



**IEO** Independent Evaluation Office  
United Nations Development Programme

**GEI** Global Evaluation Initiative

# Resilient National Evaluation Systems for Sustainable Development

2022 NATIONAL EVALUATION CAPACITIES CONFERENCE (NEC 2022)

25-28 October 2022

ITC-ILO Conference and Training Centre, Turin, Italy

<https://nec.undp.org/conference/nec2022>

Investments in building resilience must be evidence-based and targeted at the people in most need to ensure that no-one is left behind. The focus of NEC 2022 is to emphasize the role of sharing progress and lessons learned in strengthening national evaluation systems, and how these systems are essential for countries to 'build forward better' and get back on track towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development underlines the importance of high-quality data generated at the national level to track progress towards development goals and course correct where needed, which requires strong localized evaluation systems. The experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic have only served to highlight this.

The NEC conference series is designed to offer opportunities to share experiences and learning between government officials, civil society organizations, evaluation associations and the global evaluation community.

This year's sessions will be organized around three intersecting strands:

- National evaluation systems: *people, processes and systems*
- Sustainable development: *people, planet and peace; gender equality and social inclusion; climate change governance; and fragility, conflict and violence*
- Methodological innovations for a new world

## CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

The conference is a platform for sharing knowledge and experiences in developing sustainable and effective monitoring and evaluation systems to support the use of evidence to make better decisions, and ultimately to improve people's lives.



Share progress, lessons, innovations, experiences and perspectives in strengthening national monitoring and evaluation systems



Enhance the skills of those commissioning, conducting, using and advocating for evaluation



Foster existing and new partnerships to strengthen national evaluation systems, with an emphasis on south-south cooperation



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## ABOUT THE NEC

The SDGs aim for a better world by 2030, seeking to end poverty, fight inequality, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all. The implementation of the SDGs can be accelerated globally through evaluation as a powerful tool that improves public accountability and contributes to positive development change.

Despite progress, evaluation systems and capacity gaps at the national level remain a major challenge in most countries. As part of its efforts to tackle these issues, the Independent Evaluation Office of UNDP ([UNDP IEO](#)) organizes a biennial [National Evaluation Capacities \(NEC\) conference](#) in partnership with governments.

The first NEC conference took place over a decade ago, in Casablanca, Morocco. The conference drew unprecedented country and government support, and has run as a biennial

series ever since. The last conference in the series was held in Hurgada, Egypt, in 2019, four years after the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2020, UNDP IEO joined forces with the [World Bank IEG](#) and other partners to establish the [Global Evaluation Initiative \(GEI\)](#), bringing together different evaluation capacity development initiatives under one umbrella, including the network of [Centres for Learning on Evaluation and Results \(CLEAR\)](#) and training programmes such as [the International Programme for Development Evaluation Training \(IPDET\)](#).

The 2022 NEC conference is part of this collaborative effort. It will take a mixed in-person and virtual format and is among the first in-person events organized in collaboration between UNDP IEO and GEI, and will bring together an even greater range of partners than in the past.

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## CONFERENCE FORMAT

The event will take place over four days (25-28 October), starting with a day dedicated to pre-conference training workshops (25 October), followed by three days of conference proceedings (26-28 October).

The conference offers multiple spaces for engagement. Proceedings will comprise a mix of plenary sessions combined with parallel session on a range of themes/topics. Formats will range from plenary deliveries to innovative arrangements facilitating informal discussion and exchange of experience among participants.

The one-day in-person training workshops will focus on the most pressing development challenges and how evaluation

responds to them. Participants will have the opportunity to explore subjects in-depth, under the guidance of experts from around the world and across the evaluation community.

The conference also offers opportunities for different UN and GEI bodies to host side meetings. During these meetings members of the GEI governance bodies can meet and engage with representatives from programme countries benefiting from GEI support, and forge new partnerships.

The main working language of the conference will be English, with selected sessions and training workshops organized in other selected UN languages. Simultaneous interpretation in Spanish and French will be available for all conference sessions.

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## PARTICIPANTS

The primary audience of the 2022 NEC conference is **government officials from national and sub-national institutions** directly and indirectly engaged with evaluation and public policy, including central planning and finance ministries, sectoral ministries, evaluation units, national statistical agencies, supreme audit institutions.

Other evaluation stakeholders, including the **private sector, civil society, academia, UNDP, GEI, UN agencies and partner staff** engaged in supporting national governments on evaluation, governance and/or the SDG agenda, evaluators, evaluation networks, and other members of the wider global evaluation community will also be invited to the conference.



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## BURSARY PROGRAMME

Participants, including government representatives, will be expected to fully finance the participation of their representatives to the conference.

UNDP is also establishing a bursary fund to finance participants from programme countries who would not otherwise be able to attend the conference. Bursaries are earmarked for representatives of national institutions responsible for conducting and commissioning evaluations, policy makers,

particularly those working on the SDGs, and other national evaluation stakeholders.

Bursary applicants will be invited to submit an abstract on a topic related to the conference theme, accompanied by a statement of interest explaining how the conference and training programme will contribute to their current work and how the knowledge acquired will strengthen the national evaluation system.

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## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

[The call for abstracts](#) with detailed guidance and submissions deadlines is available on the dedicated page of the conference website.

Interested participants are invited to submit proposals for presentations that contribute to proceedings. All invitees, particularly government representatives from UNDP programme countries, are encouraged to submit an abstract on a theme related to one of the three main conference strands.

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## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND FEES

*Conference registration opens in July 2022 and closes on 25 August 2022.*

In-person attendance at the conference is by invitation only. There are no registration fees for the conference.

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## SAFETY AND SECURITY AT THE VENUE

The venue has been chosen keeping in mind the safety and security of participants, including measures to guard against the spread of COVID-19. The venue is easily reached from Turin-Caselle International Airport.

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## CONTACTS

### Conference Manager

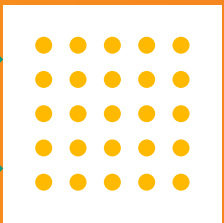
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**Website:** <https://nec.undp.org/conference/>





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