The International Centre for Evaluation and Development

PRESS RELEASE

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ICED and Taita Taveta County Sign Five-Year MoU to Strengthen Evidence-Informed Development

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The International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED) and the County Government of Taita Taveta signed a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 4 November 2026 to strengthen evidence-informed decision-making, accountability and sustainable development in the county.

The signing ceremony, held at ICED's offices in Nairobi, was led by H.E. Dr Andrew Mwadime, Governor of Taita Taveta County, and Dr David Ameyaw, President and CEO of ICED. The Governor was accompanied by Gloria Monikombo, Minister for Devolution; Harrison Mkala, Chief Officer for Devolution; Pamphil Mwakio, Chief of Staff; and Jesper Kisombe, Assistant Director, Devolution.

Through this partnership, ICED has adopted Taita Taveta as a model county for strengthening the generation, synthesis and use of evidence to inform county policy, planning and development.

The collaboration will focus on joint research, evaluations, Evidence and Gap Maps (EGMs), institutional capacity strengthening, policy engagement and knowledge sharing, with the aim of translating credible evidence into better decisions and improved public service delivery.

Speaking during the signing ceremony, H.E. Dr Andrew Mwadime, Governor of Taita Taveta County, said:

> *"Taita Taveta has enormous potential across agriculture and other sectors, but what matters most is how these resources translate into better livelihoods for our people. Through this partnership, we want to document our development achievements, identify the gaps that remain and use credible evidence to attract partnerships and investments that respond to the needs of our communities."*

Dr David Ameyaw, President and CEO of ICED, emphasised the importance of strengthening evidence use at the county level.

> *"Through this partnership, we are committed to working with Taita Taveta as a model county for evidence-informed development. ICED brings technical expertise and a network of partners that we can leverage to support the county's development priorities, while generating lessons that can benefit other counties"*

Key Areas of Collaboration

Working together, the institutions will support the application of research, evaluation findings and data to county planning, policy formulation and performance management, while documenting development progress, identifying evidence gaps and sharing lessons.

The partnership will also support professional training and institutional capacity strengthening in Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL), impact evaluation, results-based management, data analytics, evidence synthesis and public policy for county officers and other relevant stakeholders.

Additional areas of cooperation include policy dialogues, dissemination of research findings, internships, research placements and experiential learning opportunities. The two institutions will also explore opportunities to mobilise financial, technical and human resources to support mutually agreed development initiatives.

The MoU provides a framework for long-term collaboration, with specific activities and projects to be developed through jointly agreed work plans and project agreements, where appropriate.

The partnership marks an important step towards demonstrating how credible evidence can inform development priorities, strengthen county systems and support more responsive governance, with lessons that could inform evidence use across other counties.

About ICED

The International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED) is an African-led research and evaluation organisation working to strengthen the generation, synthesis and use of evidence for improved policy and development action. Through research, innovation, monitoring and evaluation, and knowledge sharing, ICED works with governments, researchers and development partners to advance evidence-informed decision-making across Africa and beyond.

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