and developing policy interventions. A large number of adaptation studies have been undertaken, documenting the constraints farmers are facing to adapting to what many already observe as changing climate patterns and seasons. The studies show considerable local knowledge and capacity of farmers and communities that can be used to promote various mitigation and adaptation strategies. Other studies have explored the impacts, possible adaptation options and availability of funding. . For example, under the *Research to Policy for Adaptation (RPA)* funded through the DFID/IDRC climate change-agriculture (CCAA) programme, KIPPRA has undertaken studies to understand climate change adaptation policy processes at local and national levels. . Other studies and policy documents by all the categories of climate research institutions devote a considerable research work to examining adaptation and mitigation strategies by various communities. For example, ACTS is undertaking an action research, testing tools for community adaptation, knowledge generation and capacity building project on Community-Based Adaptation to Climate Change in Africa (CBAA). Studies on adaptation generally document the challenges and opportunities associated with climate change adaptation, particularly in relation to smallholder farmers. There is also greater emphasis

on livelihood diversification activities as an adaptation strategy, including improved human and organizational capacity, literacy and technical training.

7.3 Conclusion

This section provides a discussion of the policy context for social science-led research on climate change in Kenya. The section also highlights a mapping of the key research institutions, research themes and the various actors involved in the execution of the research and funding. Generally, data and information analyzed shows that Kenya has a fairly well-developed policy context for undertaking social science-led research on climate change. Specific research themes have included an analysis of how changing social and economic structures are mediating the process of climate change and vice-versa. The institutions are also involved in policy research focusing on climate adaptation and mitigation in Kenya, increasingly including the gender dimensions of climate change. While most of these research seem to be undertaken by Kenyan researchers or in partnership with outside partners, there is an indication from the review that beyond development of policy, most initiatives for such research is coming from outside-especially from international NGOs and agencies within the broad global concern on climate change. Drawing on survey findings and review of the research literature, it appears that funding for climate research in Kenya is also largely from external sources. Notably most funding for research has come from DFID, CIDA, DANIDA, UNDP and USAID among others, based on frequency of mentions in research reports on sources of funding, though exact amounts of funding could not be established.

8. Urbanization Research in Kenya

The fourth thematic area of this study was urbanization. Just like the other themes, urbanization is a major issue in Kenya today as in other African countries. Africa is the fastest urbanizing continent. Kenya is one of the African countries taking the lead in urbanization (GOK, 2008). This rapid growth in urbanization has several consequences including opportunities and challenges that need to be responded to. It is a field that is attracting more research especially due to the emerging challenges arising from increasing urbanization. The section below discussed the main actors in research in this field, their research focus and sources of funding for research.

8.1 Main Actors and Research Capacities

Urbanization research in Kenya has involved varied actors. According to our survey and literature search, the main ones have been international organizations based in Kenya, non-governmental organizations, think-tanks, government agencies, and university departments. The lead international agencies in research in this theme include the World Bank's Kenya Office, the UN-Habitat and United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP). Research by non-governmental organizations is spearheaded by African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC); African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS); Water & Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP); Volvo Research and Educational Foundations (VREF) and Practical Action. Government agencies involved in urbanization research include the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA); National Economic and Social Council (NESC); Directorate of Urban Development in the Ministry of Land, Housing & Urban Development, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS); National Council for Population and Development (NCPD).

Government ministries especially those responsible for urban development, land, water, energy and sanitation also carried studies on their respective areas and their manifestations in urban set

ups. University departments have played a significant role in urbanization. These include the Department of Geography & Environmental Studies, Department of Urban and Regional Planning and Centre for Urban Research and Innovation (CURI) all from University of Nairobi. The others were Institute of Land Management at Laikipia University, Department of Geography at Moi University and Department of Spatial Planning, Department of Urban and Regional Planning at Technical University of Kenya and Natural Resource Management at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University. Regarding funding, there were different actors depending on the type of organization. While the amounts of funding for the different type of organizations could not be ascertained, government agencies and university departments indicated that the governments was their main source of funding. The non-governmental organizations and think tanks mainly received their funding from international funding agencies as is indicated by the survey outcomes. Table 16 below presents the organizations identified in the field of urbanization.

