



Independent Evaluation Office  
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## Gender-responsive and equity-focused evaluation for post-2015 development

2015 is a year of global transformation, in which the post-2015 Development Agenda will be framed. Social equity and gender equality will be central to ensure the realization of sustainable and equitable development. Evaluation must be equipped to inform its design and implementation, both at global and national levels. National development policies and programmes should therefore be informed by evidence generated by credible national evaluation systems that are equity-focused and gender-responsive, while ensuring policy coherence at regional and global level.

UN Women Independent Evaluation Office, in partnership with EvalPartners, United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) and Parliamentarian Forum for Development Evaluation, is leading a global effort to strengthen the demand, conduct and use of gender-responsive and equity-focused evaluation. You can learn more about the details in this newsletter.

I wish you an enjoyable reading.

Marco Segone, Director, Independent Evaluation Office

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## Global Parliamentarians Forum for Development Evaluation

EvalPartners, UN Women and International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE), in collaboration with EES, UNEG, African Development Bank, South Asia Parliamentarians Forum for Development Evaluation, African Parliamentarians' Network on Development Evaluation and the Arab States Regional Parliamentarians' Initiative organized the first ever meeting with Parliamentarians from all over the world to discuss the role of parliamentarians in ensuring evaluation is demanded and used in national policymaking. Caroline Heider, Senior Vice President of the World Bank made the keynote speech highlighting importance of parliamentarians engaging in evaluation.



Progress of regional initiatives was reviewed after presentations made by represented members of parliament. As regional parliamentarian initiatives are becoming stronger, parliamentarians discussed steps to establish a global forum. A steering committee represented by two members of parliament from each region was established to work on the global forum, which will be launched at the Parliament of Nepal in November 2015. The Global Parliamentarians Forum will lobby for mainstreaming equity focused and gender-responsive evaluation at national, regional and global levels.

For more information, please contact Asela Kalugampitiya at [aselakalugampitiya@yahoo.ie](mailto:aselakalugampitiya@yahoo.ie)

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## South Asia Parliamentarians consultation on National Evaluation Policies

Parliamentarians Forum for Development Evaluation in collaboration with EvalPartners, UN Women, IOCE, and the Sri Lanka Evaluation Association (SLEVA) organized the South Asia parliamentarians consultation on national evaluation policies (NEPs). The overall objective of the initiative is to create an enabling environment that fosters and promotes development of equity focused and gender-responsive evaluation policy and practices.

The event was declared open by the Deputy Speaker of the Sri Lanka Parliament. The event was attended by parliamentarians, national and regional VOPE leaders, government representatives and representatives of international organizations. The two day programme discussed the importance of equity-focused and gender-responsive NEPs, including, the preparation of country work plans for the NEP process and how to work with stakeholders in the process. The EvalPartners book *Engendering National Evaluation Policies* was introduced and gender-responsive and equity focused model NEPs were discussed in detail. All eight countries that attended the event came up with roadmaps to process NEPs in their countries.

For more information, please contact Asela Kalugampitiya at [aselakalugampitiya@yahoo.ie](mailto:aselakalugampitiya@yahoo.ie)

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## New book on National Evaluation Policies now available for free download

EvalPartners, UN Women and IOCE, in partnership with Parliamentarian Forum for Development Evaluation and the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG), are proud to announce the launch of the new book *National evaluation policies for sustainable and equitable development. How to integrate gender equality and social equity in national evaluation policies and systems.*



This publication is a resource for Parliamentarians, Governments, Voluntary Organizations for Professional Evaluation and Civil Society to ensure that National Evaluation policies and systems are not only developed and implemented but, even more importantly, they are gender-responsive and equity-focused, so that they can meaningfully contribute to achieving sustainable, gender-responsive and equitable development.

Please find the book [here](#).

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## European Evaluation Society for an equitable society

Marco Segone, Director, UN Women Independent Evaluation Office (IEO), delivered the keynote speech titled “Looking to the future. Partnerships for equity-focused and gender-responsive evaluation” at the bi-annual conference of the European Evaluation Society (EES) in Dublin, Ireland. Segone highlighted that the international evaluation community has to prepare itself to ensure it will be able to evaluate new policies and programmes designed to enhance social equity and gender equality. He also argued that the best way to strengthen evaluation capacities is through global partnership such as EvalPartners.

Inga Sniukaite, Deputy of IEO and a Co-Chair of the EvalPartners Equity-Focused and Gender-Responsive Evaluation Task Force presented the work of the task force so far, including innovative projects and partnerships for integrating gender and equity perspectives in national monitoring and evaluation systems, institutions and evaluation training programmes.

Watch the keynote lecture video by Marco Segone [here](#).

Watch the EES short video [here](#).

Access the EES Conference website [here](#).

