

# CoE Nepal Newsletter

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## Training on Impact Evaluation

The Community of Evaluators-Nepal organized a training-workshop on Designing, Managing and Undertaking Impact Evaluations from 13 to 15th September 2017 in Kathmandu. The main objective was to refresh the participants' knowledge of Impact Evaluations (IEs) and further develop their skills to design and manage rigorous IEs. In addition, the workshop provided hands-on experience through clinic sessions where participants can work and discuss on real world examples from Nepal or 3ie commissioned IEs. The three day training was supported by International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) and in ICIMOD. This is an important refresher opportunity available through the expertise of 3ie.

## Training on SDGs for Young and Emerging Evaluators

The Community of Evaluators Nepal (COE-Nepal) organized a four day training for Young and Emerging Evaluators on Evaluation in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Kathmandu from July 25 to 28, 2017. It was a basic evaluation training conducted with an aim of nurturing young and emerging evaluators in Nepal through engaged exposure to creative approaches to evaluation of development projects, programs and policies in the context of the SDGs. This training was a part of COE-N's commitment to the Five Year National Evaluation Action Plan in developing National Evaluation Capacity as envisaged in EvalAgenda 2020.

There were 32 participants (56% female and 44% male) from different stakeholder types including UN Agencies, academia, and Volunteer Organizations for Professional Evaluation (VOPEs). The content of the training included understanding evaluation, methodological approaches, theory of change, evaluation criteria, questions and matrix, logframe/result framework, leaving no one behind in evaluation, equity, social inclusion, data analysis, and evaluation ethics.



Voluntary national reviews (VNRs) are an important tool for demonstrating how far countries are progressing toward realising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); but VNRs represent just one approach to evaluation in the 2030 Agenda. Countries can look beyond evaluation in the context of global reporting through VNRs, to embedding evaluation at the national and local level. See more at <http://pubs.iied.org/17464ITED/>



**Goal:** Advance the theory, practice and use of evaluation in development processes.

### **Objectives:**

1. To develop and disseminate knowledge products on evaluation,
2. To enhance capacity of development actors on quality evaluation,
3. To strengthen the dialogue mechanism for promoting the use of evaluation.

## EVALSDGs

In September 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by world leaders. Progress towards “The world we want” – the headline of the SDGs extensive consultative process – requires efforts at every level to turn aspirations into realities. The SDGs have a strong emphasis on each national government defining and measuring their own objectives and targets. Evaluation practice provides a means to raise the voice of stakeholders and local people in SDG initiatives. It helps to measure and demonstrate achievement and challenges, ultimately contributing to improved accountability and decision-making, stronger leadership, as well as learning and innovation.

EvalPartners has established EVALSDGs in response to the need to embed effective monitoring and evaluation in the SDGs. EVALSDGs aims to form a strong evaluation partnership to inform, support, measure and assess development efforts around the SDGs. As a network of interested and skilled policy makers, institutions and practitioners who advocate for the evaluability of the performance indicators of the new SDGs, EVALSDGs can add value to both the evaluation sector and to the SDG implementation and review processes.

Source: <https://evalsdgs.org/about/>

## Proposed Evaluation Codes of conduct for Evaluators

On the basis of literature review, the review of the ethical principles and consultation on codes of conduct (CoC) in some relevant organizations, CoE Nepal proposed following CoC for evaluators. The CoCs include more general ethical considerations of evaluation and research that involve human subjects. The CoCs include more general ethical considerations of evaluation and research that involve human subjects.

### Guiding Principles

The following are basic guiding principles that we attest to for development evaluation.

- Do no harm
- Accept the foundation principle that evaluation is political
- Put the beneficiaries (such as marginal communities, women and the most deprived) at the centre, maintain confidentiality and ensure fair representation at all stages of evaluation
- Understand the local context, respect, and take into account differences and diversity among stakeholders
- Be accountable to beneficiaries, and foster social equity in evaluation, when feasible, so that those who give to the evaluation may benefit in return
- Respect self-determination rights of respondents, obtain respondents’ consent and maintain impartiality
- Use realistic and credible evaluation tools and methods
- Assess changes in power relations who are getting benefits and who are excluded (such as women, minority groups, geographic disparities)
- Ensure proper feedback mechanisms during evaluation
- Maintain honesty and integrity in own behaviour, negotiating honestly the evaluation costs, tasks, limitations, scope of results and while accurately presenting their procedures, data and findings and highlighting any limitations or uncertainties of interpretation within the evaluation
- Avoid conflict of interest by disclosing any previous involvement in the project/programme to be evaluated
- Pay special attention in assessment how gender, equity, and human rights of beneficiaries including those of vulnerable persons are considered into the project/programme
- Generate knowledge that advances social and development justice
- Make explicit evaluator’s biases and assumptions and be transparent

By following the above principles, evaluation can be a critical tool for understanding the structural causes of (under) development, and exclusion and the consequences of mal-action for development beneficiaries.