EVALUATION

# THE ROLE OF UNDP IN ADVANCING THE SDGS

13th ODA Evaluation workshop Tokyo, JAPAN

# Outline

1. Evaluation is for learning

2. MDGs to SDGs to advance the Global Development Agenda

3. IEO assessment of UNDP's role in MDGs will inform better realization of SDGs

4. UNDPs accorded role and responsibility for SDGs

5. UNEG's role in providing technical support – the evaluability question

6. NEC IV Bangkok Conference launches collective approach to responding to SDGs imperatives

7. The Bangkok declaration: many parts, many players

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# Evaluation is for Learning

SDGs sets very high and ambitious targets - requires national commitments, effective development planning and action

Evaluation systems and capacities critical to generate high-quality evidence for progress monitoring and credible review

Evaluation systems are the bedrock that support countries to conduct their own assessments of SDG compliance

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# Evaluation is for Learning

Effectively conducted evaluation enhances quality of public investments which is a key governance tool for greater transparency, accountability, and learning

Evaluation of development if done in a participatory and credible manner drives development processes and helps concrete progress around areas such as South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Sharing of lessons and knowledge builds bridges across regions and sectors within countries – an imperative of the SDGs

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# IEO's Evaluation of the Role of UNDP in Supporting National Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

❑ This evaluation:

✓ assessed the roles played and results achieved by UNDP in support of the achievement of the MDGs,

✓ identified factors which affected the contribution and performance of UNDP and identified strengths and weaknesses, in past performance as well as threats and opportunities for future engagement in this area

✓ It was a key lesson for UNDPs engagement around finalizing MDGs and preparing for SDGs and the recommendations were committed to
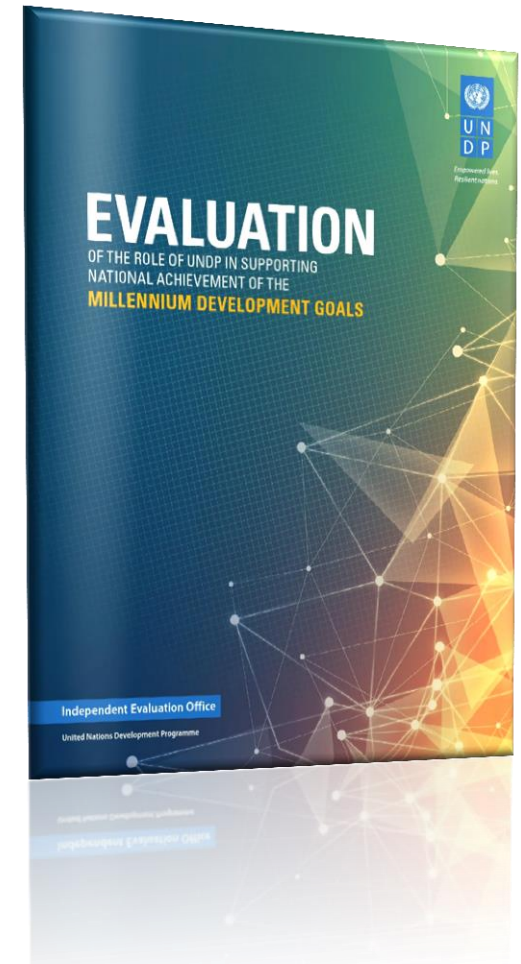
**EVALUATION**
OF THE ROLE OF UNDP IN SUPPORTING NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT OF THE
**MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

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# IEO's Evaluation of the Role of UNDP in Supporting National Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

## WHAT DID WE EVALUATE?

The following 'roles' or aspects of UNDP work are covered by this evaluation:

**1** MDG 'CHAMPION' (Millennium Campaign and other advocacy and influencing efforts);

**2** MDG 'SCOREKEEPER': country and regional MDG REPORTS, the 'MDG Monitor' website and support to the MDG Gap Task Force;

**3** Technical assistance and policy support to develop and scale up Goal-based development strategies and PLANS at the national, subnational and sector levels, including the MAF;

**4** UNDP mechanisms to prioritize the MDGs (trust funds, regional initiatives, implementation and monitoring and other INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS, including the joint Republic of Korea-UNDP MDG Trust Fund);

**5** Relevant country PROGRAMMES and PROJECTS in support of efforts to monitor and achieve the full set of MDGs.

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# IEO's Evaluation of the Role of UNDP in Supporting National Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

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**OUR CONCLUSIONS**

**1** Overall, the **MDGs** were a good idea

**2** **UNDP** supported the **MDGs** right from the **start**, with an **IMPRESSIVE SET OF TOOLS**

**3** **UNDP** could and should have **COLLABORATED** more with **OTHER UN agencies**

**4** **UNDP** often **SUPPORTED** MDG planning **WITHOUT** adequately considering **means of implementation**

**5** With **PROPER RESOURCES,** **aligning** national development strategies **with the Goals** can contribute to their achievement even in the **poorest countries**

