

EVALUATION



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

NATIONAL EVALUATION CAPACITY OVERVIEW AND ISSUE FOR CONFERENCE CONSIDERATION

10/18/2017

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Director, Independent Evaluation office of UNDP

NEC 2017
Istanbul

Framing the Istanbul NEC

National
Evaluation
Capacity issues

Implications of
the SDGs

NEC 2017 - Your
participation and
role into the SDG
future

Evaluation and
development
considerations

1

National Evaluation Capacity issues

7 contours of the NEC journey

NEC linked to development and its governance

UNDP's signature regional events helped to sustain momentum

NEC for SDGs - Bangkok Declaration

UN's affirmation

Evaluation is normative

Evaluation policy for accountable institutions

Professionalization of evaluators

1 NEC linked to development and its governance

- An old topic which is directed to advancing development – which should show Progress in People, Planet and all goals of the post 2015 agenda

NATIONAL
EVALUATION CAPACITIES
Conference 2017

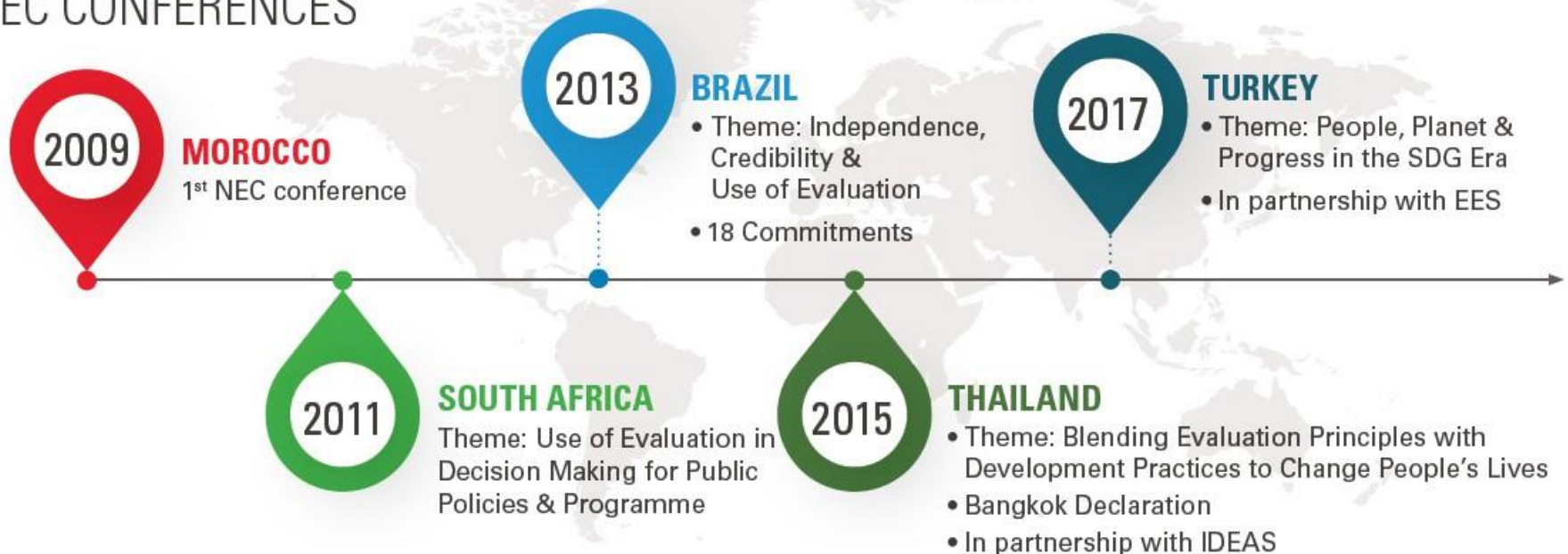
 PEOPLE  PLANET &  PROGRESS
in the SDG ERA



