

**THE EDUCATION  
COLLABORATIVE**

2023 June Convening

**Decolonising Research Methods  
Pedagogy in HEIs**

# Facilitator/Speaker/Panelists Details

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# Session Outline

- Introduction
- The State of Research Methods in HEIs
- What is happening in a Research class?
- What is ignored?
- What should be done?
- Questions



**Mission**

**Vision**

**Goal**

**Strategy**

I know what I want

Help me get there

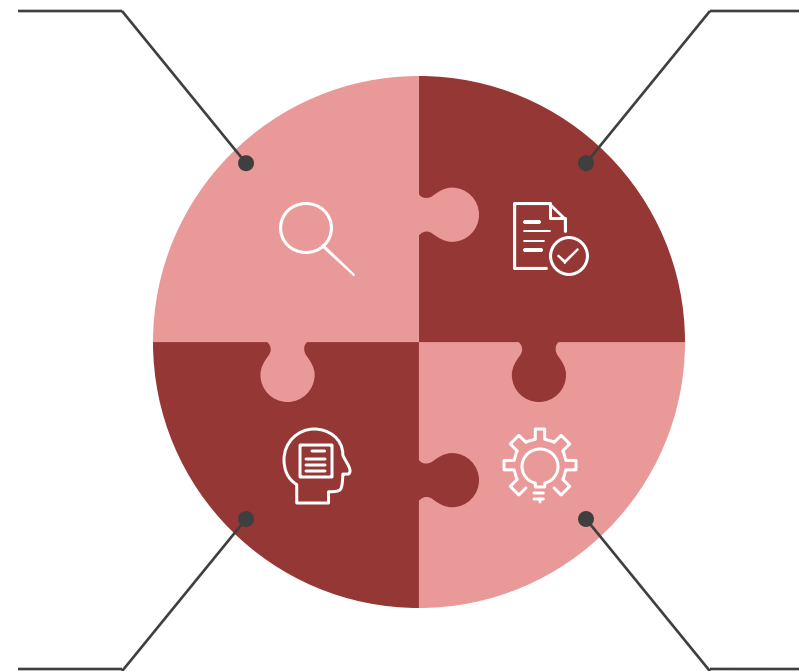
# The State of Research Methods in HEIs

## Alienated from an African University

- Colonial legacy still shapes education
- Dominant research paradigms are Eurocentric –
- Epistemic injustice – Knowledge produced in African University aren't as easily accessible

## Reliance on Traditional Research Methods

- Developed within western academic frameworks for their own interest
- Have a set of predetermined criteria
- Used to impose research agendas as seen in the extractive nature of qualitative research



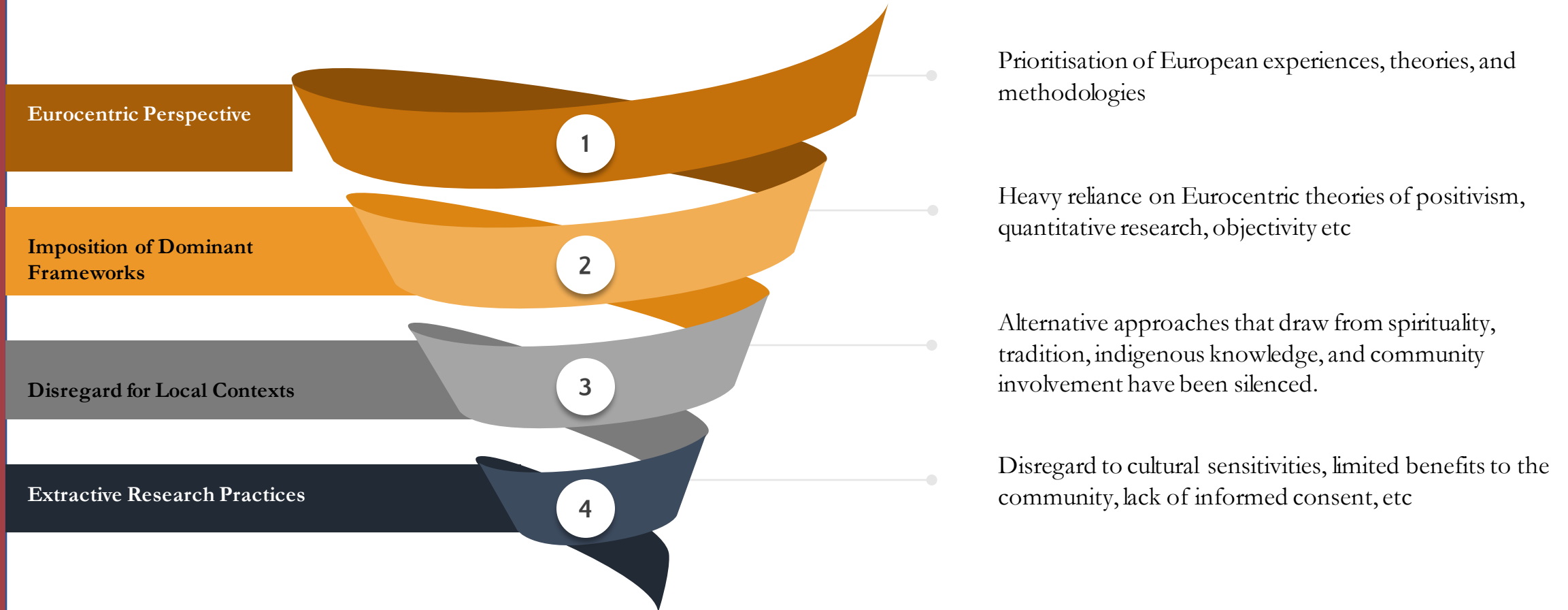
## Poor Faculty Development and Research