**6** **UNDP** is well **positioned** for the **POST 2015 AGENDA** but needs to **redefine** its role in the **more CROWDED** environment

2015

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# UNDP's Accorded Role and Responsibility for SDGs

❑ For MDG implementation, UNDP partnered with national authorities to produce over 500 MDG country reports for score keeping

❑ UN Secretary-General has agreed that UNDP should *now play the same role with national reporting on the SDGs* within the framework of the Global Partnership on Sustainable Development Data
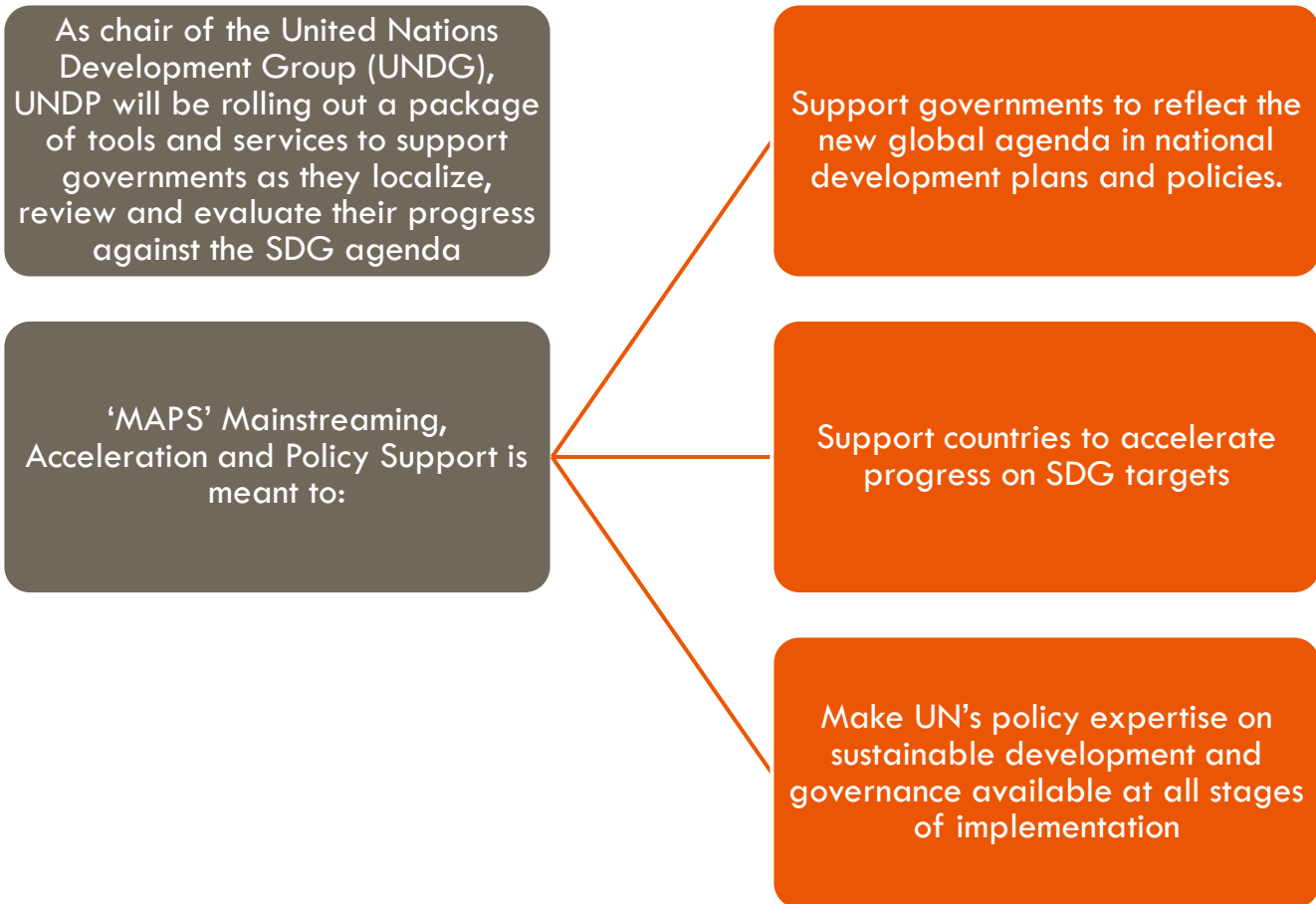
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# UNDP's Accorded Role and Responsibility for SDGs

- All 17 Sustainable Development Goals are connected to UNDP's Strategic Plan focus areas: sustainable development, democratic governance and peacebuilding, and climate and disaster resilience

- UNDP's focus in the future is on :

# UNDP's Accorded Role and Responsibility for SDGs

As chair of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), UNDP will be rolling out a package of tools and services to support governments as they localize, review and evaluate their progress against the SDG agenda

'MAPS' Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support is meant to:

Support governments to reflect the new global agenda in national development plans and policies.