2 UNDP Signature Regional NEC events have helped to sustain NEC momentum through new conversations with new partners


- Each event framed on key theme, evolving into the next, gathering momentum through the NEC journey, with new participants, countries and topics

History & Evolution of NEC CONFERENCES



3 NEC for SDGs – Bangkok Declaration

- Government's critical responsibility for SDGs is dependent upon its capacity to review its performance – which has integrity if it meets principles as enshrined in the **Bangkok Declaration**



Bangkok Principles on National Evaluation Capacity for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) era

1. This declaration seeks to capture an emerging body of shared understanding on lessons and priorities for evaluation practice in the era of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to help guide joint action in future support of national evaluation capacity.
2. We the participants at the Fourth International Conference on National Evaluation Capacity, convened by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and its Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) and the Global Assembly 2015 and the International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS) here in Bangkok, 28-30 October 2015 declare to the evaluation community:
3. Representing evaluation users and producers, from 100 countries and members of national governments, national, regional and international organizations and networks; comprising professional practices that span from government, private and non-profit sectors; from internal management consultancy through formal independent oversight to academic research; we have shared our diverse experience and sought common understanding on challenges and opportunities for evaluation practice to support the SDGs. We stand ready to bring our collective and cumulative expertise to bear upon success in service to the SDGs as a transformational vision of a world of universal respect for human rights and dignity, equality, non-discrimination, democracy and the rule of law.
4. We understand the 17 SDGs and targets to have the potential to transform societies and mobilize people and countries. Achievement of the SDGs will need to be founded upon effective, accountable and inclusive institutions, sound policies and good governance, and we share the conviction that the evaluation function and profession has great potential in responding to the challenges at hand. Beyond evidence-based reflection embedded in evaluative findings and recommendations per se, the evaluation function can, if undertaken without deference to authority alone, bring legitimacy of duty bearers' engagement with stakeholders to development.
5. We note that the SDG's intentions for follow-up and review processes are specifically guided by objectives that evaluation function directly responds to (*inter alia*):
 - identify achievements, challenges, gaps and critical success factors
 - support the identification of solutions and best practices and promote coordination and effectiveness of the international development system.
 - be open, inclusive, participatory and transparent for all people
 - build on existing platforms and processes,
 - be rigorous and based on evidence, informed by country-led evaluations and data
 - require enhanced capacity-builds support for developing countries, including the strengthening of

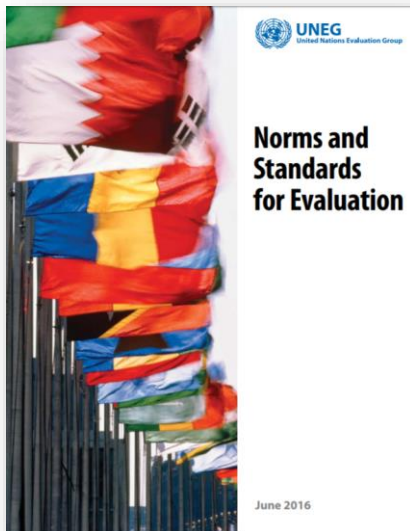
4 UN's affirmation

“we need a culture of evaluation, independent and real-time evaluation with full transparency.”
– UN Secretary General, Guterres



