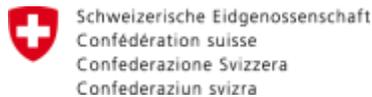In collaboration with

No one left behind.
Evaluating SDGs with an equity-focused and gender-responsive lens

Date: 15 March -17 March 2016
High-Level event: Tuesday, 15 March, 3-5pm followed by reception
Technical workshop: 16-17 March
Location: New York, USA

A strong call for review and follow-up mechanisms that will "leave no one behind"

With the launch of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, the review of national-level implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the adoption of the UN General Assembly Resolution on evaluation capacity building (A/RES/69/237) and the celebration of 2015 International Year of Evaluation, as well as the World Humanitarian Summit taking place in May 2016, the global community has a significant opportunity to continue bringing evaluation to the forefront of the new sustainable development goals.

The new 2030 Agenda shapes the sustainable and equitable development discourse and action for the next 15 years. To meet the central imperative of 'leaving no one behind', the SDG's follow-up and review mechanism aims to monitor and evaluate progress for all. Among the 9 principles that will guide the SDG review and follow-up mechanism, there is an explicit mention on the need to:

- use data that "will be rigorous and based on evidence, informed by country-led evaluations and data which is high-quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts"[1];
- enhance capacity-building support for developing countries, including the strengthening of national data systems and evaluation programmes; [2]
- develop processes that are people-centered, gender-sensitive, respectful of human rights and have a particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind[3].

In line with the SDG follow-up and review mechanism, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action also calls for strengthening accountability mechanisms for gender equality, including of national gender equality mechanisms, national human rights institutions and regulatory bodies.

Towards a framework to evaluate SDGs with an equity-focused and gender responsive lens

In the last decade, the global evaluation community has been developing evaluation approaches that are equity-focused and gender-responsive[4]. With the SDG calling for "leaving no one behind", a new opportunity (and challenge) is raising to strengthen even further national evaluation capacities to evaluate localized SDGs and national development policies/strategies with an equity-focused and gender-responsive lens.

In this context, this event seeks to start a multi-stakeholders dialogue to develop an evaluation framework that will facilitate the above-mentioned national evaluation capacity processes. The event is composed of two parts:
- a High-Level Event to engage delegates from member states, Parliamentarians, international organizations and CSOs in a global discussion to identify strategies for building an enabling environment to evaluate the SDGs with equity-focused and gender-responsive lens;
- a Technical event to start the process of establishing a common framework to evaluation SDGs with equity-focused and gender-responsive lens. It will include sessions looking at the relevance of the new metrics and agreed indicators; understanding the complexity of SDGs and the power of partnerships; discussing strategies to strengthen gender responsiveness of national evaluation systems, as well as the demand for and use of evaluation with an equity-focused and gender responsive lens in policy making.

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[1] Page 32/35, Point 74 (g) A/RES/70/1 - Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
[2] Page 32/35, Point 74 (d) A/RES/70/1 - Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
[3] Page 32/35, Point 74 (e) A/RES/70/1 - Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
[4] See, for example: UNEG Guidance to incorporate human rights and gender equality in evaluation; UNICEF manual on managing equity-focused evaluations; EvalPartners book on "Evaluation for equitable development results", among others

High Level Panel

No one left behind.
Evaluating SDGs with an equity-focused and gender-responsive lens

Date: 15 March 2016, 15:00 – 17:00, followed by reception at 17:00

Location: Ford Foundation, New York (East 43rd Street, between 1st and 2nd Avenue))

Introduction: Marco Segone, UNEG Chair; Director, UN Women Independent Evaluation Office; Co-chair, EvalGender+

Opening remarks: HE Olivier Zehnder, Deputy Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations

Panelists:
- Thomas Gass, Assistant Secretary General, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- HE Kabir Hashim, Minister of Public Enterprise Development, Sri Lanka; and Chair, Global Parliamentarians Forum for Evaluation
- Hon Susan Musyoka, Member of Parliament, Kenya; Africa regional representative to Global Parliamentarians Forum for Evaluation Steering Committee and executive member of the African Parliamentarian Network for Development Evaluation (APNODE)
- HE Ananda Pokharel, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Civil Aviation, Nepal; Chair, Nepali Parliamentarian Forum for evaluation; South Asia representative to Global Parliamentarians Forum for Evaluation Steering Committee
- Ziad Moussa, President, IOCE; Co-chair, EvalPartners
- Nick York, Director, Human Development and Economic Management, Independent Evaluation Group, The World Bank Group

Questions and Answers

Closing remarks: HE Rohan Perera, Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations

17:00 – 18:00: Reception

Each speaker will be given about 7 minutes to share his/her own perspective on the following questions:
1. Should SDGs be evaluated with an approach ensuring "no one is left behind"? If so, why?
2. What are the challenges and opportunities to strengthen national capacities to evaluate the SDGs with a focus on "no one left behind", including gender equality?
3. What should be done to overcome the challenges and leverage the opportunities?

