Strengthening National Evaluation Capacities in the area of the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs

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Moderator
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Guiding Questions for Presentations

• Brief overview over your organizations' activities in ECD
• What has changed for you with the Agenda 2030 in terms of how you conceive and implement ECD?
• What are the three lessons from (other) regions in terms of ECD that you would like to highlight?
Key Session Takeaways

• Evaluation and E-Capacity Development is crucial to achieving the SDGs
• Good experience with a systemic / partnership approach
• Go beyond the technical dialogue.
• Alliances between parliamentarians and civil society
• Evaluation of 1 Goal or of Various goals? What is important is the interconnectedness
• Need to work with VOPES
• Countries at the driver’s seat.
• Advocacy as important as implementing initiatives.
Structure

• Introduction
• Case Studies: Germany/FOCELAC, World Bank/CLEAR, UNICEF, EVALSDG
• Gap Analysis
• Break-out discussions
• Reporting back and Final Plenary

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Introduction

- Evaluation is essential to good governance
- ECD is essentially CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
- With Agenda 2030, a systems-approach is needed
Strengthened Evaluation Functions through ECD

- Good governance
- Legitimacy and accountability

- More effective and efficient programmes
- Politics delivers suitable solutions for the population’s needs
- Programmes and strategies are adapted to society’s priorities

Evaluations play a key role in evidence-based decisions and political steering to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Organisations, actors and society as a whole develop and maintain their ability to commission, call for, carry out and systematically use evaluations

Source: DEval Policy Brief 7/208

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Systemic Approach to Evaluation Capacity Development

Institutional capacity

Individual capacity

Conducive environment

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Session Overview

• Brief overview over the World Bank Group’s activities in ECD (through the Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) and with Partners)
• What has changed with the Agenda 2030 in terms of how you conceive and implement ECD?
• What are the three lessons from outside of Asia in terms of ECD to highlight?
World Bank’s approach to ECD

- Maurya West Meiers – Senior Evaluation Specialist, Independent Evaluation Group, World Bank Group
New Efforts

• IEG is working to establish a new partnership initiative – Global Evaluation Initiative – with the objective of fostering capacity development and use of evaluations by public and private stakeholders, for enhanced accountability for results, evidence-based decision-making, and learning from experience.

• Outcomes sought:
  • Enhanced evaluation capacities and use of evaluations in institutions in the Global South.
  • Enhanced evaluation capacities and use of evaluations in the World Bank Group, the UN and other partners’ institutions.
Functions and Services

- **Convening and collaboration**
  - International conferences
  - Joint initiatives

- **Training**
  - Programs
  - Learning events

- **Advisory Services**
  - M&E systems development
  - Evaluation policy development

- **Knowledge-sharing**
  - International research
  - International practices

- **Research and innovation**
  - Methods
  - Practices

*Examples*

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Existing Efforts: Some Highlights of Programs with Partners and within IEG

**Partner Programs**
- clear
  - Centers for Learning on Evaluation and Results

**IEG Programs**
- IEG Academic Fellows Program
  - Promoting Evaluation Knowledge Sharing
  - [https://ieg.worldbankgroup.org/iegfellows](https://ieg.worldbankgroup.org/iegfellows)

**International Program for Development Evaluation Training**

ECD Research Publication Series: Restarting in 2019

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CLEAR: Supporting the SDGs and Government’s Agenda 2030

CLEAR is committed to contributing to SGD16 – Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions. Specifically, CLEAR contributes to building effective institutions by:

Advocating for the use of evidence for better informed policy decisions
- Promoting development effectiveness through evaluation
- Promoting good governance through enhanced accountability and transparency in public policy; and
- Building evaluation skills and capabilities within public institutions.

CLEAR also contributes to SDG 17 as it is part of a global partnership dedicated to achieving the SDGs, with a particular role in supporting the development of the required M&E framework (beyond statistics). Furthermore, CLEAR is committed to contributing to countries’ Agenda 2030, principally by helping national governments and their partners monitor and evaluate progress and performance of strategies and programs that contribute to the achievement of 2030 national development goals.