Support countries to accelerate progress on SDG targets

Make UN's policy expertise on sustainable development and governance available at all stages of implementation

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# UNEG's Role in Providing Technical Support – The Evaluability Question

❑ UNEG shall provide professional expertise to agencies so that:

The **evaluability challenges, opportunities** and issues are properly considered in the Agenda 2030

Support the **on-going indicator development** work

Advise on instruments and methods that are appropriate for various contexts, so that the **evaluability assessment are credible**

**Equip members and their agencies with the requisite expertise** on the subject to help build support for evaluation at various levels, so that there are well crafted evaluation strategies, plans and approaches and

There are **harmonized approaches to mitigate against the potential risks of fragmented and non-coherent approaches** which undermine the credibility of the evaluation effort

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# NEC IV Bangkok Conference Launches Collective Approach to Responding to SDGs Imperatives

❑ Largest evaluation event globally by government and country participation – broke all records - 100 countries, 450 participants

❑ Civil society, academia and research community held historic discussion on what SDGs means in practice from a results perspective

❑ First time collaboration between all three international evaluation networks – UNEG, ECG and OECD/DAC and IDEA
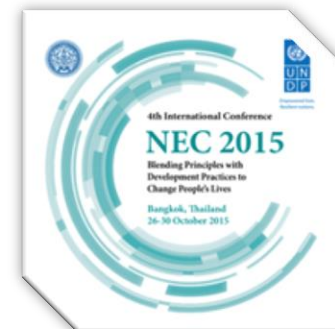
# NEC IV Bangkok Conference Launches Collective Approach to Responding to SDGs Imperatives

❑ Critical dialogue was held on how to build national evaluation capacities to tackle the challenge of monitoring and evaluating the Sustainable Development Goals

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# Many Parts, Many Players and its Principles

Seeks to capture an emerging body of shared understanding on lessons and priorities for evaluation practice in the era of the SDGs to help guide joint action in future support of national evaluation capacity

NEC 2015 → Bangkok Declaration

'SDG's intentions for follow-up and review processes are specifically guided by objectives that evaluation function directly responds to (inter alia):

| identify achievements, challenges, gaps and critical success factors | support the identification of solutions and best practices and promote coordination and effectiveness of the international development system | be open, inclusive, participatory and transparent for all people build on existing platforms and processes | be rigorous and based on evidence, informed by country-led evaluations and data | require enhanced capacity-building support for developing countries, including the strengthening of national data systems and evaluation programs' |

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# Many Parts, Many Players and its Principles

NEC 2015

Bangkok Declaration

'In moving forward in support of national evaluation capacity, the declaration recognizes the following types of efforts and initiatives as among options that warrant consideration:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Conduct of country-level 'SDG evaluation needs' reviews and diagnostic studies | Evaluability assessments pertaining to individual country or sector SDG goals and targets | Fostering of evaluation as component of national governance and public sector management reform | Establishing national evaluation legal frameworks - legislation and policies | Developing clear national and local sub-national level mechanism for independent evaluation of progress against the SDGs |

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# Many Parts, Many Players and its Principles

Assigning resources (a percentage of the initiatives' costs) for the conduct of evaluations when realigning national plans with the SDGs and when designing/approving projects/programs/policies

Strengthening national and local data systems to monitor SDG progress

Establishing frameworks of formal competencies and professional evaluation standards

NEC 2015

Bangkok Declaration

Establishing evaluation training programs within academic and public sector professional training institutions

Creating opportunities for local, young and emerging evaluators

Developing systems to promote transparent follow-up of evaluations recommendation

Support national, regional and global evaluation professional organizations

Support international forums of exchange between users and producers of evaluation, via the right of access to information, including regional workshops and web-based platforms for knowledge management'

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# How Monitoring and Evaluation Capacities and Bangkok Declaration can help this broader agenda

Taking a large definition of Evaluation : information and knowledge to design, monitor and evaluate policies and programs
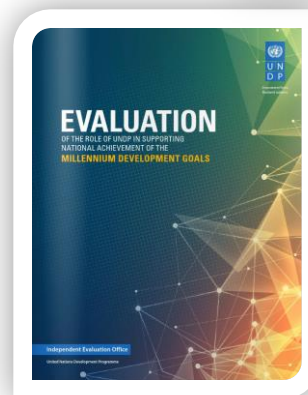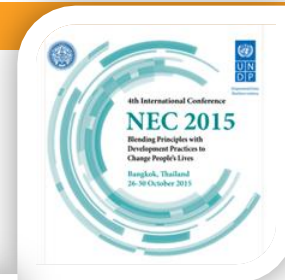
Considering that information and knowledge on Evaluation should be taken to all levels of government, because everyone plays a role on program improvement

Helping to build an inventory of documents on well succeeded public policies and programs around the world

Helping to build capabilities to produced statistical data and national registers around the world

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# Download through links

- [NEC 2015 Conference](#)

- [Sustainable Development Goals](#)

- [Mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda, Reference Guide](#)

- [IEO's Evaluation of the Role of UNDP in Supporting National Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals](#)

- [Bangkok Declaration](#)

Bangkok Declaration

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# Thank you

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