

Bridge to a Better World

Evaluation at the service of the Post-2015 Agenda

2015 promises to be a momentous year for the United Nations, as it anticipates the close of the Millennium Development Goals and welcomes a new vision and agenda for the post-2015 era. Deemed as a “Time for Global Action,” 2015 is also a pivotal year for evaluation, which provides a bridge of knowledge, evidence and learning; linking development efforts and the goals they seek to achieve. In generating evidence of what works and why, evaluation answers important questions for stakeholders, and offers evidence-based guidance for decision makers to help strengthen development outcomes. Evaluation activities can help to engage citizens in development processes, support national decision-makers and reinforce national ownership of development plans and programmes.

Recognizing the role of evaluation, the 2014 General Assembly resolution A/RES/69/237 acknowledged 2015 as the “International Year of Evaluation,” and invited the United Nations development system to support efforts to further strengthen capacity for evaluation. The Secretary-General, in the report “A life of dignity for all” (A/68/202), asserts that “strong monitoring and accountability will be crucial for the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda.” With these clear mandates in support of robust evaluation, the United Nations, along with the wider development community, has arrived at a unique moment to put in place enhanced, credible evaluation practices that are fully integrated into development discourse and plans. Action is needed now to establish the mechanisms to achieve this, and so reinforce the renewed commitment of world leaders towards transformational change and development.

High-level Event

A High-level Event will be held during the 2015 United Nations Evaluation Group’s Annual General Meeting to explore how building evaluation capacities can empower countries to put in place development policies and programmes which are appropriate, effective and responsive to the needs of their citizens; and, in turn, how stronger national evaluation systems can be a part of an inclusive, robust global accountability framework. Deliberations

of the High-level Event will reiterate the importance of national capacity building for evaluation and promote the clear inclusion of evidence-based decision-making in the post-2015 development agenda. Conclusions arising from the meeting will help to build an enabling environment spurring the development and adoption of the well-evidenced policies and plans needed to bridge the gap between today's challenges and a better future.

The speakers will include leaders in government, academia, philanthropy, and the United Nations. It will be organized by the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG), a professional network that brings together the units responsible for evaluation in the United Nations system.

Who we are

The **United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG)** is a professional network that brings together the offices responsible for evaluation in the UN system, including the specialized agencies, funds, programmes and affiliated organizations. UNEG currently has 45 such members and 3 observers. UNEG aims to foster independence, credibility and usefulness of the evaluation function across the UN system, promote the importance of evaluation for learning, decision-making and accountability, and support the evaluation community in the UN system and beyond. For further information, contact the UNEG Secretariat at uneg.contact@undp.org.