



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.

2024 NEC: SESSION PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

Session Title:	Incorporation of ecological sustainability in Evaluations: Lessons we are currently learning The Case of the Footprint Evaluation in Colombia
Conference Streams (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/> Stream A. Responsive National Evaluation Systems <input type="checkbox"/> Stream B. Inclusive National Evaluation Systems <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stream C. Future Driven Systems and Approaches
Panel Format	Panel discussion
Language:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese
Session Description (250 Words):	
<p>In the face of global environmental challenges such as the climate crisis, biodiversity loss and pollution, the urgency to include aspects of environmental sustainability in any kind of evaluation increases. The Footprint Evaluation Approach is an answer to this demand. Footprint evaluation is not a specific methodology or a tightly prescribed approach, but an emerging set of practices and principles developed through ongoing international collaboration and adaptation to suit different contexts. While the label comes from the notion of the “footprint” humans make on the environment, footprint evaluation covers more than calculating the footprint of program interventions, it involves exploring different types of nexus between human and natural systems.</p> <p>Colombia is the first country in Latin America to implement the Footprint approach in one of the country’s national evaluations, in collaboration with the <i>German Institute for Development Evaluation</i> (DEval), the <i>Global Evaluation Initiative</i> (GEI) and Footprint experts. Beyond the implementation of the evaluation itself, the partnership aims to establish sustainable evaluation capacities for the implementation of Footprint Evaluation in Colombia.</p> <p>This panel will share insights on the obstacles and successes that have been encountered along the way, showcasing the ongoing evaluation in Colombia as an example. Representatives from the Colombian planning unit, the Footprint Evaluation Initiative, DEval and GEI will present their common interest in the Footprint evaluation approach, how their strategic partnership to strengthen this approach was built and which actions have been taken, as well as the learnings and challenges the implementation of the Footprint evaluation in Colombia has offered so far. Against this background, the panelists will engage in a dialog about the scalability and potential for transfer to</p>	

other contexts. Given the novelty of this approach, Colombia's willingness to share its insights and lessons learned before the evaluation is finalized is of immense significance.

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

This session aims to enhance the understanding of the importance of incorporating ecological sustainability into evaluations, but above all encourage the evaluation community to implement ecological inclusive approaches such as the Footprint Evaluation. Exploring Colombia's implementation journey allows attendees to discover that the Footprint Evaluation approach is not only feasible for governmental evaluation units but also highly beneficial. The practical application of the Footprint approach in Colombia has proven it to be a valuable way for incorporating ecological sustainability into evaluations.

Further by illustrating the common experience, the panel underscores the value of partnerships, focusing on how they are established and their significance. The practical example will provide new ideas on forming partnerships, facilitating their necessity and urgency.

Details of Session Facilitators:

<p>Session Moderator:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Name: Eddy García Serrano ▪ Nationality: Costa Rica ▪ Gender: Male ▪ Affiliation: Costa Rican Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy (Mideplan) ▪ Contact information: eddy.garcia@mideplan.go.cr
	<p>Biography</p> <p>Eddy García Serrano is the director of the evaluation unit at the Ministry of Planning of Costa Rica. He holds a master's degree in public policy from Spain and a degree in Political Science with a specialization in Data Analysis from 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.</p>
<p>Panellist/ Speaker 1:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Name: Patricia Moreno ▪ Nationality: Colombia ▪ Gender: Female ▪ Affiliation: National Planning Department (DNP) ▪ Contact information: pmoreno@dnp.gov.co:
	<p>Biography</p> <p>Patricia Moreno is a political scientist with a master's degree in economics. She has worked in different positions as a specialist in monitoring and evaluation of public policies. She has worked for national and international entities such as the Ministry of Education, the National Planning Department (DNP) and the United Nations High Commissioner for</p>

	Refugees (UNHCR). She is currently Deputy Director of Evaluation of the Public Policy Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate of the DNP.
Panellist/ Speaker 2:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Name: Dr. Andy Rowe ▪ Nationality: Cannada ▪ Gender: Male ▪ Affiliation: Footprint Evaluation initiative ▪ Contact information: andy@arceconomics.com
	<p>Biography</p> <p>Dr. Andy Rowe is Fellow and former president of the <i>Canadian Evaluation Society</i> (CES) with over 35 years in evaluation, now focusing on sustainability and climate. He initiated the CES efforts to mainstream sustainability into evaluation in Canada. He is a founder of the <i>Footprint Evaluation</i> and an original member of the Technical Evaluation Reference Group for the Adaptation Fund, and is contributing to several ongoing evaluations on climate and sustainability.</p>
Panellist/ Speaker 3:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Name: Anna Warnholz ▪ Nationality: Germany ▪ Gender: Female ▪ Affiliation: German Institute of Development Evaluation ▪ Contact information: anna.warnholz@deval.org
	<p>Biography</p> <p>Anna Warnholz is ECD Advisor from the German Institute of Development Evaluation (DEval) at the Global Evaluation Initiative (GEI). She is part of the Evaluation Capacity Development team at DEval and works in Latin America and Anglophone Africa. Her expertise encompasses climate change and energy related topics.</p>
Panellist/ Speaker 4:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Name: ▪ Nationality: ▪ Gender ▪ Affiliation: ▪ Contact information:
	<p>Biography</p>