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Authors’ information: Sultana Al Sabahi1*, Michael G. Wilson2,3,4, John N. Lavis2,3,4,5,6,7, Fadi El-Jardali8, Kaelan Moat3

1Centre of Studies and Research, Ministry of Health, Muscat, Oman.

2Health Policy PhD Program, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada.

3McMaster Health Forum, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada.

4Department of Health Evidence and Impact, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada.

5Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada.

6Department of Political Science, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada.

7Africa Centre for Evidence, University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg, South Africa.

8Knowledge to Policy Center, American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon.

(*Corresponding authors: Al-sabahiS@hotmail.com)

Supplementary file 2.
**Table S1.** Contextual Feature of the Participated Organizations

|                                | Total | WHO region |
|--------------------------------|-------|------------|
|                                |       | Africa     | America   | Eastern Mediterranean | Europe  | Western Pacific |
| **Income level according to World Bank classification (n=18)** |       |            |           |                     |         |                |
| Low-income                     | 3 (17%) | 3 (17%) | 0     | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lower-middle-income            | 5 (28%) | 3 (17%) | 0     | 0 | 2 (11%) | 0 |
| Upper-middle-income            | 7 (39%) | 0 | 3 (17%) | 2 (11%) | 2 (11%) | 0 |
| High-income                    | 3 (17%) | 0 | 2 (11%) | 0 | 0 | 1 (6%) |

*Political jurisdiction in which the organizations principally provide supports within (n=18)*

|                                | Total | WHO region |
|--------------------------------|-------|------------|
|                                |       | Africa     | America   | Eastern Mediterranean | Europe  | Western Pacific |
| National/ federal              | 17 (94%) | 7 (39%) | 4 (22%) | 2 (11%) | 3 (17%) | 1 (6%) |
| Provincial/ sub-national       | 9 (50%) | 3 (17%) | 3 (17%) | 1 (6%) | 1 (6%) | 1 (6%) |
| Local                          | 5 (28%) | 2 (11%) | 2 (11%) | 0 | 0 | 1 (6%) |
| Other (global)                 | 1 (6%) | 0 | 1 (6%) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

**Governance arrangement of the health system in which the organizations operate (n = 17)**

|                                | Total | WHO region |
|--------------------------------|-------|------------|
|                                |       | Africa     | America   | Eastern Mediterranean | Europe  | Western Pacific |
| Mainly centralized              | 7 (41%) | 0 | 1 (6%) | 1 (6%) | 4 (24%) | 1 (6%) |
| Mainly decentralized            | 6 (35%) | 2 (12%) | 3 (18%) | 1 (6%) | 0 | 0 |
| Equally centralized and decentralized | 4 (24%) | 3 (18%) | 1 (6%) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

**Financial arrangement of the health system in which the organizations operate (n = 18)**

|                                | Total | WHO region |
|--------------------------------|-------|------------|
|                                |       | Africa     | America   | Eastern Mediterranean | Europe  | Western Pacific |
| Mainly publicly funded          | 12 (67%) | 5 (28%) | 3 (17%) | 0 | 3 (17%) | 1 (6%) |
| Mainly privately funded         | 1 (6%) | 0 | 0 | 1 (6%) | 0 | 0 |
| Mix of public and private       | 5 (28%) | 1 (6%) | 2 (11%) | 1 (6%) | 1 (6%) | 0 |

**Delivery arrangement of the health system in which the organizations operate (n = 18)**

|                                | Total | WHO region |
|--------------------------------|-------|------------|
|                                |       | Africa     | America   | Eastern Mediterranean | Europe  | Western Pacific |
| Predominately public delivery   | 11 (61%) | 4 (22%) | 3 (17%) | 0 | 3 (17%) | 1 (6%) |
| Predominately private for-profit | 1 (6%) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 (6%) | 0 |
### Organizational Attributes