Table 16: Number and types of urbanization research organizations in Kenya

Organization Type	Numbers
Think Tanks	10
Public research agencies	05
University departments	07
Private Consultancies	02
Research institutes	05
Total	29

8.2 Thematic Areas of Research

Based on the literature search and review and on the survey outcomes, the main research areas in urbanization included: health, water and sanitation; housing, informal settlements and infrastructure; urban poverty, unemployment and trade; population and sustainable livelihoods, trade and urban governance and security. Birch and Wachter (2011) sums it up by stating that, ‘... the twenty-first century urban research agenda encompasses growth (mapping and prediction), delivery of critical services (water, health, education, personal safety), basic support (housing, transportation, employment, food security), and municipal capacity and finance. The section below discusses the research landscape in these sub themes.

8.2.1 Health, water and sanitation

Urban health has been a key area of research. It encompasses the sanitation and the provision of water to urban populations. There are several international agencies involved in research in this field including UNHABITAT, UNEP. The World Bank also has several publications on urban health and sanitation with focus on environmental degradation and waste management, urban agriculture, pro-poor policies and their health implications. The Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP) programme has also conducted research on the delivery and financing of pro-poor urban water and sanitation services. Non-governmental organizations such as Practical Action and APHRC have also contributed significant research in this sub sector measured in terms of the number of publications. APHRC has overarching research engagement in this thematic area covering different aspects of urban health and sanitation including a focus on HIV AIDS in urban areas and also on commercial sex workers.

8.2.2 Housing, informal settlements and infrastructure

The other research thematic area is housing, informal settlements and the challenge of infrastructure in Kenyan urban centers. In housing, the focus has mainly been on challenges of housing, sustainable housing and livelihoods and the growth in informal settlements. In this sector, there is a mix of organizations undertaking research. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), hosted in Kenya, has undertaken and supported several research projects in housing and informal settlements in Kenyan urban centers. They have also used the research outcomes to develop national shelter and housing strategies. There has also been research focused on policy and planning failures and the inadequate legal frameworks. Department of Urban and Regional Planning of University of Nairobi has undertaken substantial research in this field and developed a curriculum for training in this field. In infrastructure and urban planning, the university departments take a lead in research and publications. For instance, the Department of Land Resource Planning and Management at JKUAT and Department of Geography and Environmental Studies of University of Nairobi. The others were Institute of Land Management at Laikipia University, Department of Geography at Moi University and Department of Spatial Planning, Department of Urban and Regional Planning at Technical University of Kenya and Natural Resource Management at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University. Non-governmental organizations such as Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions (COHRE) research on growth of informal settlements, housing, slum upgrading, evictions and rights of residents of informal settlements and supply of housing to majority of urban dwellers. Research on infrastructure has also included roads and walkways, water, drainage and sewerage infrastructure.

8.2.3 Urban Poverty, Unemployment and Trade

The themes of urban poverty, unemployment and trade are cross-cutting and have featured earlier in our thematic discussion of the economic research landscape (section 5.2.4). Research in these areas has been mainly undertaken by government departments, university departments and other research organizations especially the non-governmental sectors. The Kenya Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) and the National Economic & Social Council (NESC) have collaborated in projects and produced three publications that tackle urban development. In these research projects, topics such as economic development; employment; youth unemployment; infrastructure development; security; and policy have been given prominence. Most of these studies have comparisons for urban and rural areas. KIPPRA's research has been on land issues and urban transport. NESC has focused on urban development, trade and management of informal trading activities; whereas the Institute for Development Studies at University of Nairobi has also produced significant research focusing on urban poverty and a wide variety of urban informal livelihood activities including prostitution, food hawking, and taxi driving as discussed earlier (section 5.2.4). SIDA has also produced publications on urban poverty, structural constraints and pro-poor policies. On trade, The World Bank and the Institute for Development Studies have publications on street vending in urban areas. Practical Action has also made several publications on urban poverty and its link to unemployment. University of Nairobi's Centre for Urban Research and Innovations (CURI) research on the utilization of public spaces, market development and analysis.