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ECD Lessons outside of Asia
ECD and NECD – A Partnership Approach

Ada Ocampo
Senior Evaluation Specialist, UNICEF
Co- chair of EVALSDGs, Secretariat GPFE

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UNICEF’s new Evaluation Policy approved in 2018 states that “The evaluation function supports the development of national evaluation capacity, undertaken in collaboration with Member States and entities of the United Nations system, which should enhance the provision of timely evidence at the country level on the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals and the fulfilment of the rights of all children”

ECD and NECD are therefore at the core of UNICEF’s Agenda.

What has been done so far:

In line with the principles underlying the Agenda 2030 UNICEF is working in partnerships to: i) Advocate on the importance for evaluation in the context of the 2030 Agenda. Among other things, initiatives include

- Support national efforts towards enabling environments for evaluation;
- Promote country led evaluations of the SDGs
- Support countries to embed evaluation in VNRs
- Support countries prepare for country led evaluations
- Training initiatives
- Knowledge products

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Contributing to the work of EvalSDGs, Evalpartners and the GPFE to:

**Support national efforts towards enabling environments for evaluation:**

- Contribution to conferences e.g. EvalColombo 2028, EP Global Forums, Panels within evaluation conferences, etc.
- With the Global Parliamentarians Forum for Evaluation: organization of events at parliaments and senates; follow up to EvalColombo Declaration.

**Promote country led evaluations of the SDGs:**

- With EVALSDGs: organization of advocacy events including webinars, side events to the High Level Political Forum etc.
- With EVALSDGs, Finland Ministry of Foreign Affairs and IIED Retreat with policy makers on connecting SDGs with National Priorities in Helsinki 2018
- With EVALSDGs, Finland Ministry of Foreign Affairs and IIED, knowledge product (a Briefing and a Handbook) on how to evaluate SDGs.
- With the GPFE: advocate for the creation of the demand of the evaluation of the SDGs

**Support to country led Evaluations:**

- Advisory role in the Evaluations done by Nigeria together with EvalSDGs
- Trainings on country led Evaluations
- Support countries to embed evaluation in VNRs

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Contributing to embed Evaluation in voluntary National Reviews and on SDGs Reporting to:

*In partnership with UNECA, CLEAR AA and the African Union:*

- Africa wide training on Embedding Evaluation in Voluntary National Reviews
- Training replicated in Philippines in the frame of APEA Conference
- Training to be replicated at NEC Conference in Egypt – October 2019
- Second edition of training to African Countries to be held this year in Addis

*Promote Country led Evaluations of the SDGs:*

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*Other activities: Promotion of a General Assembly Resolution on Country led evaluations of the SDGs in partnership with EVALPARTNERS.*

*Training Initiatives and Knowledge Products:*

- On demand training for Govt Official and other partners on Country led Evaluations: Sierra Leone, Mexico, Ghana
- A guidance document on Embedding Evaluation in VNRS (completed to be released).

*Support to VOPES*

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What has changed in the Approach to ECD since the Agenda 2030?

- Re-think the role of the UN and other stakeholders.
- Partnership approach: In line with the principles of the 2030 Agenda all initiatives are done in partnerships.
- To the extent of possible multi-stakeholder approaches.
- Countries at the driver’s seat.
- Advocacy as important as implementing initiatives.
- Evaluation is important to demonstrate that the principle of *No One left Behind* is underpinning efforts to progress towards the Goals.
ECD / NECD Lessons:

• Need to emphasize the political dimensions of Evaluation and Evaluation of the SDGs: Go beyond the technical dialogue.

• Alliances between parliamentarians and civil society can lead to important changes in the national enabling environment.

• Evaluation of 1 Goal or of Various goals? What is important is the interconnectedness e.g. Is it possible to evaluate a goal without establishing its connections with SDG 5 and SDG 10?

• Need to work with VOPES to ensure they will play a role in the national efforts towards the 2030 Agenda.

• Advocacy is paramount!
Interactive Part: Gap Analysis

- What are the most important gaps?
- Discuss the four most important gaps in small groups.
- After 10 minutes, each group moves to discuss the next gap / challenge.
- Share and discuss the results with the group.
Potential Capacity Development Gap Areas

• Capacity development activities
• Stakeholder groups / types
• Languages
• Countries / regions
• Content / topic areas
• Other
## Capacity Development Activity Mapping: Moving Beyond Training!

