

THINK TANK INITIATIVE EXCHANGE
ÉCHANGE DE L'INITIATIVE THINK TANK
INTERCAMBIO INICIATIVA THINK TANK

2012



■ Cape Town, June 18-20 ■ Le Cap, 18-20 Juin ■ Ciudad del Cabo, 18-20 de junio



Framing our understandings of success

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Think Tank Initiative



Success key to objectives of Exchange

- Share knowledge, practices and experiences
- Develop a common understanding
- Articulate future directions for the program
- Encourage networking and collaboration
- Contribute to research agenda





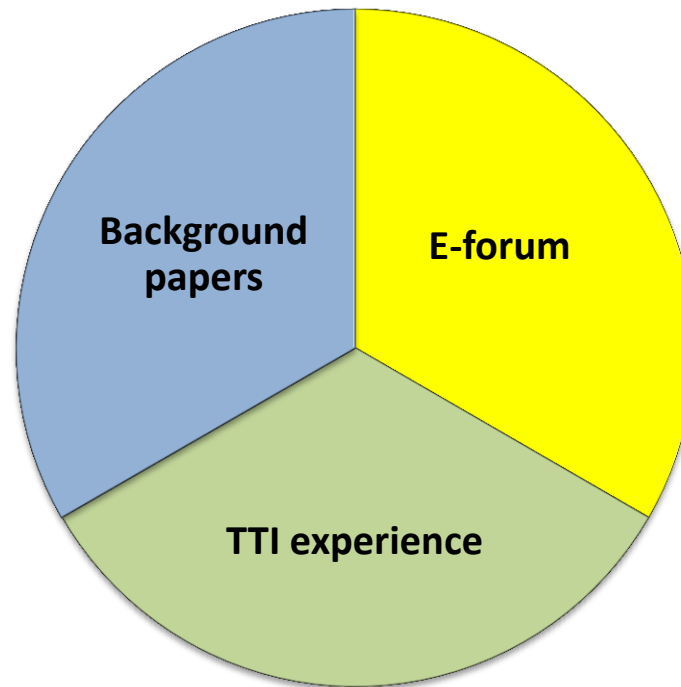
Stakeholder involvement

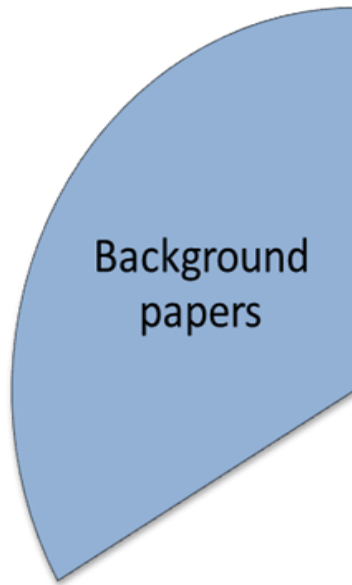
- TTI grantee institutions
- TTI Exchange Planning Committee
- TTI Executive Committee and International Advisory Group
- TTI team members
- Wide range of other stakeholders





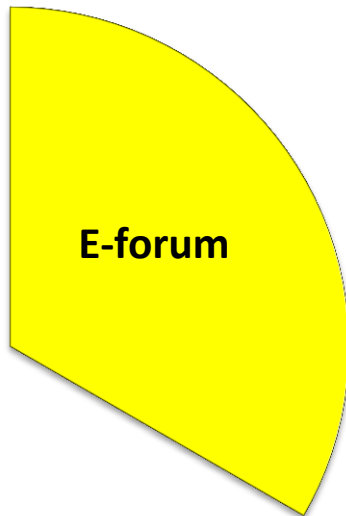
Inputs to TTI Exchange on success





- Learning to monitor think tanks' impact
- Influencing as a learning process – stories of successful policy engagement
- Deepening our understanding of the “demand side”





- >100 contributions, 22 countries, 44 institutions
- Challenges and opportunities, attributes of success, and expectations of TTI Exchange
- Similar issues face TTs across and within regions
- Get basics right, share philosophy, push boundaries and engage!





- Knowledge Expo reflects possible dimensions of success:
 - Governance
 - Impact
 - Networks
 - Quality
 - Reputation
 - Strategy
- Others?
 - Culture, Sustainability...?





Focus of agenda: “Enabling success”

- Strategy and mission – national, regional, global
- Research quality
- Outreach, policy influence and impact
- Organizational leadership and governance, structures and mechanisms
- Stakeholder engagement and relationships





Helping shape TTI thinking and approach

- Balancing core funding and technical support
- Prioritising programming
- Understanding and demonstrating change
- Learning from our collective efforts
- Influencing wider thinking and practice





Questions for group discussion

- Given our understandings that have emerged through the preparations for the Exchange, which attributes of success require particular attention in your own institution and why?
- What kinds of support (for example core funding, technical support) are most likely to prove catalytic when you address the attributes of success you have identified in your organization? And why?
- How will the Exchange help you in addressing your priority attributes of success?