8.2.4 Population and Sustainable Livelihoods

The other area of research is population and sustainable livelihoods in urban areas. Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) is a lead government agency responsible for the collection, compilation, analysis, publication and dissemination of official statistics covering important fields

of economic, financial and social activity in Kenya. It collects data on almost all sectors including populations, housing, education, energy and employment which are important in urbanization research. The World Bank, UN-Habitat, UNEP are amongst the international agencies with presence in Kenya which have significant studies on urban populations and sustainable livelihoods. APHRC has taken a lead in research in this field and has over 30 publications on urban populations in relation to different other variables. Practical Action has also made publications on population dynamics in urban centers, its associated challenges and how they can be resolved. Research by these organizations have also focused on social sustainability and safeguards especially for poor people in urban areas. African Centre for Technology studies has also undertaken research on sustainable livelihoods. University departments such as the Department of Geography & Environmental Studies, Department of Urban and Regional Planning and Centre for Urban Research and Innovation (CURI) of University of Nairobi have also contributed to research on urban populations and livelihoods.

8.2.5 Urban Governance and Security

The governance issues, main players and research focus discussed in section 6.0 also permeate into urban governance. In addition to those, COHRE research on governance and stakeholder involvement in the informal settlements in urban areas. They also research on land reforms and access to land by inhabitants of informal settlements. There are also studies focusing on urban management capacities, land tenure done by government agencies and international organizations such as UN Habitat. This is in addition to contributions by research organizations such as APHRC and ACTS. Governance research has also focused on institutional responsibilities for the urban sector especially the role of ministry of local government and the local authorities in facilitating governance. The new constitution now devolves most of these functions to the county governments. Other areas of research in urban governance have been on social exclusion, unplanned urban sprawl, and unsustainable use of natural resources and support to the poor to reduce disparities. As discussed in section 6.0 security has also attracted more research in recent years, including within the urban context.

8.3 Conclusion

This section has discussed the landscape of urbanization research in Kenya. It shows an interesting mix of actors in research in this sector which also has rich research outcomes as shown by the many publications in this theme. The studies are mainly focused on the challenges of urbanization with regard to the health, economic well-being, poverty and vulnerability, sustainability and socio-economic development of urban populations. Research in this sector involves players from the different sector including international agencies, university departments, think tanks and non-governmental organizations. It is also a theme in which comparatively more involvement by government agencies has been observed. Due to the projected growth in urbanization and the many challenges and concerns in this sector, it is bound to attract even more research in future.

9. Analysis and Mapping of Evaluation Studies

The team studied a sample of 50 evaluation reports completed in Kenya by over 50 different evaluation organisations between 2002 and 2014. These reports were identified through a search of online databases using the appropriate descriptors. Our analysis shows that the majority of evaluations were conducted by commissioned independent consultancy firms (40 reports), which were almost entirely drawn from the international landscape. There was no evidence of Kenya-based consultancy firms, apart from the few individual Kenyan consultants working under the

direction of international consultancies. Some evaluations were conducted internally (10 reports). The internal evaluations were largely attributed to the larger international organisations that tend to have independent in-house evaluation departments; such as the World Bank, DFID, World Food Program, and UN agencies. Since a large majority of the evaluation studies were program-based and conducted in the context of development and humanitarian assistance, the clientele and funding for majority of the evaluations came from international development actors (30 agencies) and key inter-governmental bodies (9 agencies). The Kenya Government commissioned seven evaluations while local NGOs ordered five evaluation studies. In terms of evaluation methodology, our review shows that a mixture of quantitative and qualitative approaches was widely favoured across most studies, with some authors combining a range of tools including surveys, document analysis, interviews, and Randomised Controlled Trials. The overarching evaluation framework is also common.