5 Evaluation is normative

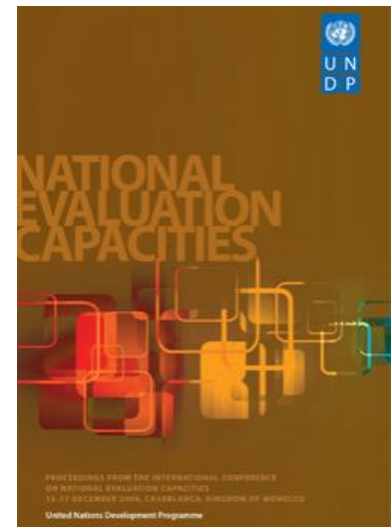
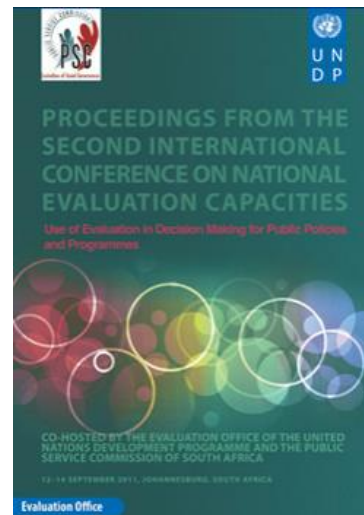
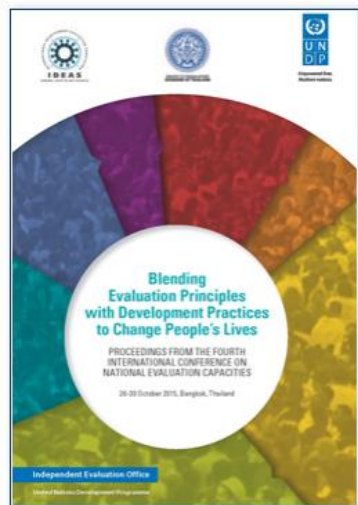
- Revised **UNEG Norms and Standards** entrench evaluation principles



- English
- Spanish
- French
- Chinese
- Russian
- Arabic

6 Evaluation policy for accountable institutions

- This remains a critical issue



7 Professionalization

- Professionalization of evaluators is necessary for coherence of approach to address SDG challenges

NEC efforts since the 2015 conference

- HLPF side events to advocate for the use of evaluation in the Voluntary National Reviews



Evaluation as a mechanism for effective national follow-up and review progress towards the SDGs

A HLPF side event organized by UNEG



Venue: UNICEF House, 3 United Nations Plaza (44th Street, b/w 1st & 2nd Ave), New York

Date/Time: Wednesday, 12 July, 1:15 – 2:30 pm

Opening Remarks: Mr. Indran Naidoo, UNEG Vice-Chair and Director, Independent Evaluation Office, UNDP

Chair: Ms. Susanne Frueh, UNEG Chair and Director, Internal Oversight Service, UNESCO

Panelists:

- Ms. Heidi Berner Herrera, Deputy Secretary of Social Evaluation, Ministry of Social Development, Chile
- H.E. Mr. Aliloaiga Feturi Elisaia, Ambassador of Samoa to the United Nations
- Mr. Dr. Burton S. Mguni, Deputy Statistician General – Economic & Social Statistics, National Statistical Organization of Botswana
- H.E. Mr. Michael Gerber, Special Envoy for Global Sustainable Development, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland
- Mr. Stefano D'Errico, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Registration: Kindly RSVP silke.hofer@undp.org by Monday, July 10, 5pm EST



@un_evaluation

UNEG SDGs Roadmap

In 2016, UNEG commissioned a working paper
Evaluation in the SDG era: lessons, challenges and
opportunities for UNEG



UNEG to prepare a roadmap that “sets out the role of the UN Evaluation System in the follow-up and review mechanism of the Agenda 2030, at global, thematic, regional and national level”

UNDP's IEO diagnostics tool

- UNDP IEO has prepared a guidance note and on-line assessment tool for national evaluation diagnostics.
- This aims to provide the countries with tools and reference materials to assess what evaluation can do for them and what they can in turn do to diagnose and strengthen their national evaluation capacities.
- This guidance note and on-line assessment tool will be introduced in details in one of the sessions later this week.

2

Implications of the SDGs

From MDGs to SDGs

- The SDGs and the post -2015 agenda builds on a decade of meeting MDGs and there is no clear cut transition as some of the challenges in meeting the MDGs remain.
- It involves engaging diverse stakeholders at the global, regional and national levels.
- It needs to address challenges in monitoring progress and outcomes.
- Definitional issues remain.

