

**Empowering Countries through Evaluation –
The Global Movement towards the 2015 International Year of Evaluation**

Operational Activities for Development Segment of ECOSOC
An Informal Side Event Organized by the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG)

Wednesday 26 February 2014, 1:15 pm – 2:45 pm, CR 8 (NLB)

Refreshments will be served.

MODERATOR:

- **Ms. Deborah Rugg**, Chair of the United Nations Evaluation Group

SPEAKERS:

- **H.E. Mr. Roble Olhaye**, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Djibouti (tbc)
- **Ms. Graciela Teruel**, **Representative of CONEVAL**, National Council for the Evaluation of Social Development Policy, Mexico
- **Ms. Cheryl Gray**, Director of the Office of Evaluation and Oversight, Inter-American Development Bank
- **Mr. Jens Wandel**, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau of Management, United Nations Development Programme

This side event will explore the role that evaluation can play to empower countries and allow them greater ownership of their development agenda by building evaluation capacities at country level and ensuring an enabling environment for evidence-based decision-making. Evaluation can help explain what works and what doesn't work in order to achieve better development results. **EvalPartners** and the **United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG)** have joined forces in declaring 2015 the International Year of Evaluation. 2015 was identified as a strategic year in order to mainstream evaluation in the post-2015 development agenda at the international and national levels.

This side event will explore what can be done to:

- Put the issue of national evaluation capacity building on the post-2015 global agenda;
- Recognize this global grassroots movement towards the 2015 International Year of Evaluation;
- Show that Member States consider evaluation for development an important issue in a changing development landscape;
- Act as a catalyst for evaluation at the national, regional and global levels, as well as within the UN system.

EvalPartners is an innovative multi-stakeholders partnership to enhance national capacities to demand, supply and use evaluation in policy making so that public policies are based on evidence, and incorporate considerations of equity. EvalPartners gathers all Voluntary Organizations of Professional Evaluators (VOPEs), including 149 national VOPEs; UN agencies; Governments; private foundations; Non-Governmental Organizations and academia.

The **United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG)** is a professional network that brings together the units responsible for evaluation in the UN system including the specialized agencies, funds, programmes and affiliated organizations. UNEG aims to promote the independence, credibility and usefulness of the evaluation function and evaluation across the UN system, to advocate for the importance of evaluation for learning, decision-making and accountability, and to support the evaluation community in the UN system and beyond.