Section 1; Overview of Evidence Map

The evidence map is related to Ghana specifically to the use of evidence by the Environmental Protection Agency sector to inform Environmental Policy Making. The map recognizes evidence from 4 key sources;   Data (Both Qualitative and Qualitative data), Research evidence: Practice informed evidence and Citizen (or participatory) evidence

1.1   Main role players are in the evidence ecosystem

There are formal and informal relationships between evidence producers and users. These fall into two main categories: relationships between government agencies, and relationships between government agencies and non-government stakeholders. The key government agencies include The Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, (MESTI), Environmental Protection Agency, National Development Planning Agency and other Ministries, Departments and Agencies, the Non Government Players include Research Institutions such as Parliament, CSIR, Universities, Think Tanks, Citizens, Civil Society Organizations, Environmental Consultants, Media, Evidence networks and Development partners

1.2 Current gaps in the evidence ecosystem

- the existence of a fragmented national knowledge architecture with a limited systematic collaboration between researchers and policy makers.
- limited engagement of research institutions in the Agency's work, a fraught relationship with the media, and the existence of different types of linkages with civil society organizations
- Reliance on a culture of fragmented evidence collection and uncoordinated research efforts at the Agency
- Weak information management system that hinders evidence reliability and timeliness.
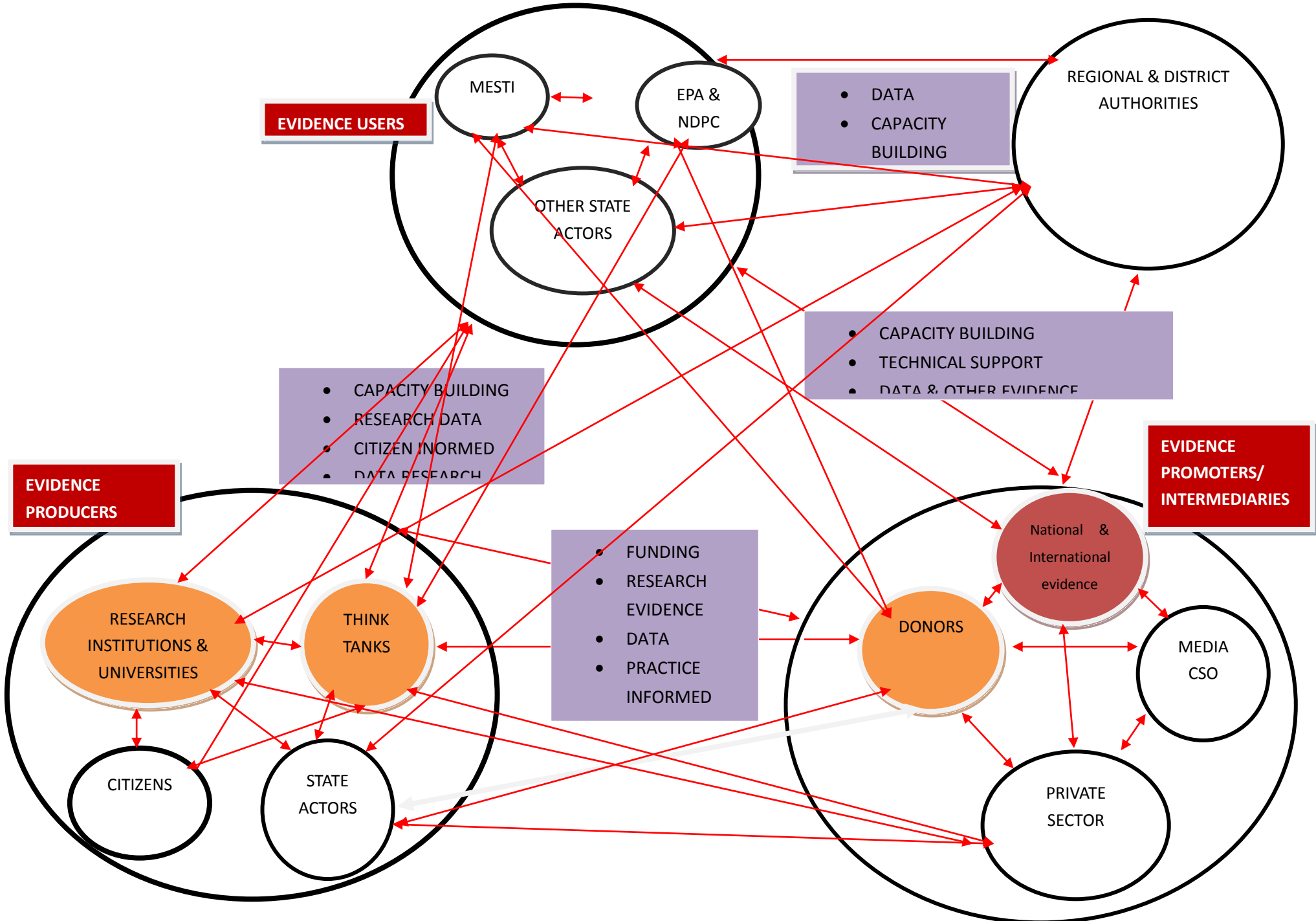
1.3   Bottlenecks or organisational silos that impede the flow of evidence through the system?

There are internal and external bottlenecks that impede the flow of evidence. This is compounded by the lack of platforms for sharing evidence

1.4   What best characterises the relationship between research producers and users in your

The relationships between evidence or knowledge producers and the users can described as both formal and informal, sometimes unstructured, disconnected and fragmented. Stronger collaborative relationships which can identify and address mutually-defined needs are required to address this issue.

EVIDENCE ECOSYSTEM MAP – GHANA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

EVIDENCE USERS

MESTI

EPA & NDPC

OTHER STATE ACTORS

REGIONAL & DISTRICT AUTHORITIES

- DATA
- CAPACITY BUILDING

- CAPACITY BUILDING
- TECHNICAL SUPPORT
- DATA & OTHER EVIDENCE

EVIDENCE PROMOTERS/ INTERMEDIARIES

EVIDENCE PRODUCERS

- CAPACITY BUILDING
- RESEARCH DATA
- CITIZEN INORMED
- DATA RESEARCH

- FUNDING
- RESEARCH EVIDENCE
- DATA
- PRACTICE INFORMED

RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS & UNIVERSITIES

THINK TANKS

DONORS

National & International evidence

MEDIA CSO

CITIZENS

STATE ACTORS

PRIVATE SECTOR

Section 3 Conclusion

3.1 What type of intervention/support would the system most benefit from?

- Creation of coherent institutional platforms for sharing evidence between producers and users
- Capacity building
- Development/Strengthening of collaborative relations which can identify and address mutually-defined needs

3.2 Comment on how your map relates to the three themes of the Evidence 2018 conference: engage, understand, impact.

- Formal and informal engagement between the actors
- Undefined roles and sometimes misunderstanding and duplication of roles
- Impact of evidence can be optimized

3.3 Do you think that there are aspects of the engagement described in your map that work well and have potential to be up-scaled?

- Intersectoral Networks and relationships
- Enhanced stakeholder collaboration mechanisms to advance evidence
- Donor/Networks support for evidence production and use

3.4 Is there a creative metaphor to describe the overall evidence ecosystem (e.g. evidence jungle; research to policy highway etc.)? Evidence spider web