**Discussion:** What are gap areas that funders might consider funding? How do we provide linkages between-among activities and target groups?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training (Face-to-Face)</th>
<th>Knowledge Sharing (Platforms, Newsletters, etc)</th>
<th>Technical Assistance (TA)</th>
<th>Evaluation Standards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online Training/ Learning</td>
<td>Knowledge Resources / Research</td>
<td>Organizational Capacity Building (on M&amp;E systems)</td>
<td>Evaluation culture, Eval Agenda, Institutional Dialogue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy, Promotion</td>
<td>South-South Exchange Programs</td>
<td>Diagnostics (of M&amp;E systems, practices, etc)</td>
<td>Grants, Competitions and Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Development</td>
<td>VOPEs, Networks</td>
<td>Country Led Evaluations</td>
<td>Joint Evaluations, Assessments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Development / Emerging Evaluators</td>
<td>Core Funding for M&amp;E Functions</td>
<td>Indexing Evaluation Capacities</td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Capacity Development Activity Mapping: Stakeholder Groups

Discussion: Where might there be gaps in ECD support?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Executive Level</th>
<th>Managerial Level</th>
<th>Technical/Professional Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parliament</td>
<td>Parliamentarians</td>
<td>Senior Aids</td>
<td>Analysts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Committee Staff</td>
<td>Program staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry</td>
<td>Ministers</td>
<td>Managers</td>
<td>Analysts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>Vice Ministers</td>
<td>Program leaders</td>
<td>Program staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional/Provincial</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Government Agency</td>
<td>Agency Heads</td>
<td>Managers</td>
<td>Analysts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>Directors</td>
<td>Program leaders</td>
<td>Program staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional/Provincial</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Society Groups / NGOs</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Managers</td>
<td>Analysts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Directors</td>
<td>Program leaders</td>
<td>Program staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academia</td>
<td>Presidents/Chancellors</td>
<td>Department Chairs</td>
<td>Professors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deans</td>
<td></td>
<td>Research staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Program staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Material and Sources

- [List of materials and sources]
Thank you for your attention!

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Ada Ocampo, UNICEF | aocampo@unicef.org
IPDET: Highlights and Outcomes

- Strong reputation built over the years, seen by many as the premier global program of its type
- Internationally-acclaimed faculty, including many of the biggest international names in the evaluation community and IEG staff
- Increased involvement of the Global South in faculty, participants, and advisory group
- New delivery partners with vision of further increasing access to southern participants through deliveries in the south in partnership with CLEAR and other partners

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CLEAR Initiative: Centers for Learning on Evaluation and Results

• Founded 2010 – a multi-donor initiative

• Six regional centers (and two affiliates) in Anglophone Africa, Brazil and Lusophone Africa, East Asia, Francophone Africa, Latin America, and South Asia

• Mission: strengthen M&E systems and practices, and promote use of evidence in decision making in the Global South

• Housed in renowned academic institutions; coordinated by a Global Hub in IEG

• Phase 3 Strategy, under development, emphasizes impact (public good and market development), partnerships, and global network collaboration

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CLEAR Initiative: Highlights and Outcomes

- In 2018, CLEAR Centers reached 28,277 participants in 66 countries

- Increased focus on longer-term engagements with clients to deepen culture of M&E in client institutions

- Complementing trainings with advisory services to improve M&E systems and processes to foster a broader and more enduring impact on evidence-based decision-making

- Through PRiME – a program in rural M&E financed by IFAD – CLEAR Centers have trained participants from rural and agricultural public institutions in 35 countries

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CLEAR Initiative: gLOCAL Evaluation Week

This initiative was modeled after the Evaluation Week in Latin America - an annual event convened by CLEAR LAC since 2015. In 2018, LAC’s Evaluation Week reached 12,082 people through 214 events that were hosted by 126 institutions in 14 countries.

**gLOCAL Evaluation Week**

**What?**
A designated week of M&E knowledge sharing and networking events

**Where?**
Everywhere! Sessions hosted by event organizers will take place around the world

[link to glocalevalweek.org]

**When?**
June 3-7, 2019

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