

Additional File 2 Study characteristics of the 32 eligible studies

KT Model	Study	Country	KT capacity building activity/level	Evaluation method	Target audience
Push efforts	Aikins et al 2012: Establishing and sustaining research partnerships in Africa: a case study of the UK-Africa Academic Partnership on Chronic Disease	United Kingdom & Africa	Research partnership - Regional	[none reported]	researchers, policymakers
Push efforts	Angulo-Tuesta et al 2016: Impact of health research on advances in knowledge, research capacity-building and evidence-informed policies: a case study on maternal mortality and morbidity in Brazil	Brazil	Research funding - Systems	Case Study/Document review/citation analysis	Researchers
Push efforts	Bartlett et al 2008: 'I went in feeling like a student and came out feeling like a researcher': An evaluation of the first Australian Masterclass for Emerging Researchers in Ageing	Australia	Academic program - Individual	Pre/Post Intervention Questionnaire	researchers
Push efforts	Cole et al 2016: Implementing a national health research for development platform in a low-income country – a review of Malawi's Health Research Capacity Strengthening Initiative	Malawi	Research platform - Systems	Document review/Interviews	Researchers & research institutions
Push efforts	UNDP/UNFPA/WHO/WORLD BANK Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP)	WHO Headquarters & participating countries (Ethiopia, Mozambique, Nigeria, Uganda, Zambia, South Africa, Kenya, Maldives, Fiji, Viet Nam,	Research platform - Regional	Case Study (lesson learning, interviews, document review, survey)	health-care providers, policy-makers, scientists, clinicians and consumer and community representatives

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	2008: Knowledge synthesis and transfer: a case-study	the United Republic of Tanzania, China)			
Push efforts	Kwan et al 2007: A systematic evaluation of payback of publicly funded health and health services research in Hong Kong	Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region	Research fund - Systems	Research Payback Evaluation	professionals engaged in health research
Push efforts	Mahmood et al 2011: Strategies for capacity building for health research in Bangladesh: Role of core funding and a common monitoring and evaluation framework	Bangladesh	Funding and complex intervention - Organizational	Case Study	researchers & policymakers, donors, & management, academic institutions, development agencies
Push efforts	Ottoson et al 2009: Policy-Contribution Assessment and Field-Building Analysis of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Active Living Research Program	The United States of America	Research funding - Systems	Questionnaire, Interviews, Document review, Bibliometric Analysis,	[none reported]
Push efforts	Sallis et al 2009: The Active Living Research Program: Six Years of Grantmaking	The United States of America	Research funding - Systems	Questionnaire, Interviews, Document review, Bibliometric Analysis,	[none reported]
User-pull efforts	Araujo de Carvalho et al 2015: Informing evidence-based policies for ageing and health in Ghana	Ghana	Technical assistance - Organizational	Case study/Document review	experts, policymakers, representatives from key ministries, the Ghana Health Service, teaching hospitals, professional bodies, NGOs and WHO.
User-pull efforts	The CIPHER Investigators 2014: Supporting Policy In health with Research: an Intervention Trial (SPIRIT)—protocol for a stepped wedge trial	Australia	Complex intervention - Organizational	Interviews, questionnaire, document review	Health policy agencies

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User-pull efforts	Neves et al 2014: Evaluation of the international forum on evidence informed health policymaking: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – 27 to 31 August 2012	Ethiopia	Conference - Individual	Post Intervention Questionnaire (qualitative & quantitative)	Researchers, policymakers, journalists
User-pull efforts	Peirson et al 2013: The Registry of Knowledge Translation Methods and Tools: a resource to support evidence-informed public health	Canada	Online resources Individuals	Questionnaire, Interviews, Google Analytics	Policy & decision makers
User-pull efforts	Uneke et al 2011: Enhancing health policymakers' capacity to use information and communication technology in Nigeria	Nigeria	Workshop - Individual	Pre/Post Intervention Questionnaire	policymakers and other health decision makers, health researchers, NGOs
User-pull efforts	Uneke et al 2015: Improving Nigerian health policymakers' capacity to access and utilize policy relevant evidence: outcome of information and communication technology training workshop	Nigeria	Workshop - Individual	Pre/Post Intervention Questionnaire	policymakers
User-pull efforts	Uneke et al 2015: Enhancing the Capacity of Policy-Makers to Develop Evidence-Informed Policy Brief on Infectious Diseases of Poverty in Nigeria	Nigeria	Workshop & Mentoring - Individual	Pre/Post Intervention Questionnaire	policymakers
Linkage and exchange	Alberta Health Services 2014: Knowledge Translation Evaluation Planning Guide	Canada	Research platform - Systems	[none reported]	Research partnerships
Linkage and exchange	ESSENCE on Health Research 2016: Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation	[General framework]	Research platform -	Document review, site visits, questionnaires, interviews	funders of research capacity efforts

