

A faint, light-colored world map is visible in the background of the slide, centered behind the main text.

Evaluation Capacity Development:

Ongoing and new FAO initiatives

UNEG Evaluation Practice Exchange, May 16, 2017



Emphasis on national ownership

- Significance of national monitoring and evaluation systems have been reinforced by aid reform agenda and global agreements (Paris/Accra/Busan)
- Adoption of 2030 Agenda and a set of new goals, targets and indicators require robust efforts in assessing progress in improvement of people's lives
- Further enhancement of country-owned and country-led robust evaluation systems becomes essential in the process of achieving the SDGs.

Food and Agriculture matters to most SDGs

The 2030 Agenda recognizes that we can no longer look at food production, livelihoods and the management of natural resources separately

Rural development and investment in agriculture are powerful tools to end poverty and hunger and to bring about sustainable development.

Without rapid progress in reducing and eliminating hunger and malnutrition by 2030, the full range of SDGs cannot be achieved.





Developing evaluation capacities

- Evaluation offers a strong potential to ensure that agricultural policies are informed by sound evidence and lead to effective and sustainable results. This potential has yet to be fully realized.
- The UN GA resolution called upon entities of the UN development system, with the collaboration of national and international stakeholders, to support efforts to further strengthen the capacity of Member States for evaluation.



Ongoing initiatives

- FAO country programme evaluations focus on the countries' own development strategies and assess FAO contributions to the national development results;
 - National stakeholder workshops are now a normal practice, and we also partner with national institutions in the actual conduct of evaluations, providing methodological advice, guidance and training.
 - New pilot initiative to outsource project evaluations to national and regional evaluation institutions (e.g. academia, research centers, regional associations)
-



New “Eval-Agri” initiative

- The Evaluation Offices of the FAO, IFAD and WFP are proposing the creation of a Community of Practice on Evaluation in Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development.
- This Community of Practice, tentatively called “EvalAgri”, is conceived as a global knowledge sharing and networking platform
- It will respond to country-level demands to strengthen national evaluation capacities and greater use of evaluation in the pursuit of food security and sustainable agricultural development.



Raionale for this initiative

- Promoting use of evaluation information for SDG-based policy-making requires active dialogue and systematic networking
- Strong demand from evaluation societies for dedicated community of practice on evaluation in agriculture, food security and rural development;
- The national evaluation practices and experiences need to be fully shared and build on lessons learned
- Dedicated network will facilitate learning from experiences to date and provide recommendations for the future.



EVAL-AGRI Initiative: objectives

- Support development of evaluation capacities by providing a platform for networking, collaborating and sharing evaluation experiences and best practices;
- Generate and document relevant knowledge and set up a repository of policy, research, and training resources;
- Encourage regional and multilateral cooperation and promote peer-to-peer learning and South-South/East-East cooperation in evaluation activities;



EVAL-AGRI Initiative: next steps

- Open to evaluators, development practitioners and researchers of all origins, institutions and profiles;
- Country-level demand and needs assessment – ongoing, to inform the network design;
- Partnership development and outreach activities to ensure growth and quality.

A faint, light-colored world map is visible in the background of the slide.

Thank you

Serdar.Bayryyev@fao.org

www.fao.org/evaluation/en/