#### Research system in which the organizations operate (n = 18)

| Organization Model                        | Total | Africa | Americas | Eastern Mediterranean | Europe | Western Pacific |
|-------------------------------------------|-------|--------|----------|----------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Predominately private not-for-profit      | 1 (6%)| 0      | 1 (6%)   | 0                    | 0      | 0               |
| Mix of private for-profit and not-for-profit | 4 (22%)| 2 (11%)| 1 (6%)   | 1 (6%)               | 0      | 0               |
| Equally delivered by public and private   | 1 (6%)| 0      | 0        | 1 (6%)               | 0      | 0               |

*Research system in which the organizations operate (n = 18)

| Availability of centralized fund for HSR | 14 (78%) | 4 (22%) | 5 (28%) | 1 (6%) | 3 (17%) | 1 (6%) |
| Provision of funds for prioritized KT activities from funding agencies | 10 (56%) | 3 (17%) | 3 (17%) | 0 | 3 (17%) | 1 (6%) |
| Funding agency requirement for collaboration between researchers & policy-makers | 10 (56%) | 3 (17%) | 3 (17%) | 0 | 3 (17%) | 1 (6%) |
| Funding agency requirement for collaboration between researchers & citizens | 6 (33%) | 1 (6%) | 2 (11%) | 0 | 3 (17%) | 0 |

* More than one answer was possible for this question

° Each question of this section has been asked separately

Note: the total percentage may not be exact because of the rounding

#### Table S2. Organizational Attributes

| Location (n= 15)                      | Total | Africa | Americas | Eastern Mediterranean | Europe | Western Pacific |
|---------------------------------------|-------|--------|----------|----------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Embedded within universities          | 5 (33%)| 2 (13%)| 1 (7%)   | 2 (13%)             | 0      | 0               |
| Embedded within ministry of health    | 3 (20%)| 0      | 3 (20%)  | 0                    | 0      | 0               |
| Independent                           | 7 (47%)| 1 (7%) | 1 (7%)   | 0                    | 4 (27%)| 1 (7%)          |
### Organization type (n =14)

| Organization Type                        | Count | Percent |
|------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Government department/ unit              | 4     | 29%     |
| Research center in academic institution  | 2     | 14%     |
| Independent research center             | 3     | 21%     |
| Evidence-Informed Policy Network         | 3     | 21%     |
| Professional association                 | 1     | 7%      |
| Independent non for-profit organization | 1     | 7%      |

### Governance approach (n =15)

| Governance Approach                     | Count | Percent |
|-----------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Through executive board                 | 9     | 60%     |
| Advisory committee                      | 4     | 27%     |
| Other (in house senior officials)       | 2     | 13%     |

### Budget in US dollar (n=12)

| Budget          | Mean     | Median   | Range               |
|-----------------|----------|----------|---------------------|
|                 | $105,880,000 | $157,500 | $10,000 to 1,250,000,000 |
|                 | $312,820,000 | $62,5000 | $65,000 to 250,000 |
|                 | $20,000   | $20,000  | $30,000 to 1,250,000 |
|                 | $1,975,000 | $1,200,000| $10,000 to 4,500,000 |
|                 | 13,000,000|          |                     |

### Source(s) of funding (n =15)

| Source                      | Count | Percent |
|-----------------------------|-------|---------|
| Government                  | 11    | 73%     |
| Grants from research-funding agencies | 10    | 67%     |
| Philanthropic donations     | 1     | 7%      |
| International agencies      | 5     | 33%     |
| Biomedical or other for-profit companies | 1     | 7%      |
| Other sources | 4 (27%) | 0 | 1 (7%) | 1 (7%) | 1 (7%) | 1 (7%) |
|---------------|---------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|

