

**National Evaluation Capacities 2017**  
**Pre-conference workshop**

**Evaluating the Sustainable Development Goals within a “No one left behind” lens through equity-focused and gender-responsive evaluations**

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**Description:**

We have entered the exciting era of the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This Agenda comes together with a follow-up and review mechanism to ensure the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are systematically monitored and reviewed to help countries implementing the 2030 Agenda ensure “No one is left behind”. The UN General Assembly underlined the importance of evaluation within the transformative 2030 Agenda calling for: (a) the review and follow-up mechanisms to be informed by country-led evaluations, and (b) capacity-building support for developing countries including strengthening of national data systems and evaluation.

The Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development puts forward “a plan for action for people, planet and prosperity” and “seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom” through strategic partnerships. It includes a vision and principles, a results framework of global SDGs, a framework for means of implementation and follow-up and review mechanism.

This means evaluation should play a crucial role to support effective and efficient SDG implementation. Evaluation will offer evidence-based learning on how policies and programmes delivered results and what needs to be done differently. The main principle of the 2030 Agenda is that no one should be left behind. The follow-up and review mechanisms also call for inclusiveness, participation and ownership. This is why equity-focused and gender-responsive evaluation is needed. This transformative kind of evaluation can help countries to identify structural causes of inequalities through deeper analysis of power relationship, social norms and cultural beliefs. Integrating equity-focused and gender-responsive evaluations will provide strong evidence to ensure national voluntary reviews of SDGs are leaving no one behind.

The purpose of this one day workshop is 1) to provide guidance on how to integrate an equity-focused and gender equality approach to national evaluation systems generally and 2) promote the use of equity-focused and gender-responsive evaluations to inform the national reviews of SDGs.

The workshop will be based on two concepts directly derived from the SDGs, specifically:

- Gender equality: Derived from SDG 5
- Reduce inequality within and among countries: Derived from SDG 10

When referring to evaluation approaches for addressing these, the term equity-focused and gender-responsive evaluation is used.