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:** | **Transforming Evaluation in China** |
| **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):** | |
| Over the past three decades, various driving forces have significantly transformed the evaluation landscape in China. This evolution has been driven by the country’s domestic needs for economic development and transparency, alongside the efforts of international development agencies to ensure accountability in their assistance and to build Results-Based M&E capacity in China. Today, development partners in China continue to focus on strengthening the national evaluation capacities through diverse activities, enabling their government partners to increasingly engage in and lead evidence-generating processes. These NEC activities are also effectively contributing to the broader institutional learning at these organizations.  China’s evaluation progress has paralleled the country’s economic rise and glboal stature, shifting from knowledge consumer and aid recipient to knowledge producer and aid provider. Today, both the AIIB and the BRICS Development Bank are headquartered in China. As China’s own aid programme continues to flourish, in 2023, CIDCA published its evaluation policy detailing China’s Foreign Aid Project Evaluation System, aiming to make evaluation work more scientific, effective, and systematic.  This panel will bring together representatives from a good mix of stakeholder groups, including veteran development partners, new China-based IFIs, and a Chinese think tank specialsed in China’s aid policy. The panelists will showcase their evaluation practices, with a particular emphasis on national evaluation capacity initiatives in China and beyond. During the panel discussion, OECD and UNICEF will unveil the Chinese Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation and Results-based Management for Sustainable Development. | |
| **Expected session outcome, key message, and takeaways (100 Words):** | |
| The audience, the Government attendees in particular, will acquire a thorough and integrated perspective on the evaluation initiatives undertaken by different development partners in China. This will inspire reflections on how to further fortify their NEC. Moreover, the extensive exchange of insights will assist development partners in refining their NEC strategies and approaches within China. The panel aims to enhance comprehension of the reciprocal impact between China’s internal evaluation reforms and its evaluation methodologies in foreign aid directed at other developing nations. | |

**Details of Session Facilitators:**

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| **Session Moderator**: | * Name: Jane Mwangi * Nationality: Kenya * Gender: Female * Affiliation: Regional Evaluation Advisor (EAPR), UNICEF * Contact information: jmwangi@unicef.org |
| **Biography**  Jane Mwangi is the EAPRO Evaluation Regional Advisor at UNICEF. Prior to this, Jane has been the Senior Evaluation Specialist and Lead of the Humanitarian Evaluation Portfolio (HEP) within the UNICEF Evaluation Office (NYHQ).  Jane has over 20 years’ experience in humanitarian and development operations, including in policy development, planning, monitoring, research and evaluations. In EAPRO, Jane is providing technical support to UNICEF regional and country offices to enhance the planning, implementation, quality and use of evaluations, as well as enhancing partnerships to better support NECD initiatives in the region. |
| **Panellist/ Speaker 1:** | * Name: Ashwani K. Muthoo * Nationality: Indian * Gender: Male * Affiliation: BRICS New Development Bank * Contact information: [muthoo.ashwani@ndb.int](mailto:muthoo.ashwani@ndb.int) |
|  | **Biography**  Ashwani K. Muthoo is an Indian national with around 35 years of experience in international development cooperation with a focus on evaluation, results management, policy and strategy formulation, project and programme life cycle, south-south cooperation, knowledge management, partnerships, global policy engagement, and other areas.  Since April 2022, he has held the position of first Director General of the Independent Evaluation Office at the BRICS New Development Bank, reporting directly to the Bank’s Board of Directors.  Prior to his current role, he served for more than 30 years at the United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), where he held several leadership positions including as Director of the Quality Assurance Group, Global Engagement and Multilateral Relations Division, Global Engagement, Knowledge and Strategy Division, and Deputy Director of the Independent Office of Evaluation.  His work experience covers more than 50 developing countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Near East and North Africa. He is fluent in English, Hindi, Italian and Portuguese, and has some knowledge of French and Spanish. |
| **Panellist/ Speaker 2:** | * Name: Xin Xin Yang * Nationality: Canada * Gender: Female * Affiliation: UNICEF * Contact information: [xxyang@unicef.org](mailto:xxyang@unicef.org) |
|  | **Biography**  Xin Xin Yang is a Multi-Country Evaluation Specialist at UNICEF, working with China, DPRK, and Mongolia Country Offices. She is an international development practitioner with more than 20 years of experience. Before joining UNICEF, Xin Xin conducted complex evaluations (often in a team leader's role) commissioned by various U.N. agencies, IFIs, and bilateral donors.  In the early stage of her career, Xin Xin worked in the Legal Vice Presidency of the World Bank in Washington, D.C. She is fluent in English and Chinese, with working knowledge in French. She received LLMs from Yale Law School and Beijing University and obtained an MPA in international development from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University. |
| **Panellist/ Speaker 3:** | * Name: Megan Grace Kennedy-Chouane * Nationality: American * Gender: Female * Affiliation: Head of Evaluation Unit, Development Cooperation Directorate, OECD * Contact information: MeganGrace.KENNEDY-CHOUANE@oecd.org |
|  | **Biography**  Megan heads the Evaluation Unit in the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate, managing the DAC Network on Development Evaluation and the COVID-19 Global Evaluation Coalition. She has expertise is supporting evidence-informed policy making and facilitating social change, including using impact-focused strategies to support cross sector collaboration for children and youth. She is a US national and lives in Paris, France. |
| **Panellist/ Speaker 4:** | * Name: Xian Liu * Nationality: Chinese * Gender: Female * Affiliation: Assistant Research Fellow in Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC) of the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) of P.R China. * Contact information: liuxian@caitec.org.cn |
|  | **Biography**  Ms. Liu is engaged in research on international development cooperation and China’s foreign aid policy. She has presided over or participated in more than 30 research projects of Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Finance, CIDCA, and Export-Import Bank of China. She has long been engaged in the practice and research of China’s foreign aid assessment and performance evaluation, and has involved in China’s foreign aid comprehensive evaluation, thematic evaluation, project evaluation and performance assessment. She is author of the book *Study on Evaluation Practice in the Field of International Development,* and co-author of dozens of books, including *World Open Report 2023, South-South Cooperation and China's Foreign Aid Case Study, The Road of International Development Cooperation - China's Foreign Aid under the Tide of 40 Years of Reform and Opening Up, etc.* She used to work in the Economic and Commercial Section of the Chinese Embassy in Madagascar. She participated in the “Inter-agency and Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators” of the United Nations Statistical Commission. |