

Title: LGBTIQ Inclusion in Development: A Presentation and Discussion on Integrating Inclusive Practices in Project Evaluation to Achieve Full Equality

Session Proposed by: Pukar Bista

Designation: Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Officer

Organization: ILGA Asia

Abstract

To truly achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those aimed at reducing inequality (SDG 10) and promoting peace, justice, and strong institutions (SDG 16), LGBTIQ people must be fully included as target populations and beneficiaries at all stages of program development, implementation, and evaluation. Unfortunately, traditional development paradigms frequently overlook the concerns of LGBTIQ individuals, especially their unique challenges, resulting in significant gaps in achieving full equality.

This session will focus on the critical importance of LGBTIQ inclusion in development projects, specifically how to effectively integrate inclusive practices into monitoring and evaluation frameworks. With over a decade of experience in Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL), I will lead participants through practical strategies and methodologies that expand LGBTIQ inclusion from a sideline to a critical component of project development, implementation, and evaluation.

This session will examine real-world examples and case studies to highlight both successes and challenges in various contexts, providing actionable insights for practitioners dedicated to advancing inclusivity. Non-discrimination, rights-based approaches, safeguarding, and intersectionality will be key themes, with a focus on ethical considerations and the nuanced data collection methods required to capture LGBTIQ individuals' experiences.

The presentation will highlight the importance of LGBTIQ inclusion both as a matter of human rights and as a means of achieving the SDGs. By ensuring that LGBTIQ voices are heard, and their needs are met, we can get closer to realizing the full promise of sustainable development: a world in which no one is left behind.

This session is designed for development professionals who want to promote equity and inclusion in their work. Attendees will leave with practical tools, a better understanding of LGBTIQ issues, and a renewed commitment to incorporating these considerations into project evaluations, resulting in more equitable and impactful development outcomes.