Key issues for evaluators

- ❑ Measuring the big picture and development is not easy, the complexities of assessing the MDGs remain.
- ❑ Issue of scale: When aggregating data, higher level results may mask important inter and intraregional inequality and disparities and convey the wrong picture of progress
- ❑ It's challenging to assess causality, between SDGs and policy.
- ❑ Overall, the measurement tools need to address context and go beyond the numbers

Opportunities exist

- SDGs can act as norms that provide a call for ordinary citizens, advocates and civil society to join forces with governments to promote and achieve sustainable development.

3

NEC 2017 - towards the SDGs

Vision towards the SDGs future

Your participation and role

Seek comprehensiveness

- All evaluation voices are important – capitalized on synergies of working with UNDP and government counterparts
- The M&E officers and results based management workshop
- The European Evaluation Society and training workshops – topics current and forward looking

Strength in geographic coverage

• 113

Countries

Participants

• 526

What it means – all development challenges and issues are represented to be addressed within the framing rubric of the SDGs



NEC 2017 - Countries

Albania	Estonia	Mauritania	Somalia
Algeria	Ethiopia	Mauritius	South Africa
Angola	Finland	Mexico	Spain
Armenia	France	Moldova	Sri Lanka
Australia	Gambia	Montenegro	Sudan
Austria	Georgia	Morocco	Swaziland
Azerbaijan	Germany	Myanmar	Sweden
Bangladesh	Ghana	Nepal	Switzerland
Belarus	Guinea	Netherlands	Tajikistan
Benin	Guinea-Bissau	Niger	Tanzania
Bhutan	India	Nigeria	Thailand
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Iran	Norway	Tunisia
Botswana	Iraq	Oman	Turkey
Brazil	Italy	Pakistan	Uganda
Burkina Faso	Ivory Coast	Palestinian Territory	Ukraine
Cambodia	Jamaica	Panama	United Kingdom
Cameroon	Jordan	Papua New Guinea	United States
Chad	Kazakhstan	Philippines	Uruguay
China	Kenya	Poland	Uzbekistan
Comoros	Kyrgyzstan	Portugal	Zambia
Congo (Kinshasa)	Latvia	Russia	Zimbabwe
Djibouti	Malawi	Serbia	
Equatorial Guinea	Malaysia	Sierra Leone	
Eritrea	Mali	Slovakia	

Strength in institutional diversity

International
organizations

Governments

Evaluators

UN agencies

Development today is multi-sectoral with blurred boundaries of nation state – issues – be it migration, climate, security ...affect all – and this conversation is best had recognizing isolated mentality to development does not work for development, peace and security

4

Evaluation and development issues

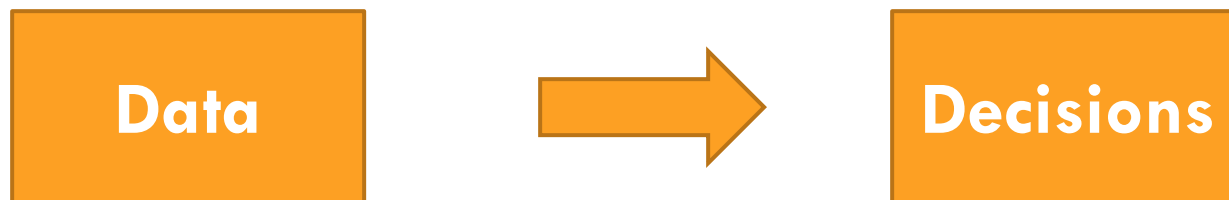
New directions for evaluation and national evaluation systems

Partnership

- Partnerships are fundamental for addressing complex promises; the SDGs complexity requires a reflection on both the advancement and quality of these partnerships
- Building partnership is vital in advancing national evaluation capacity development across the globe.

Big data and innovations

- Investment in big data and innovations in evaluation is critical for the measurement of the SDGs and consequently for public policy making



Any questions

Thank you !



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