The theme of the [**8th National Evaluation Capacities (NEC) Conference**](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnec.undp.org%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cfumika.ouchi%40undp.org%7C688eccec7aaa4394c11408dc866289a2%7Cb3e5db5e2944483799f57488ace54319%7C0%7C0%7C638533006444424862%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=30pZwg8whIfFnDXQ5n%2BcKAKELrEXX7F0oHrsqUIXpGU%3D&reserved=0) is ***“Responsive Evaluation: For Government, For Inclusion, For the Future.*** This underscores the importance of sharing progress and lessons learned in strengthening national evaluation systems, their role in achieving the SDGs and other development goals, and how new technologies and approaches in evaluation can facilitate the achievement of the SDGs. The Conference will take place in Beijing, China, from 14th to 18th October 2024. The first three days (14th -16th October) will be dedicated to the main conference, followed by a two-day post-conference training workshop (17th & 18th October 2024).

Session proposals are welcome and should be targeted at the primary audience of the 2024 NEC conference, **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, include the **civil society, academia, private sector, UNDP and UN agencies and partner staff** engaged in supporting national governments on evaluation, governance and/or the SDG agenda.

**Session Guidelines**

1. Session topics should be linked to the overall conference theme and/or the three strands of [2024 NEC](https://nec.undp.org/conference/nec2024).
2. Session design should primarily focus on the needs of government participants, although session participants may come from a range of evaluation stakeholder groups.
3. Session moderator and panelists/speakers should include a good mix of stakeholder groups especially from the government and/ or other stakeholder groups. All panels should have a gender balance.
4. Session presentations should include practical examples of interest, experiences, best practices, issues and challenges relevant to fellow practitioners with potential to trigger a good discussion on the topic.
5. Presentations should be short, in the conference PowerPoint template (to be shared), visually attractive, convey key messages, and be made available with links to additional resource materials in advance of the conference. These will be made available to the participants during the conference and on the [2024 NEC](https://nec.undp.org/conference/nec2024) website following the conference.
6. Presentations by speakers/ panelists should not exceed 10 minutes. Maximum 12-15 slides. Slides should illustrate ideas - not the full script; and illustrations should be simple and easily understood. No commercial messages are allowed.
7. It is strongly encouraged that speakers/panelists represent both the global South and the global North and achieve gender balance.
8. Anticipated number of participants per session is between 100- 150.
9. Simultaneous interpretations will be available in English, Chinese, French and Spanish during sessions.

**2024 NEC: SESSION PROPOSAL TEMPLATE**

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| --- | --- |
| **Session Title:** | **The ethics of AI in evaluation: From theory to real-world experiences** |
| **Conference Streams (please specify):** | Stream A. Responsive National Evaluation Systems  Stream B. Inclusive National Evaluation Systems  Stream C. Future Driven Systems and Approaches |
| **Panel Format** |  |
| **Language:** | EnglishFrenchSpanish Chinese |
| **Session Description (250 Words):** | |
| **Participants will be introduced to the application of AI in evaluation and the ethical principles that guide its responsible use. The workshop will cover key ethical considerations, including UNEG ethical principles, providing a platform for participants to discuss how to translate these principles into practical steps.**  **The session will present use cases and best practices from UN entities, highlighting both existing commercial tools such as generative AI and in-house developed systems such as AIDA. This will illustrate how ethical AI can be implemented in real-world scenarios, offering practical insights and solutions.**  **By the end of the workshop, participants will have a nuanced understanding of leveraging AI ethically in their evaluation practices, ensuring that technological advancements contribute positively to development goals.** | |
| **Expected session outcome, key message, and takeaways (100 Words):** | |
| **Participants will possess a nuanced understanding of how to ethically leverage AI in their evaluation practices. They will be equipped with practical knowledge and strategies to ensure that technological advancements in AI contribute positively to development goals, aligning with ethical standards.**  **Comprehensive knowledge of key ethical principles, including UNEG ethical standards, and their importance in AI usage.**  **Real-world examples from UN entities demonstrating the ethical use of AI.**  **Collaborative development of actionable strategies to address ethical issues in AI applications.** | |

**Details of Session Facilitators:**

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| **Session Moderator**: | * Name: * Nationality * Gender: * Affiliation: * Contact information: |
| **Biography** |
| **Panellist/ Speaker 1:** | * Name: Marco Segone * Nationality: Italian * Gender: Male * Affiliation: UNFPA * Contact information: segone@unfpa.org |
|  | **Biography**  Marco Segone is Director of the Independent Evaluation Office at UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund. Previously, he was director of the Evaluation Office at UN Women; Chair, United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG), the network of Evaluation Offices of 46 UN agencies; co-founder and co-chair of EvalPartners - the global partnership for national evaluation capacities – and EvalGender+. Before that, Marco was responsible for the decentralized evaluation function as well as the national evaluation capacity development portfolios at the UNICEF Evaluation Office; Regional Chief, Monitoring and Evaluation in the UNICEF Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia; Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean; Brazil Country Office, and Niger Country Office. Marco also worked in international NGOs in Albania, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Thailand and Uganda. He has authored dozens of publications including: Evaluating the SDGs with a ‘no one left behind lens’; Evaluation for Equitable Development Results; and, How to Design and Manage Equity-Focused Evaluations. |
| **Panellist/ Speaker 2:** | * Name: Gonzalo Gomez * Nationality: Bolivian * Gender Male * Affiliation: UNDP * Contact information: gonzalo.gomez@undp.org |
|  | **Biography**  Gonzalo is the Chief of Knowledge and Data Management unit of the Independent Evaluation Office of UNDP.  Gonzalo has a proven track record of driving policy enhancements, implementing advanced data and AI solutions, and spearheading transformative initiatives to optimize programme evaluation and operations. Gonzalo and his team pioneered the integration of artificial intelligence through the AIDA project, establishing UNDP as a leader in leveraging AI for enhanced data analysis and accessibility to evaluation evidence. |
| **Panellist/ Speaker 3:** | * Name: * Nationality: * Gender * Affiliation: * Contact information: |
|  | **Biography** |
| **Panellist/ Speaker 4:** | * Name: * Nationality: * Gender * Affiliation: * Contact information: |
|  | **Biography** |