COVID-19 Related Evidence in Policymaking: Perspective from Development Partners

There is a gradual emergence of evidence explaining how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted developing economies. It is not clear at this point how the development partners or public sector decision-makers are using this rapid evidence. Secondly, what type of evidence has proven most useful during the first and second waves of COVID-19, requires discussion so that future investments in evidence-use relevant for policy formulation, are undertaken. Thirdly, there is a need to discuss which channels of communicating evidence were most helpful during the outbreak. This may be especially important in the context of evidence demand and supply during future waves of the pandemic. The panellists will shed light on:

1. What type of evidence is now available and relevant for development partners, and how has it been used to help the sustainability of socioeconomic reform programmes?
2. What is the interaction between evidence producers and users? Are there any lessons for development partners?
3. How have development partners pivoted their evidence-use programmes during COVID-19?
4. What evidence-use lessons are available from other on-going programmes (perhaps from other countries) during COVID-19? Are there any success stories with regard to various evidence ecosystem strengthening, e.g., convening and connecting evidence producers and users; creating demand for evidence; capacity development for evidence-use?

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