An open, interactive and engaging discussion session will follow. The event will be live webcast and video-taped.

Technical Seminar:
"Towards an Equity-focused and Gender -responsive framework to evaluate the SDGs"
Date: 16-17 March 2016

Location: UNICEF Headquarters, New York (3 United Nations Plaza, entrance on 44th Street)

Hour	WEDNESDAY, 16TH MARCH
8:00-9:00	Registration and welcome coffee
9:00-9:10	Welcome by Colin Kirk, Director, Evaluation Office, UNICEF, Co-chair EvalPartners
9:10-10:30	**How to ensure the Sustainable Development Goals will be evaluated with a focus on "leaving no one behind"?** Chair: Colin Kirk, Director, Evaluation Office, UNICEF; Co-chair, EvalPartners Keynote speakers: • Marco Segone**,** UNEG Chair; Director, UN Women Independent Evaluation Office; Co-chair, EvalGender+ • David Nabarro, UN Secretary General's Adviser for the SDG • Maithree Wickramasinghe, Professor at the University of Kelaniya, Gender and Evaluation advocate - Sri Lanka • Hon. Olfa Cherif, Member of Parliament, Tunisia and MENA representative to Global Parliamentarians Forum for Evaluation Steering Committee
10:30-11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:30	**The relevance of "new metrics" (measurement tools and indicators) for the evaluation of SDGs with a focus on "leaving no one behind"** Chair: Arild Hauge, Deputy Director, Independent Evaluation Office, UNDP Keynote speaker: • Stefan Schweinfest, Director, United Nations Statistics Division

Hour	WEDNESDAY, 16TH MARCH		
	Introductions by Chairs of Thematic Workshops: Setting the scene 1. **The relevance of 'new metrics' for the evaluation of SDGs - Data for development and indicators for equity and gender equality** Chair: Andrea Cook, Director Evaluation Office, UNFPA 2. **Evaluation and Complexity — dealing with the increasing complexity of development ensuring "no one is left behind"** Chair: Colin Kirk, Director Evaluation Office, UNICEF, Co-Chair EvalPartners 3. **Demand for and use of evidence from evaluation — understanding the political economy of equity-focused and gender-responsive evidence**. Chair: Kabir Hashim, Minister of Public Enterprise Development, Sri Lanka and Chair of the Global Parliamentarian Forum for Evaluation		
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch		
14:00 – 17:30	Thematic Workshop parallel breakout session – Moderated by Thematic Workshops chairs		
	Workshop 1: The relevance of 'new metrics' for the evaluation of SDGs - Data for development and indicators for equity and gender equality SEE AGENDA IN THE ANNEX BELOW	Workshop 2: Evaluation and Complexity — dealing with the increasing complexity of development ensuring "no one is left behind" SEE AGENDA IN THE ANNEX BELOW	Workshop 3: Demand for and use of evidence from evaluation — understanding the political economy of equity-focused and gender-responsive evidence SEE AGENDA IN THE ANNEX BELOW

Session	THURSDAY, 17TH MARCH
9:00-11:00	Presentation of Thematic workshops discussions – Key issues and suggestions for follow-up Questions and Answers among Chairs and Participants Chair: Ziad Moussa, IOCE President; Co-chair, EvalPartners • Andrea Cook, Director Evaluation Office, UNFPA • Colin Kirk, Director Evaluation Office, UNICEF, Co-chair, EvalPartners • Kabir Hashim, Minister of Public Enterprise Development, Sri Lanka and Chair of the Global Parliamentarian Forum for Evaluation • Oscar Garcia, Director, IFAD Evaluation Office (to share outcome of Workshop on evaluability of SDG2 organized by Rome-based UN agencies)
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 13:00	What have we learned? Key elements necessary for establishing a framework to evaluate SDGs with an equity-focused and gender-responsive lens Chair: Andrea Cook, Director, Evaluation Office, UNFPA Key Speakers: • Maria Bustelo, Dean Delegate for Gender equality, Director of Equality, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, and former President, European Evaluation Society • Michael Bamberger, Independent Consultant and former senior evaluator, The World bank • Florence Etta, founder and former Chair, African Gender and Development Evaluators Network (AGDEN) • Rosario Cárdenas, Council member, CONEVAL, Mexico • Thomas Schwandt, Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
13:00 – 13:30	Concluding remarks by Marco Segone, UNEG Chair; Director, UN Women Independent Evaluation Office; Co-chair, EvalGender+

