

Country-led Evaluations in the Era of the Sustainable Development Goals: A Guidance

The Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of UNDP, as part of its ongoing support to national evaluation capacity development, has developed a diagnostic guidance for the evaluation of the national development plans (and progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)). Supported by NORAD the main objectives are to:



Facilitate development or strengthening of a national evaluation framework for the SDGs



Respond to existing gaps in national evaluation thinking and practice



Inform country-led evaluation processes and systems which are central to the follow-up and review of the progress on SDGs. Respond to countries' preference for national evaluation diagnostics as against SDG evaluation diagnostics

The guidance aims to provide a flexible and practical framework to enable governments and other development actors to develop a systematic approach to determining key areas, pathways, and parameters for evaluating national development strategies and SDGs. The guidance details action points to be considered in developing a country's evaluation framework for the national development strategies and the SDGs and will facilitate identifying various steps in developing a country-level evaluation framework.

The guidance situates evaluative practices within the context of other public-sector feedback mechanisms and recognises that evaluation is a practice that is built over time, rather than a set of outputs. Below are the 6 modules within the guidance which are divided into two main themes.

Module 1 Understanding and building enabling environment for national evaluation systems

Module 2 Linking evaluation systems and national and local SDGs (development) planning

Module 3 Instruments for diagnosing existing evaluation capacities

Module 4 Measures for strengthening and institutionalising evaluation capacities

Module 5 Integrating SDGs specificities into evaluation processes and practices

The guidance includes tools for step by step capacity diagnosis, a survey instrument and a case study template. The guidance will be available as an online tool for easy use and application. Access the guidance or the tool online at the IEO website (<http://web.undp.org/evaluation/>)

