

## AGDEN Member elected to serve as AfrEA Vice-President 2022 – 2024.



AGDEN nominated Dr. Awuor Ponge for the position of the African Evaluation Association (AfrEA) Vice-President. Dr. Ponge has been an active member of AGDEN since 2012 and has been involved in various AGDEN activities in Kenya and around the globe in international forums. His latest assignment on behalf of AGDEN was the execution of the International Organisation for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE) and EvalPartners Innovation Challenge Project 2019 building capacity of Parliamentarians and Parliamentary Staff in Kenya, implemented by AGDEN and the International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS).

Dr. Awuor Ponge is a former Board member of IDEAS representing Sub-Saharan Africa. He was very active in establishing networks between IDEAS and other international organisations, such as IOCE, UN Women, EvalPartners and the Gender and Evaluation Online Community to enhance gender-responsiveness and equity-focus in evaluations. Dr. Ponge has also been instrumental in encouraging mentorship programmes globally for Young and Emerging Evaluators (YEEs).

Ponge is the founding Convener of the Gender and Evaluation Thematic Interest Group at IDEAS; and also the founder and former leader of the Working Group on Mentoring Young and Emerging Evaluators (YEEs) Programme at IDEAS. He has sat at the EvalGender+ Management Group, where he was Co-Convener for the Communication and Knowledge Management Task Group; and Co-Convener of the Advocacy and Leadership Task Group. He is presently, the Secretary of the African Chapter of the Guidelines International Network (G-I-N) and the Africa Regional Representative at the EvalIndigenous Global Network. He was awarded the International Organisation for Collaboration in Evaluation (IOCE) and EvalPartners **Award in 2015 for my contribution to Evaluation in Africa and Mentoring Young and Emerging Evaluators**. He is also credited with the formulation of the Indigenous African Ethical Protocol for Evaluations, under the auspices of the EvalIndigenous Global Network.

Given Ponge's active role in AGDEN activities, his passion for and relentless efforts in building organizational and staff capacity on M&E, he will be an asset to AfrEA in strengthening individual and national evaluation capacities and use. He has demonstrable zeal for M&E capacity building. Ponge has served in various VOPE Executive Positions including the Evaluation Society of Kenya (ESK) – 3 Years; the South African Monitoring and Evaluation Association (SAMEA) – 1 Year; the International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS) – 4 Years and the International Organization for Collaborative Outcome Management (IOCOM) – 7 Years.

Ponge was elected as Vice-President of AfrEA by a majority of 91% of those who cast their votes for the position. In his acceptance speech of the election, Dr. Ponge has promised that he will play an important part in promoting the AfrEA ideals and ideas at all Evaluation functions globally; work with other members of the Board for the benefit of the membership of AfrEA; continue with his mentoring of the Young and Emerging Evaluators (YEEs); prepare a comprehensive policy document for AfrEA on Membership Mobilisation and Benefits. He has also promised to listen to the wishes of the members and to articulate the silent voices of the membership at the AfrEA

Board level; contribute in drawing a Strategic Plan for AfrEA 2021 – 2025 to guide AfrEA operations and long term vision, going forward; *and* to prepare a Roll of Honour Policy for AfrEA – the Awards and Recognition Policy. He has offered his selfless service and to work with the other members of the Board to ensure that AfrEA fulfills its mandate and achieves its vision. We at AGDEN are privileged to offer Dr. Ponge to be of serve in the AfrEA Board and we wish him well in the execution of his mandate.