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	Framework for Research Capacity Strengthening		Individual, Organizational, Systems		
Linkage and exchange	Galluzzo et al 2012: Alcohol and older people. The European project VINTAGE: Good Health into Older Age. Design, methods and major results	Europe	Network - Regional	Document review, questionnaire	healthcare professionals, policymakers, policy making organizations, researchers, academic institutions
Linkage and exchange	Hawkes et al 2016: Strengthening capacity to apply health research evidence in policy making: experience from four countries	Bangladesh, Gambia, Nigeria (India excluded; community level)	Complex intervention - Organizational	Document review, interviews, pre/post questionnaire	policymakers & policy influencers, researchers
Linkage and exchange	Kothari et al 2011: Indicators at the interface: managing policymaker-researcher collaboration	Canada	Research partnerships - Systems	not evaluation indicator development through literature review, interviews, and focus groups	research partnerships
Linkage and exchange	Langlois et al 2016: Enhancing evidence informed policymaking in complex health systems: lessons from multi-site collaborative approaches	South Africa & Cameroon	Buddying - Individual	Realist Evaluation (Document review, interviews, focus group)	sub-national policymakers & researchers
Linkage and exchange	Murnaghan et al 2013: Knowledge exchange systems for youth health and chronic disease prevention: a tri-provincial case study	Canada	Network - Systems	Case Study, Lessons Learned (documents, surveys, interviews, focus groups)	stakeholders involved in practice, policy, or research
Integrated efforts	Conklin et al 2008: A Model for Evaluating Knowledge Exchange in a Network Context	Canada	KT Network & Brokering - Systems	Case study: Literature review, interviews, questionnaire	caregivers, policy-makers, researchers

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Integrated efforts	Ekirapa-Kiracho et al 2014: Evaluation of a health systems knowledge translation network for Africa (KTNET): a study protocol	Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Uganda, Ethiopia	Technical Assistance - Systems	Pre/Post Intervention Questionnaire, Interviews, Usage Analytics, Social Network Analysis	8 participating research coalitions
Integrated efforts	El-Jardali et al 2014: Capturing lessons learned from evidence-to-policy initiatives through structured reflection	Argentina, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Uganda, Sudan, Zambia	KTP - Systems	Interviews, Document review, Observations	KT platform leaders, policymakers, stakeholders
Integrated efforts	Johnson et al 2010: Procedures Manual for Evaluating Knowledge-Translation Platforms in Low- and Middle- Income Countries	Canada	KTP - Systems	Case Study (surveys, media analysis, document review, usage analytics)	policymakers, stakeholders, researchers, participating KTPs & affiliates
Integrated efforts	Kothari et al 2014: Evaluation of partnerships in a transnational family violence prevention network using an integrated knowledge translation and exchange model: a mixed methods study	Canada, the United States of America, Asia, Europe, Australia	Network - Systems	Questionnaire, Interviews	researchers & knowledge users, trainees
Integrated efforts	Mavoa et al 2012: Knowledge exchange in the Pacific: The TROPIC (Translational Research into Obesity Prevention Policies for Communities) project	Fiji	Knowledge broker - Organizational	Interviews, questionnaire, process diaries,	Researchers, policymakers, policymaking organizations, advocacy groups
Integrated efforts	Ongolo-Zogo et al 2014: Initiatives supporting evidence informed health system policymaking in Cameroon and Uganda: a comparative historical case study	Cameroon, Uganda	KTP - Systems	Case Study (document review & questionnaire)	policymakers, researchers, civil society, media

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Integrated efforts	Waqa et al 2013: Participants' perceptions of a knowledge-brokering strategy to facilitate evidence-informed policy-making in Fiji	Fiji	Knowledge broker - Organizational	feedback questionnaire and interviews	academic institutions, research centers, policymaking experts, government departments, NGOs
Integrated efforts	Waqa et al 2013: Knowledge brokering between researchers and policymakers in Fiji to develop policies to reduce obesity: a process evaluation	Fiji	Knowledge broker - Organizational	feedback questionnaire and interviews	academic institutions, research centers, policymaking experts, government departments, NGOs