The theme of the **8th National Evaluation Capacities (NEC) Conference** 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.

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 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.

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2024 NEC: SESSION PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

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Session Title:	NES Assesment Tools: Get an insider's view of national evaluation systems
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:	☒ English ☐ French ☒ Spanish ☐ Chinese

Session Description (250 Words):
Diagnostic tools are crucial to inform initiatives for the development of evaluation capacities of governments, civil society and evaluation professionals. They present a consolidated description of strengths and weaknesses, highlighting areas for improvement and further consolidation. This session will discuss how different diagnostic tools can be adopted and how they can inform the establishment of responsive national monitoring and evaluation systems, focusing in particular on the cases of INCE and MESA. The INCE is a tool developed in partnership by 37 organizations in Latin America that focuses on creating spaces for peer learning and collaboration for the development of NES. The MESA tool was developed by the GEI to allow countries to conduct an overall country M&E ecosystem diagnostic and inform country strategies for strengthening national M&E systems and practices. The two instruments, INCE and MESA are complementary tools that allow its users to identify gaps and opportunities to strengthen monitoring and evaluations system and culture in their countries. In this session, we will explore the INCE and MESA tools and hear from the government representatives on how they have used these tools to inform their NES strategies. Participants from Latin America, Pacific and Africa will share their experiences in using these diagnostics tools to create a better understanding of the existing country M&E systems and facilitate the planning and monitoring of NES strengthening actions. Additionally, the main challenges related to the application of the diagnostics in their respective regions and countries will be identified, along with the strategies implemented to overcome them and the best practices that allow for peer-to-peer learning.

The representatives of INCE and MESA will briefly present each tool and take note of improvement proposals from the countries. They will also identify actions to advance the complementarity between INCE and MESA.

Expected session outcome, key message, and takeaways (100 Words):

The most effective decisions to strengthen NES are based on consensus processes and a solid diagnosis. Learning about the experiences of the countries represented on the panel will motivate attendees to apply tools like INCE, MESA, or similar ones in their respective countries. Meanwhile, the representatives of MESA and INCE are confident in identifying areas for improvement in these tools to continue expanding their application and enhancing their complementarity.

Details of Session Facilitators:

Session Moderator:	- Name: Sarah Klier (DEval) - 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: (application of M&E diagnostic tools in LAC)	- Name: Eddy García Serrano - Nationality: Costa Rica - Gender: Male - Affiliation: Planning Ministry – Evaluation Unit - Contact information: eddy.garcia@mideplan.go.cr
	Biography Eddy is the director of the evaluation unit at the Ministry of Planning of Costa Rica. He has led significant advancements, such as the establishment of the National Evaluation Agenda, the National Evaluation Policy, and the National Evaluation Platform. He has also led the implementation of the INCE in the country in 2020, 2022 and 2024.
Panellist/ Speaker 2: (application of M&E diagnostic tools in Africa)	- Name: Nadege Djossou - Nationality: Benin - Gender: Female - Affiliation: Ministry of Development and Coordination of Government Action, Benin - Contact information: nadeged2001@yahoo.fr
	Biography Ms. Nadege is the Director of Public Policy Evaluation in the Ministry of Development and Coordination of Government Action of Benin. She is an

	expert on national M&E Systems and has coordinated diagnostic tools on use of M&E evidence in public sector planning and budgeting.
Panellist/ Speaker 3: (application of M&E diagnostic tools in Pacific)	▪ Name: Susan Sulu ▪ Nationality: Solomons ▪ Gender: Femail ▪ Affiliation: Ministry of National Planning and Development Coordination.
	Biography Ms. Sulu has retained her former position as Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of National Planning and Development Coordination (MNPDC).
Panellist/ Speaker 4: (MESA Tool)	▪ Name: Ketevan Nozadze ▪ Nationality: ▪ Gender: Female ▪ Affiliation: GEI / World Bank ▪ Contact information: knozadze@worldbank.org
	Biography Ketevan leads country programs and partnerships at the Global Evaluation Initiative. She has over ten years of professional experience in evaluation capacity development and has worked extensively with national evaluation systems globally.
Panellist/ Speaker 5: (INCE Tool)	▪ Name: Guido Tomás Quiroga (WFP) ▪ Nationality: Argentina ▪ Gender: Male ▪ Affiliation: WFP ▪ Contact information: guido.tomasquiroga@wfp.org
	Biography Guido is WFP Evaluation Officer, specialized in public management, policy delivery, monitoring, evaluation and learning and data analysis. His experience encompasses multiple policy sectors, such as e-gov and public sector modernization strategies, environmental policy, economic development, health, policing and human rights.