Workshop 1: The relevance of 'new metrics' for the evaluation of SDGs – Data for development and indicators for equity and gender equality

Organizer: UNFPA Evaluation Office

Session Chair: Andrea Cook, Director, Evaluation Office, UNFPA

Panelists:
Workshop Keynote Speaker: Francesca Grum, Chief, Social and Housing Statistics Section, United Nations Statistics Division
Discussant: Alexandra Pittman, Independent expert (expertise on evaluation and gender)
Discussant: Bruce Campbell, Director, UNFPA (expertise on population data and big data)
Discussant: Elena Bardasi, Independent Evaluation Group, World Bank (expertise on evaluation, gender and equity)

Chair: Andrea Cook, Director Evaluation Office, UNFPA
Moderator: Alexandra Chambel, UNFPA

Session plan:

Time: 14:00 – 15:30 Panel Presentations

1.   Introduction of Panel members (5 minutes)
2.   Presentation by the Keynote Speaker, Francesca Grum, Representative from UNSD (30 minutes):
   a.   Setting the scene on the SDG gender and equity indicators
   b.   Data sources
   c.   Monitoring the indicators (global and national levels)
   d.   Challenges (technical vs political expectations)

Question: Is the global indicator framework for the SDGs gender sensitive? If so, in what ways?

3.   Discussants reflections on the following issues:
   a. Alexandra Pittman (10 minutes)
   b. Elena Bardasi (10 minutes)

Questions: Is the SDG framework gender sensitive and equity responsive? If so, how are gender and equity issues reflected across the SDGs framework? What are the challenges to an equity-focused and gender-responsive evaluation of the SDGs?

c. Bruce Campbell (10 minutes)

Questions: How can developments in data offer opportunities for evaluating the SDGs from a gender responsive and equity focused lens? How can data (including new sources of data) better capture and contribute the views and voices of women and marginalized groups into a more participatory evaluation process?

Questions from floor and answers by panel members directed by Chair (20 minutes)

4.   Concluding remarks by Chair (5 minutes)

Time: 15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break

Time: 16:00 – 17:30 Group Work

Reflection and further discussion by participants on topics raised during the session.

Theme 1: The relevance of 'new metrics' for the evaluation of SDGs - Data for development and indicators for equity and gender equality

In recent years a number of "new metrics" have evolved which can potentially widen the range of indicators and measures available for the monitoring and evaluation of development results from equity and gender responsive perspectives. These include:

- Data that can now be collected through mobile phones, tablets, internet, GPS mapping and other new information technologies
- Big Data collected from satellites and drones, remote sensors, analysis of twitter and social media, mobile phone records, digital electronic transfers including purchase of mobile-phone air time and ATM withdrawals and crowdsourcing
- Participatory consultations (e.g. Most Significant Change and Outcome Harvesting)
- Concept mapping
- Mixed methods evaluations
- Feminist research methods (e.g. oral history, feminist ethnography and content analysis, power relations, social justice and empowerment approaches)

Participants are invited to share their thoughts and experiences on the following questions (as well as others they propose) as they relate to equity-focused and gender responsive evaluation:

1. What are the most difficult issues to measure with respect to social equity? And with respect to gender equality?
2. What are the new challenges for assessing sustainable social equity and gender equality?

3. What is the potential for new metrics/ data to capture the perspectives and voices of women and marginalized groups into a more inclusive evaluation process?
4. In your experience what are some of the limitations of current data collection methods and the kinds of indicators they produce?
5. What have proven to be some of the most effective methods for gender responsive and equity focused evaluation? Which of the new metrics show the greatest promise?
6. How can developments in data offer opportunities for evaluating the SDGs from a gender responsive and equity focused lens?