The evaluations focus on a broad range of themes or issues which are also broadly connected to international development assistance and emergency response. Our thematic analysis identified at least six clusters of issues. The first cluster is concerned with *poverty, livelihoods, and social protection* (12 reports). Some of the more outstanding studies in this category include WFP's internal evaluation of School Feeding Program in Kenya (2010); UN Habitat's evaluation of informal settlements and livelihoods program in Mavoko (2012); and the evaluation of Kenya Water for Schools Program completed by Centre for Global Safe Water on behalf of Care- International (2006). This set of 12 evaluations focus on a broad range of issues including HIV/AIDS pandemic, informal settlements, school feeding programs, access to clean water, orphans and vulnerable children, hunger safety nets, livelihoods support, and rural agriculture. The second major theme constitutes *disaster and emergency response* (7 reports). Evaluations in this category focus on existing capacities and mechanisms for disaster preparedness, assessment, and response in various humanitarian emergency contexts including drought, hunger, floods, and civil wars in Kenya. Valid International's Real Time Evaluation of East Africa Drought Crisis for the UK's Disasters Emergency Committee (2012) and the Mid-Term evaluation of Action Aid's Emergency Response Programs in Kenya by Integrity Consulting (2010) are some of the good examples, among others.

Another set of seven (7) reports are clustered round the third theme of *human rights advocacy and civil society strengthening*; whereby the evaluations are concerned with programs that are aimed at strengthening access to justice, rule of law, accountability, youth empowerment, women's civil rights, democratisation, and advocacy. USAID's two evaluation studies of the Kenya Civil Society Strengthening Program (2010) and Enhancing Customary Justice in the Mau Forest (2013), as well as the evaluation of Promoting Awareness of Women's Rights conducted by the Association of Media Women in Kenya are some of the examples that illustrate this theme. A sizeable body of evaluations, particularly from key international and bilateral donors, dealt with over-arching reviews of *country assistance programs* across sectors (8 reports); including evaluations of SIDA's Humanitarian Assistance to Kenya and the World Bank's review of Country Assistance Programs for Kenya. Still some evaluations were broadly concerned with programs on *child and maternal health* (4 reports); such as AMREF's evaluation of Busia Child Survival Program and DFID's evaluation of Essential Health Services in Kenya. , Other evaluations, including Cambridge Education's evaluation of Education for All Fast Track Initiative in Kenya, among others, had their focus on the theme of *education and human development* (5 reports). The last theme, *national cohesion and development policy*, is illustrated in four key reports (4 reports), including an evaluation of *The Team* – a TV series designed by the NGO Search for Common

Ground to help nurture national cohesion following the 2008 post-election violence as well as Kenya Government's evaluation of Vision 2030 First Medium Term Plan (2011) . Overall, the analysis suggests that the domestic evaluation landscape in Kenya is dominated by external consultancy firms and largely funded by international development agencies who are the majority clientele for these evaluation products. The Government of Kenya and local NGOs are relatively minor actors while local consultancies are almost entirely absent at least in our sample.

10. Summary and Conclusions

This study set out to undertake a mapping of the social science research landscape in Kenya focusing on four priority thematic sectors consisting of climate change economic growth, governance and security, and urbanization. The key undertaking was (i) a review and synthesis of existing research mapping exercises and analysis undertaken in Kenya (ii) key institutions or research groups undertaking research in the social sciences (iii) The main areas of focus and strategic priorities, if any, of these institutions or research groups, (iv) the main sources and distribution of funds for research focused in the social sciences – including the main research funding bodies and external sources, (v) specific areas in social science research in which there might be particular strengths within Kenya; and (vi) specific areas in social science research in which there might be strengths within the East Africa region. The following conclusions can be drawn for this study:

1. From the literature accessed during this study, one key outcome was that there were not many other studies that had been focused on mapping social science research in Kenya apart from the study by ANIE which was on mapping on research and innovation management in Kenya carried out in 2013. This indicates that there isn't much coordinated information on the social research landscape in Kenya making this study to have an important contribution in that regard.
2. Research is currently prioritized by the Government of Kenya as an important tool for producing new knowledge required for rapid economic growth, poverty reduction, and sustainable development. However, the funding and policy environment over emphasizes on science, technology and innovation and not so much on the social sciences. This study has therefore focused on an important which has however not attracted much focus and funding support especially from government.
3. The organizational dimensions of Kenya's social science research landscape has expanded since 2000 in terms of size, complexity, and diversity based on the new organizations and units that have been created in these fields and the comparative increase in research productivity in these areas. There is a large and growing number of research organizations of different types currently operating in Kenya including government agencies, academic departments in universities, think tanks and civil society organizations. In the social sciences which was the focus of this study the analysis show that think tanks and civil society organizations produce more research publications in these fields.
3. Funding was a key challenge to most social science research organizations in Kenya. Nearly all the organizations surveyed mentioned funding as one of their leading constraints. Many of them were also not aware of the funding sources available. While government agencies were mainly supported by the government, nearly all the think tanks and non-governmental organizations engaged in social science research got their funds from external sources especially

from international agencies. Funding of social science research remains a key challenge to many of the research organizations and is dominated by external funding agencies.

4. While we had four main thematic areas in the mapping of social science research in Kenya, they were quite varied and complex and had sub themes which attracted different emphasis in research. Within economic growth research, macroeconomic policy and poverty studies are still dominant but new themes have also gained prominence in recent years. These include small and medium enterprise development; agriculture and natural resource management; as well as livelihoods and food security. In governance and security research, devolution and democratization processes occupy a central place in the existing research. Similarly, the strengthening of public governance structures is a key theme followed by research focusing on human rights and civil liberties; especially with respect to the new Kenyan constitution. Research on climate change focuses mainly on the impacts of climate change on natural resources, agriculture, and the economy as well as climate mitigation strategies. The central themes in urbanization research include poverty and livelihoods, informal settlements, implications of climate change, infrastructure and environmental management, and sustainable housing.

5. In terms of research productivity and publications, the Kenyan social science research scene was dominated by non-profit research organizations, publicly-funded research institutes, and independent think tanks. The universities were relatively insignificant in knowledge production despite being the majority in terms of their numbers. It however should be noted that some few government agencies such as KIPPRA and university departments such as IDS of University of Nairobi had produced quite some significant research outputs in their various areas of expertise.

6. The survey findings, though inconclusive, suggested that there is limited interaction or synergy between social science research organizations based on the number of collaborations. Promoting more varied and deeper institutional collaborations and networks could potentially lead to more desirable outcomes; including reduced fragmentation and duplication of activities, efficient use of resources, and increased research impact and visibility.

7. Arising from the above point, there were many cases of duplication of efforts by different organizations coupled with their resource challenges. Based on our review of the existing research literature, quite a number of organizations emphasized or worked on similar themes, carried out similar research at times parallel to each other but without any platform to share, coordinate and streamline these endeavors. Cooperation between social science research organizations, especially those focused on similar thematic areas was therefore seen as crucial.

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Appendix 1: List of Acronyms

AATF	African Agricultural Technology Foundation
ACC	Africa Conservation Centre, Kenya
ACCE	African Council for Communication Education
ACEG	African Centre for Economic Growth
ACTS	Africa Centre for Technology Studies
ACWICT	African Centre for Women, Information and Communication Technology
AERC	African Education Resource Center, Kenya
AERC	African Economic Research Consortium
AFIDEP	African Institute for Development Policy
AFREPREN	Africa Energy Policy Research Network
AfriCOG	Africa Centre for Open Governance
AMREF	Africa Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF)
ANIE	African Network for Internationalization of Education
APHRC	Kenya African population and Health research Centre, Kenya
ARRF	African Research and Resource Forum

