

## **Approaches to embedding indigenous knowledge systems in Made in Africa Evaluations**

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### **Abstract**

**Background:** In this article, the authors make a case for weaving indigenous knowledge systems (IKS) with monitoring and evaluation of interventions targeted at communities on the African continent. Current efforts do not make explicit reference to indigenous knowledge in Made in Africa Evaluation (MAE). Indigenous knowledge systems are implied as the defining aspect of MAE, being called upon to be fused with existing evaluation systems and practices in order to enhance evaluation in African communities.

**Objective:** To call for enrichment of the MAE in setting the agenda and bring agency to evaluation practices in Africa against centuries of unsustainable developmental practices that continue to underdevelop the continent.

**Method:** This article explores aspects of IKS which challenge Western hegemonic epistemologies in evaluation approaches and practices in Africa.

**Results:** It is argued that associations such as African Evaluation Association (AfrEA) should strive to become knowledge hubs which pursue the mission to re-project and reposition Africa within the existing continuum of global knowledge.

**Conclusion:** The article makes several recommendations for fusing IKS with MAE in a bid to bring the African voice to the fore in evaluations.

**Keywords:** evaluation; epistemology; hegemony; MAE; AfrEA; IKS.