### Human resources (n =15)

| Total number of staff | Mean | 63 | 9 | 36 | 11 | 153 | 100 |
|------------------------|------|----|---|----|----|-----|-----|
|                        | Median | 15 | 8 | 12 | 11 | 115 | 100 |
|                        | Range  | 4 to 360 | 5 to 15 | 4 to 93 | 10 to 12 | 24 to 360 | - |
| Full time employees    | Mean | 51 | 4 | 19 | 9 | 141 | 80 |
|                        | Median | 12 | 2 | 12 | 9 | 105 | 80 |
|                        | Range  | 0 to 337 | 0 to 10 | 1 to 55 | - | 18 to 337 | - |
| Part-time employees    | Mean | 14 | 5 | 23 | 2 | 13 | 20 |
|                        | Median | 6 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 13 | 20 |
|                        | Range  | 0 to 66 | 3 to 8 | 0 to 66 | 1 to 3 | 0 to 25 | - |

*Background of full-time employees (n =15)*

| Policy analysis | 12 (80%) | 1 (7%) | 4 (27%) | 2 (13%) | 4 (27%) | 1 (7%) |
|-----------------|----------|--------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| Health economics | 7 (47%) | 1 (7%) | 4 (27%) | 0 | 2 (13%) | 0 |
| Health services research | 13 (87%) | 2 (13%) | 4 (27%) | 2 (13%) | 4 (27%) | 1 (7%) |
| Clinical epidemiology | 10 (67%) | 1 (7%) | 5 (33%) | 1 (7%) | 2 (13%) | 1 (7%) |
| Informatics / library science | 5 (33%) | 1 (7%) | 2 (13%) | 1 (7%) | 1 (7%) | 0 |
| Biostatistics | 9 (60%) | 1 (7%) | 4 (27%) | 2 (13%) | 1 (7%) | 1 (7%) |
| Population and public health research | 13 (87%) | 2 (13%) | 5 (33%) | 2 (13%) | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) |
| Other types of social science | 7 (47%) | 0 | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) | 2 (13%) | 1 (7%) |

*Information system access (n =15)*

| Electronic databases | 12 (80%) | 1 (7%) | 5 (33%) | 2 (13%) | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) |
|----------------------|----------|--------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| Database that index local studies or reports | 9 (60%) | 2 (13%) | 4 (27%) | 2 (13%) | 1 (7%) | 0 |
| Local data sets | 13 (87%) | 2 (13%) | 5 (33%) | 1 (7%) | 4 (27%) | 1 (7%) |
| Organization Type | Government Institution | Academic Institution | Other Local/Provincial Organization | Other International Organization | Other (NGOs) | Organizations that Mentored Others | Organizations that Have 'Sister' Centres | Organizations that Have a Strategic Plan | Organizations that Monitor and Devaluate Their Performance/Impact |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| | 11 (73%) | 3 (20%) | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) | 11 (73%) | 2 (13%) | 4 (27%) | 1 (7%) | 4 (27%) | 0 |
| | 12 (80%) | 3 (20%) | 5 (33%) | 0 | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) | 8 (53%) | 2 (13%) | 3 (20%) | 0 |
| | 8 (53%) | 2 (13%) | 3 (20%) | 0 | 3 (20%) | 0 |
| | 11 (73%) | 3 (20%) | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) | 1 (7%) | 0 |
| | 1 (7%) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 (7%) | 0 |
| | 8 (53%) | 0 | 2 (13%) | 2 (13%) | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) | 8 (53%) | 0 | 2 (13%) | 2 (13%) | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) |
| | Update regularly | 2 (13%) | 1 (7%) | 0 | 0 | 1 (7%) | 0 |
| | Update irregularly | 8 (53%) | 2 (13%) | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) | 1 (7%) | 1 (7%) | 8 (53%) | 2 (13%) | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) | 1 (7%) |
| | Do not update | 5 (33%) | 0 | 2 (13%) | 1 (7%) | 2 (13%) | 0 |