ASB	Alternatives to Slash-and-Burn
ASTII	African Science and Technology Innovation Indicators.
ATPS	Africa Technology Policy studies Network, Kenya
CAFS	Centre for African Family Studies, Kenya
CASELAP	Centre for Advanced Studies in Environmental Law and Policy
CCG	Centre for Corporate Governance
CDC	Centre for Disease Control
CEED	Centre of Executive and Entrepreneurial Development
CENA	Climate Exchange Network for Africa
CGD	Centre for Governance and Development
CIP	International Potato Centre
CMP	Centre for Multiparty Democracy
CREST	Centre for Research on Evolution, Science and Technology
CRF	Coffee Research Foundation
CSGV	Centre for the Study of Gender Violence
DDC	Dry lands Development Centre
DRSRS	Directorate of Resource Surveys and Remote Sensing
FANRPAN	Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network
GITS	Government Information and Technology Services
ICAD	Institute for Civic Affairs and Development
ICIPE	International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology
ICPC	International Centre for Policy and Conflict
ICRAF	International Centre for Research in Agro forestry
ICRIDELAM	International Center for Research and Information Dissemination on Environment and Land Management
ICRISAT	International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics
IDIA	International Development Institute- Africa
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IDS	Institute for Development Studies
IEA	Institute of Economic Affairs, Kenya
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute

IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IHPMR	Institute of Health Policy, Management and Research
IIED	International institute for Environmental Development
IIN	Indigenous Information Network
ILA	International Institute for Legislative Affairs
ILEG	Institute for Law and Environment Governance
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute
INASP	International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications
IPAR	Institute of Policy Analysis and Research
IPST	Institutional and Policy Support Team, Kenya
IREN	Inter Region Economic Network
ISS	Institute for Security Studies
IWMnet	Network for Integrated Watershed Management- East Africa
JKUAT	Jomo Kenyatta University of Science and Technology
JOOUST	Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology
KARI	Kenya Agricultural Research Institute
KCCWG	Kenya Climate Change Working Group
KECCA	Kenya Climate Change Adaptation Research Group
KEFRI	Kenya Forestry Research Institute
KMFRI	Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute.
KEMRI	Kenya Medical Research Institute
KESREF	Kenya Sugar Research Foundation
KFS	Kenya Forest Service
KGCT	Kenya Gatsby Charitable Trust
KIM	Kenya Institute of Management
KIPPRA	Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis
KIRDI	Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute
K-MAP	Kenya Management Assistance Program
KMFRI	Kenya Marine & Fisheries Research Institute
KNAS	Kenya National Academy of Sciences
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

KSG	Kenya School of Government
KSL	Kenya School of Law
KWSFP	Kenya Wildlife Service-Forest Programme
MMU	Maasai Mara University
MMUST	Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology
MoHEST	Ministry of Higher Education Science and Technology
MOIC	Ministry of Information and Communications
NACOSTI	National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation
NBA	National Biosafety Authority
NCRC	National Crime Research Centre.
NEMA	National Environmental Management Authority
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa Development
NESC	National Economic and Social Council
OSIENALA	Osiepe Nam Lolwe (Friends of lakes Victoria)
PACJA	Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance
PAMFORK	Participatory Methodologies Forum of Kenya
PELUM	Kenya Participatory Ecological Land-use Management Association
PLI	Public Law Institute
RECONCILE	Resource Conflict Institute
RECSSAD	Regional Centre for Socio-Economic Studies and Development, Kenya
RIOD	Reseau International d'ONGs sur la Desertification
RIT	Research Innovation and Technology
RUFORUM	Regional University Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture
SAFORGEN	Sub-Saharan African Forest Genetic Resources Program
SOMANET	Social Science and Medicine Africa Network
TIAPD	Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development
TI	Transparency International Kenya
TISA	The Institute for Social Accountability
TRFK	Tea Research Foundation of Kenya
TUK	Technical University of Kenya
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
UOE	University of Eldoret.
UON	University of Nairobi
USIU	United States International University
VFA	Volunteers for Africa
WRC-DI	Women's Research Centre and Development Institute