**ES/T015128/1: An assessment of Food Systems Research Network for Africa (FSNet-Africa) Fellows' professional experiences at Baseline**

**Survey Design**

The survey specifically targeted Food Systems Research Network for Africa (FSNet-Africa) fellowsfrom higher education institutions in Africa. The objective was to understand fellows' professional experiences at the beginning of the FSNET-Africa fellowship programme in the following areas: networks and visibility, potential, skills development, performance improvement, and personal growth across eight dimensions of professional development. These areas include conducting integrated research, research data management, integrating gender in research, research ethics, monitoring and evaluation, disseminating research findings, and stakeholder engagement.

The methodology utilized in this study was a self-assessment survey, consisting primarily of structured questions and a limited number of qualitative open-ended questions.

All 20 FSNET-Africa fellows were invited to participate in the survey.