\*Establishment (n = 15)

| Mean | 23 | 20 | 24 | 8 | 31 | 17 |
|------|----|----|----|---|----|----|
| Median | 17 | 14 | 10 | 8 | 25 | 17 |
| Range | 3 to 71 | 4 to 43 | 3 to 60 | 4 to 11 | 2 to 71 | - |
| Organizations that found lessons from other countries helpful | 8 (53%) | 2 (13%) | 3 (20%) | 1 (7%) | 2 (13%) | 0 |
| Organizations that conduct situation analysis | 5 (33%) | 0 | 1 (7%) | 2 (13%) | 1 (7%) | 1 (7%) |
Organizations that used readiness assessment tool:

- 1 (7%) in Africa
- 0 in America
- 0 in Eastern Mediterranean
- 0 in Europe
- 1 (7%) in Western Pacific

* The Western Pacific region dropped because the survey not complete

* More than one answer was possible for this question

◊ Each question of this section has been asked separately

Table S3. Organizational Focus, and Activities

| WHO region                  | Total | Africa | America | Eastern Mediterranean | Europe | Western Pacific |
|-----------------------------|-------|--------|---------|-----------------------|--------|-----------------|
| **Clarifying problems**     | 16 (94%) | 4 (24%) | 5 (29%) | 2 (12%) | 4 (24%) | 1 (6%) |
| **Framing options**         | 15 (88%) | 4 (24%) | 5 (29%) | 2 (12%) | 3 (18%) | 1 (6%) |
| **Identifying implementation considerations** | 14 (82%) | 3 (18%) | 5 (29%) | 2 (12%) | 3 (18%) | 1 (6%) |
| **Supporting monitoring and evaluation** | 14 (82%) | 4 (24%) | 3 (19%) | 2 (12%) | 4 (24%) | 1 (6%) |

*The domains in which the organizations provide service (n = 17)

| Organizational activities (n = 16) | Total | Africa | America | Eastern Mediterranean | Europe | Western Pacific |
|-----------------------------------|-------|--------|---------|-----------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Provide online courses            | 6 (38%) | 0      | 2 (13%) | 1 (6%) | 2 (13%) | 1 (6%) |
| Provide face-to-face courses/ workshops | 15 (94%) | 4 (25%) | 5 (31%) | 2 (12%) | 3 (19%) | 1 (6%) |
| Provide searchable repositories/databases | 8 (50%) | 1 (6%) | 4 (25%) | 1 (6%) | 2 (13%) | 0 |
| Conduct rapid synthesis/rapid reviews of evidence | 12 (75%) | 2 (13%) | 5 (31%) | 2 (13%) | 2 (13%) | 1 (6%) |
| Conduct systematic reviews of primary research | 8 (50%) | 3 (19%) | 3 (19%) | 2 (13%) | 0 | 0 |
| Conduct overviews of systematic reviews | 8 (50%) | 2 (13%) | 3 (19%) | 1 (6%) | 2 (13%) | 0 |
| Create evidence/policy briefs     | 14 (88%) | 3 (19%) | 5 (31%) | 2 (13%) | 3 (19%) | 1 (6%) |
| Convening deliberations with citizens/patients | 7 (44%) | 1 (6%) | 3 (19%) | 1 (6%) | 2 (13%) | 0 |
Convening deliberations among system leaders | 13 (81%) | 3 (19%) | 3 (19%) | 2 (13%) | 4 (25%) | 1 (6%)  
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Convening communities of practice | 6 (38%) | 1 (6%) | 2 (13%) | 0 | 2 (13%) | 1 (6%)  
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Supportive audits of policies and practices | 9 (56%) | 1 (6%) | 3 (19%) | 2 (13%) | 2 (13%) | 1 (6%)  
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
External reviews of reports or policies | 11 (69%) | 3 (19%) | 3 (19%) | 1 (6%) | 4 (25%) | 0  
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Adapting resources to the needs of the organization | 10 (63%) | 2 (13%) | 3 (19%) | 1 (6%) | 3 (19%) | 1 (6%)  
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Evaluate approaches to support EIDM | 10 (63%) | 3 (19%) | 3 (19%) | 1 (6%) | 2 (13%) | 1 (6%)  
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Other | 3 (19%) | 1 (6%) | 1 (6%) | 1 (6%) | 0 | 0  
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Organizations that formulate recommendations (n=14) | 10 (71%) | 2 (14%) | 2 (14%) | 2 (14%) | 3 (21%) | 1 (7%)  

