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**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Session Title:** | Bridging Inclusive Local Evaluation Approaches: a collaborative effort between Africa and Latin America |
| **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):** | |
| In regions rich in local knowledge, such as Latin America and Africa, significant movements have emerged to promote evaluation methodologies and approaches that are more aligned with the local realities and traditions. Notable examples include the "Made in Africa Evaluation," the use of storytelling for data collection and for the dissemination of results, and the Latin American community of practice and learning on participatory evaluation “EvalParticipativa.” These initiatives share the common denominator of being led by the scientific community (academia, professional networks) in partnership with civil society organizations. In Latin America, first governments implement participatory evaluations as part of their national evaluation agendas.  In this session we want to share how the common interest in local and inclusive evaluation approaches bring together academics, civil society, and governments from different continents. We will tell the story of Evalparticipativa and the experience of country-led participatory evaluations conducted in Ecuador and Coste Rica will be shared. Storytellers from Africa will showcase this valuable evaluation method and point out common challenges applying it. The session will also give a sneak preview on an Afro-Latin American research&learning partnership, that aims to link storytelling and participatory evaluation through scientific work and practical application. | |
| **Expected session outcome, key message, and takeaways (100 Words):** | |
| This session aims not only to share knowledge about local and inclusive evaluation methods from Latin America and Africa, but above all to encourage the evaluation community to try them out. The session aims to encourage the establishment of networks to strengthen these methods, for which there is great interest in many regions of the world. Furthermore, as the Afro-Latin American partnership is just beginning, the session is expected to serve as a gateway to incorporating new ideas and allies for the future. | |

**Details of Session Facilitators:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Session Moderator**: | * Name: Sarah Klier * Nationality: Germany * Gender: Female * Affiliation: DEval * Contact information: sarah.klier@deval.org |
| **Biography**  Sarah is team leader for Evaluation Capacity Development (ECD) at the German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval). She has over ten years of professional experience in evaluation and evaluation capacity development and has worked extensively with national evaluation systems in Latin America. Her most recent academic research examines a systemic ECD approach from a theoretical perspective. |
| **Panellist/ Speaker 1:** | * Name: Patrick Okwen * Nationality: Cameroon * Gender: Male * Affiliation: eBASE * Contact information: okwen@ebaseafrica.org |
|  | **Biography**  Patrick is a researcher and the team lead at eBASE Africa based in Cameroon. He is active across the evidence ecosystem with a focus on evidence implementation in health and education. Patrick is active within global evidence communities including Africa Evidence Network, Cochrane, Campbell, JBI, GIN, and COVID-19 Recmaps. |
| **Panellist/ Speaker 2:** | * Name: Pablo Rodríguez-Bilella * Nationality: Argentina * Gender: Male * Affiliation: National University of San Juan, Argentina * Contact information: pablo67@gmail.com |
|  | **Biography**  Pablo holds a PdD in Sociology from the University of Sussex (UK). He is a professor and researcher on topics concerning evaluation and development at the National University of San Juan. He is a member of the EvalParticipativa coordination team. |
| **Panellist/ Speaker 3:** | * Name: Jocelyn Corrales * Nationality: Ecuador * Gender: Female * Affiliation: National Planning Secretariat Ecuador * Contact information: [jcorrales@planificacion.gob.ec](mailto:jcorrales@planificacion.gob.ec) |
|  | **Biography**  Jocelyn is recognized for her leadership in participatory processes as mechanisms for feedback and evaluation of public policies, adept in handling participatory methodologies, among other skills. Additionally, she has conducted further studies in evaluation, advanced office tools, comprehensive command and management indicators, public policy evaluations, and ethics. Currently, she leads the Undersecretariat for Evaluation at the National Planning Secretariat and is spearheading the first participatory evaluation with an SDG focus in Ecuador. |
| **Panellist/ Speaker 4:** | * Name: Florita Azofeifa * Nationality: Costa Rica * Gender: Male * Affiliation: Planning Ministry of Costa Rica * Contact information: fazofeifa@mideplan.go.cr |
|  | **Biography**  Florita is the director of Mideplan´s Monitoring & Evaluation Unit. Her team has led important reforms in the Costa Rican National Evaluation System, such as the National Evaluation Policy, National Evaluation Agenda or a multi-stakeholder platform to develop evaluation in the country. |