Workshop 2: Evaluation and Complexity — dealing with the increasing complexity of development ensuring "no one is left behind"

Organizer: UNICEF

Session Chair: Colin Kirk, Director, Evaluation Office, UNICEF

Panelists:
Thomas A. Schwandt, Ph.D, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Claudia Maldonado, Director, CLEAR Centre, Latin America
Dorothy Lucks, co-chair EVALSDGs

Moderator: Tessie Catsambas

AGENDA ITEM	PROCESS	OUTCOME
WEDNESDAY, 16 MARCH 2016 EVALUATION AND COMPLEXITY — DEALING WITH THE INCREASING COMPLEXITY OF DEVELOPMENT ENSURING "NO ONE IS LEFT BEHIND". CHAIR: COLIN KIRK, DIRECTOR EVALUATION OFFICE, UNICEF		
14h00-14h30 Welcome, Introductions and Expectations	Welcome and purpose – Colin Complexity exercise icebreaker	Transition to the topic Kinaesthetic conceptualization to the topic
14h30-14h50 Short Presentations on Complexity	Speakers – Claudia Maldonado (using complexity thinking to understand field realities and challenges) Thomas Schwandt (integrating complexity thinking into evaluative thinking)	Challenge the group with provocative questions regarding complexity Seed ideas to be discussed Link methodology to field reality

AGENDA ITEM	PROCESS	OUTCOME
14h50 – 15h30 Dimensions of Complexity	Introduce small group discussions around three dimensions of complexity: boundaries, perspectives and interactions Small groups are assigned one topic from above, and discuss the following questions: 1. What kinds of insights can we get from thinking along this dimension? What is revealed? 2. What issues does dimension explore regarding the SDGs and equity in particular?	Exploring aspects of complexity thinking and initiating
15h30-16h00 Break		
16h00 – 16h30 Dimensions of Complexity (cont.)	Sharing highlights from groups Discussion	
16h30-17h00 Implications of Complexity Aware Thinking	Three groups discuss the following questions (one each): 1. What advice do we have for evaluators from the complexity discussion to make sure no one is left behind? 2. What advice do we have for implementers of development activities from the complexity discussion to make sure no one is left behind? 3. What advice do we have for policy makers from the complexity discussion to make sure no one is left behind?	Explore the implications of complexity aware thinking for different stakeholders and functions in the development partnership
17h00-17h30 Implications (cont)	Groups report out on their advice for the three different SDG stakeholder groups Appreciation and thanks (Colin)	

Workshop 3: National framework for politicians and policy makers

Organizer: Global Parliamentarian Forum for Evaluation and Independent Evaluation Office - UNDP
Method: Talk show

Panelists:
Chair for round 1: Hon. Susan Musyoka, Member of Parliament, Kenya
Chair for round 2: Hon. Samuel Hoyos, Member of Parliament, Colombia
Panelist and speaker: Arild Hauge, Deputy Director, Independent Evaluation Office, UNDP
Panelist: Hon. Pol Ham, Member of National Assembly, Cambodia
Panelist: Hon. Natalia Nikitenko, Member of Parliament, Kyrgyzstan
Panelist: Hon. Ananda Pokharel, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Civil Aviation, Nepal
Panelist: Hon. Olfa Cherif, Member of Parliament, Tunisia
Moderator/ Presenter: Ada Ocampo, Senior Evaluation Specialist, UNICEF – Evaluation Office, New York

Session plan: 90 minutes

1. Introduction of Panel members
   Self-introductions, beginning with the Chair: 5 minutes

2. Challenges and Opportunities of National Evaluation Capacity Development for the SDGs
   Arild Hauge: 10 minutes

3. History of GPFE, snapshot of the topic of the panel
   Ada Ocampo: 5 minutes

4. First Round: Talk show
   Questions posed and answers by panel members
   Moderated by Chair: 20 minutes

5. Q & A
   Questions from the floor and answers by panel members
   Directed by Chair: 15 minutes

6. Second Round: Talk show
   Questions posed and answers by panel members

Moderated by Chair: 15 minutes

7. Q & A
Questions from floor and answers by panel members
Directed by Chair: 10 minutes

8. Wrap up, concluding remarks and Key take away messages
Ada Ocampo: 5 minutes

Proposed questions:
1. How can Parliamentarians/Parliaments support governments to demonstrate accountability on the SDGs? What are the key messages to Governments and fellow parliamentarians?
2. What is the role of parliamentarians to strengthen Equity-focused and Gender-responsive evaluation for SDGs?

Time: 15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break

Time: 16:00 – 17:30 Group Work

Reflection and further discussion by participants on topics raised during the session.