*Methods of formulating recommendation (n = 10)*

Subjective review | 5 (50%) | 1 (10%) | 0 | 1 (10%) | 2 (20%) | 1 (10%)  
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Informal consensus | 6 (60%) | 1 (10%) | 1 (10%) | 2 (20%) | 2 (20%) | 0  
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Formal consensus | 6 (60%) | 1 (10%) | 0 | 1 (10%) | 3 (30%) | 1 (10%)  
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Graded according to the quality | 3 (30%) | 0 | 1 (10%) | 0 | 1 (10%) | 1 (10%)  
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Other | 1 (10%) | 0 | 0 | 1 (10%) | 0 | 0  

*More than one answer was possible for this question*

*Each question of this section has been asked separately*

**Table S4. Organizational Products**

| Type of product | Number /16 | Years since start producing this product | Number produced in the last 12 months |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |

8
| Rapid syntheses or rapid review | Median | Range | Median | Range |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
|                                | 12 (75%) | 4.5 | 1-12 | 5.5 | 0-46 |
| Evidence or policy briefs      | 14 (88%) | 5 | 1-10 | 2.5 | 1-10 |
| Citizen friendly syntheses or summaries of research | 8 (50%) | 4.5 | 1-10 | 2.5 | 0-15 |
| Analysis or summaries of deliberations | 8 (50%) | 7 | 5-10 | 2 | 0-20 |
| Database of research evidence  | 10 (62%) | 5.5 | 1-30 | 3 | 0-4 |
| Information about the health system in which you work | 10 (62%) | 7 | 2-30 | 5 | 0-20 |
| Tools for application (eg, algorithms, flow charts, checklists) | 5 (31%) | 4 | 2-10 | 4 | 0-15 |
| Videos                         | 7 (44%) | 5 | 1-10 | 2.5 | 0-5 |

*More than one answer was possible for this question

Not presented across WHO regions because in many cases there is one response only, where we cannot present a median

Table S5. Engagement of Target Audience

| Approaches to engage selected groups | Health-system policymakers | Social-system policymakers | Policymakers in central agencies | Managers of regions, central agencies | Stakeholders | Citizens/patients | Other target users |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| n = 16 (%)                           |                             |                            |                                  |                                       |              |                   |                   |
| Organizational governance           | 13 (81%)                    | 6 (34%)                    | 10 (63%)                         | 11 (69%)                              | 9 (56%)      | 3 (19%)           | 2 (13%)           |
| Working groups or project steering committees | 14 (88%)                    | 8 (50%)                    | 12 (75%)                         | 12 (75%)                              | 12 (75%)     | 2 (13%)           | 3 (19%)           |
| Conduct                             |                             |                            |                                  |                                       |              |                   |                   |
| interviews to identify insights     | 10 (63%)                    | 7 (44%)                    | 7 (44%)                          | 9 (56%)                               | 9 (56%)      | 3 (19%)           | 3 (19%)           |
| Reviews of draft reports            | 15 (94%)                    | 7 (44%)                    | 10 (63%)                         | 11 (69%)                              | 8 (50%)      | 2 (13%)           | 3 (19%)           |
| As participants in other activities | 14 (88%) | 7 (44%) | 8 (50%) | 10 (63%) | 10 (63%) | 5 (31%) | 5 (31%) |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Other mechanism                    | 2 (13%) | 1 (6%)  | 2 (13%) | 0       | 1 (6%)  | 1 (6%)  | 0       |

* More than one answer was possible for this question

⚠️ Not presented across WHO regions because in many cases there is one response only, where we cannot present a median