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## American Evaluation Association for a sustainable, equitable future

At the 2014 American Evaluation Association (AEA) Conference held in Denver, Colorado, UN Women and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) delivered a post-conference workshop “Equity-focused and gender responsive evaluation: How to design, manage and use evaluations from an equity and gender equality perspective”. Marco Segone, IEO Director, presented at the presidential strand “From visionary evaluation to exemplary evaluations in a multicultural world: Learning from evaluation’s successes around the globe”. UN Women IEO also participated in a roundtable on gender-based evaluation tools and uses, where Florencia Tateossian, Evaluation Specialist in IEO presented the successes and challenges of integrating a gender approach in evaluation.



Access the AEA Conference website [here](#).



## Evaluation and public policies: A gender-responsive approach

UN Women supported the “International meeting evaluation and public policies: A gender, diversity and human rights based approach” held in Cali, Colombia with more than 250 participants from 20 countries.

Highlights included the importance of gender-responsive evaluation in the Latin American region as well new paradigms and agendas for a gender-responsive focus in evaluation. Florencia Tateossian, Evaluation Specialist at UN Women IEO and Alicia Williner, a representative at United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) delivered a pre-conference workshop on integrating gender equality in planning and evaluation attended by participants from academia, the public sector, trade unions and women’s activists.

During the conference, two of the three winning initiatives of the EvalPartners "Innovation Challenge" contest were presented: The EES/Red de Seguimiento, Evaluación y Sistematización de América Latina y el Caribe on how to integrate gender in organizations and the Red de Mujeres Latinoamericanas y del Caribe en Gestión de Organizaciones (REDWIM) proposal for a virtual program on gender and evaluation adapted to the social and cultural conditions of Latin America and the Caribbean. The initial results of a joint initiative on engendering national evaluation systems in three national monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems—SINERGIA (Colombia), MIDIS (Peru) and CONEVAL (Mexico)—were also presented, including a presentation from SINERGIA on how the agency is applying the gender-responsive approach to their evaluations.

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## World Bank blog discusses four steps to more gender-responsive evaluations



The blog hosted by the Independent Evaluation Group of the World Bank invited Marco Segone, UN Women, IEO Director, to host a blog discussion on the challenges of mainstreaming gender-responsive evaluations in global organizations. Segone wrote that the four elements needed to ensure gender dimensions are included in evaluation are: (1) strengthen an organizational enabling environment for gender equality; (2) ensure strong vision and leadership by senior management; (3) strengthen organizational capacities for gender equality; and (4) put in place an accountability and reporting system. This particular discussion thread was the most shared in the blog.

Read more at <http://ieg.worldbank.org/blog/four-steps-more-gender-responsive-evaluations>

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## New UNEG guidance on Human Rights and Gender Equality based evaluation

The UNEG Taskforce on Human Rights and Gender Equality led by UN Women and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has launched the complete “Guidance on integrating human rights and gender equality in evaluation”. The guidance is meant to accompany a more concise field handbook developed in 2011 (available at <http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/980>) by providing additional in-depth information on ways in which to integrate human rights and gender equality into each phase of an evaluation. A webinar on the new guidance was held on 26 September 2014.

While the document was mainly developed for UN entities, it can be useful for all evaluators interested to improve the quality of the evaluations they undertake.

Please click [here](#) to access the Guidance in PDF format.

Please click [here](#) to access the Guidance in e-book format.

Please click [here](#) to access the recording of the webinar.

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## MyM&E Resource center



The MyM&E Resource Center continues to actively respond to the needs of the evaluation community by providing a platform for evaluation learning and resources. MyM&E includes a specific section on gender-responsive and equity focused evaluation resources, which provides access to various resources including publications, reports and information on training opportunities as well as gender equality and human rights responsive evaluations communities of practice and networks. MyM&E also offers free online training in evaluation, including equity focused and gender-responsive evaluation courses through free and open courses.

For additional information, please visit [MyMandE](#).

Please click [here](#) to access the MyMandE Resource Center.

Please click [here](#) to access the MyMandE E-Learning.

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## Gender-responsive evaluation taught at IPDET and Claremont Summer School

For the second year, gender-responsive and equity-focused evaluation have been taught at the International Programme Development Evaluation Training (IPDET) and the Summer Evaluation School of the Claremont University by Marco Segone, Director, IEO, UN Women, and Ada Ocampo, Regional Evaluation Chief, Regional Office for Asia and Pacific, UNICEF.

For additional information, please visit [IPDET](#) and [Claremont](#)

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### About the Independent Evaluation Office

The UN Women Independent Evaluation Office main purpose is to enhance accountability, inform decision-making and contribute to learning on the best ways to achieve women's empowerment and gender equality through normative, operational and coordination work. UN Women Independent Evaluation Office also strengthens capacities for gender responsive evaluation within UN entities, governments and civil society organizations.

UN Women is the UN entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women, focusing on five priority areas: increasing women's leadership and participation; ending violence against women; engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes; enhancing women's economic empowerment; and making gender central to national development planning and budgeting. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work in advancing gender equality.

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