- Research methodology training
- Grant writing and research funding
- Dissemination and publication support
- Lack of research mentorship

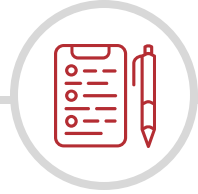
## No Mention of Decolonial Approach

- Challenging the dominance of western epistemologies
- Valuing local knowledge traditions and wisdom
- Decolonising pedagogy

# What is Happening?



# What is Ignored?



Alternative  
Epistemology

Indigenous  
knowledge  
systems

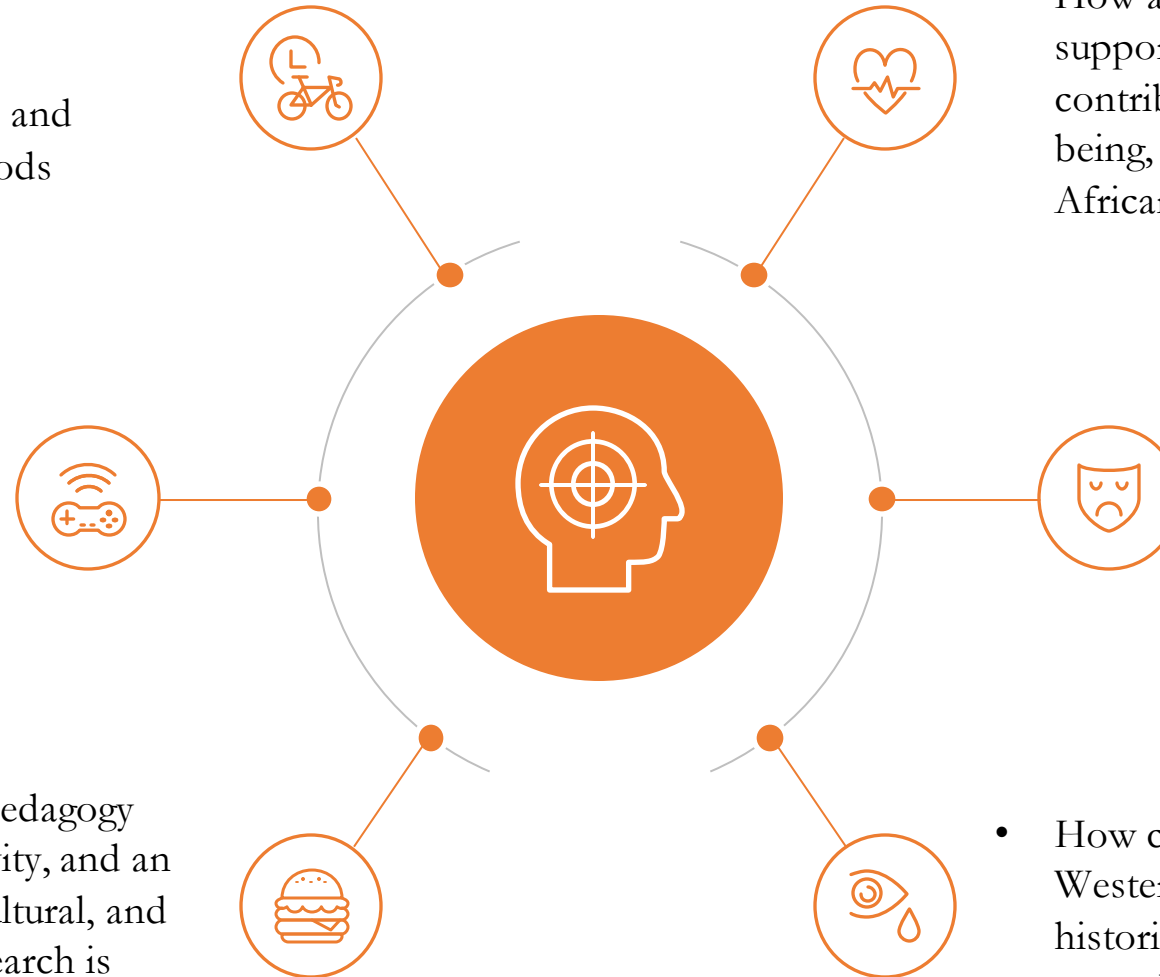
Intuition and  
emotions

Community  
ownership of  
the research  
process

The Learner

# Pondering?

- What is your preferred future of research pedagogy in HEIs in Africa?
- Can we rewrite the boundaries and philosophies of research methods pedagogy?
- Whose knowledge is prioritized in research methods pedagogy?
- Does your teaching of research methods pedagogy prioritize community engagement and participatory approaches?
- How does research methods pedagogy foster critical thinking, reflexivity, and an understanding of the social, cultural, and political contexts in which research is conducted?



- How are students and researchers supported in conducting research that contributes to their empowerment, well-being, and sustainable development of our African communities?
  - Can we produce knowledge beyond Eurocentric fundamentalisms?
  - Can we write essays, dissertations, theses without referring to theories from the west?
  - Can we move beyond dissertation writing for a social science degree?
- How can we end the domination of Western epistemological traditions, histories and figures without throwing away the best practices in research?



# What Should be Done?

**Thank You**