

Integrated National Evaluation Action Plan of Nepal (2016 - 2020)



Government of Nepal
National Planning Commission
Singha Durbar, Kathmandu
July, 2017

Abbreviations

CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
COEs Nepal	Community of Evaluators in Nepal
DPs	Development Partners
ETLC	Evaluation Training and Learning Centre
EvalSDGs	Evaluation of Sustainable Development Goals
INGOs	International Non-Governmental Organisations
LMs	Line Ministries
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDAC	Ministerial Development Action Committee
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFALD	Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development
MoLJPA	Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
MoWCSW	Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
MRP	Management Response Plan
NASC	Nepal Administrative Staff College
NDAC	National Development Action Committee
NDHS	Nepal Demographic and Health Survey
NES	Nepal Evaluation Society
NLSS	Nepal Living Standard Survey
NPC	National Planning Commission
NPCS	National Planning Commission Secretariat
NPFDEPN	National Parliamentarians Forum on Development Evaluation policy in Nepal
NPHC	National Population and Housing Census
NSDS	National Strategies for Development of Statistics
OPMCM	Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SOME	Society of Monitoring and Evaluation
TU	Tribhuvan University
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNW	United Nation's Women
VOPEs	Voluntary Organization of Professional Evaluators
WFP	World Food Program

Integrated National Evaluation Action Plan of Nepal (2016 - 2020)

Introduction

Nepal has made significant progress in poverty reduction, human development and in social sector during the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDGs final status report recently published by the National Planning Commission (NPC) has found that most of the MDG targets have been achieved, some were partially achieved and there are some unfinished agendas. Moreover, during the MDGs period several progress reports were brought out showing the status of the goals, targets and indicators at the national aggregate level lacking disaggregation based on social groups, gender and geographical regions. However, neither the final progress report nor any other review reports have adequately assessed or evaluated the policies and programmes to find out what worked and what did not in the achievement of MDGs. Thus, the NPC has been working to address these gaps during the implementation, monitoring and evaluation process of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Nepal has committed to the global SDGs and has already initiated some efforts to integrate it in the national planning and budgeting processes, reviewed national M&E indicators from SDGs lens, drafted the SDGs baseline report and engaged in the Voluntary National Review (VNR) of SDGs. Moreover, the NPC has started restructuring the M&E system make it SDG-friendly according high priorities on evaluation of SDGs. Key initiatives includes building national capacity to institutionalize evaluation of SDGs and develop tracking and evaluation system gender responsive and equity focused in line with the spirit of “leave no one behind”. For these to happen, the NPC has been adopting collaborative approaches engaging GoN agencies, VOPEs and UN agencies and interested other actors. This Integrated National Evaluation Action Plan (2016-2020) is the concerted effort of these actors to build evaluation capacities and institutionalize SDGs-evaluations in the country that is equity-focused and gender-responsive

Objective

The main objective of this action plan is to have concerted efforts among various agencies in Nepal to enhance the national evaluation capacity and produce evaluation-based evidences useful for better targeting and effective implementation of SDGs. The specific objectives are to:

- (i) To create an enabling environment for institutionalization of evaluation in the country.
- (ii) To enhance networking and coordination in building both institutional and individual capacities in the monitoring and evaluation of SDGs.
- (iii) To expand coverage of equity focused and gender responsive evaluations and promote their uses in policy processes.

Action Plan

The Action Plan was drafted during the National Workshop on EVALSDGs and EvalAgenda held on August 2016 organized by National Parliamentarians Forum on Development Evaluation Policy in Nepal (NPFDEPN) and Community of Evaluators-Nepal. The draft was refined in series of meetings in the NPC. The representatives of the UNICEF, UN Women, WFP, UNFPA, UNDP and COE-Nepal also made contributions in this process. This was further refined by articulating the cost of proposed activities in the evaluation networking meeting of 2017. The event was jointly organized by NPC and UN agencies and supported by the VOPEs.

The action plan consists of the five major themes and respective activities with time-frame, lead and support agencies along with expected outputs. The major themes are:

1. Enabling Environment
2. Capacity Development
3. Networking and Coordination
4. Planned evaluation and SDG Monitoring
5. Documentation, dissemination and use of evaluation

The specific activities within the themes are in the tabular form below:

1. Enabling Environment

	Major Activities ¹	Time Frame	Stakeholder		Expected output
			Lead	Support	
1.1	Formulation of National Evaluation Policy (with norms, standards and accountability framework).	July 2018	NPC	UNICEF, UNW, UNFPA, UNDP, WFP, VOPEs	National Evaluation Policy in place.
1.2	Expedite the process to enact Monitoring and Evaluation (M and E) Act and Monitoring and Evaluation Rules.	June 2018 Ongoing	NPC, OPMCM, MoLJPA	NPFDEPN	Monitoring and Evaluation Act in place.
1.3	Dissemination and orientation on the Monitoring and Evaluation Policy, Act and Rules at the national and sub-national levels.	December 2018 Ongoing	NPC	UNICEF, UNW, UNFPA, UNDP, WFP, VOPEs, NPFDEPN	National Evaluation Policy, Monitoring and Evaluation Act and Rules owned and implemented at national and sub-national levels.
1.4	Amendment of National Monitoring and Evaluation Guidelines, 2013	July 2018	NPC	Sectoral Ministries, UNICEF, UNW, UNFPA, UNDP, WFP, VOPEs	SDG-friendly National Monitoring and Evaluation Guidelines, 2013 amended.
1.5	Formulation of model Monitoring and evaluation Frameworks for provincial and local levels.	July 2018	NPC, MoFALD	UNICEF, UNW, UNFPA, UNDP, WFP, VOPEs	Monitoring and Evaluation Guidelines for provincial and local level governments in place and operationalized.
1.6	Formulation of an agreed Code of Conduct for evaluators.	December 2018	COE-Nepal, SOME, NES	NPC, NPF, CSOs, INGOs, Academia	Evaluation culture established.

¹ Proposed activities are costed.

2. Capacity Development

	Major Activities	Time Frame	Stakeholder		Expected outputs
			Lead	Support	
2.1	Need assessment for capacity building of Monitoring and Evaluation institutions and individuals	December 2017 Ongoing	NPC, VOPEs (CoE Nepal)	UNICEF, UNW, UNFPA, UNDP, WFP, DPs	Tools for needs assessment developed Assessment report available with recommendations for types of interventions
2.2	Develop training modules for teaching and training (academic training, ToT, general training) for evaluators and commissioners.	Ongoing December 2017(draft) June 2018 (complete)	NPC, COE Nepal	Universities, Training Institutions (NASC), VOPEs	GoN owned Training module in place
2.3	Carry out ground works to establish Evaluation Training and Learning Centre (ETLC).	Ongoing June 2018	NPC, VOPEs	NPC, Universities, Training Institutions (NASC)	Detail proposal prepared
2.4	Establish Evaluation Training and Learning Centre (ETLC).	Ongoing December 2019	NPC, VOPEs	NPC, Universities, Training Institutions (NASC)	ETLC established and operational
2.5	Provide basic and Impact evaluation trainings to 760 ² participants (NPC:200, UN: 200 and VOPEs: 360) -Basic evaluation training	2017-20	VOPEs, NPC, UN	Development partners, training institutions	Individual capacity on commissioning and conducting evaluation enhanced

² This target will be reviewed and updated after the needs assessment survey results

	Major Activities	Time Frame	Stakeholder		Expected outputs
			Lead	Support	
	-Impact evaluation training				
2.6	Attend online courses on evaluation (Online courses linked with the NPC website)	2017-20	NPC	VOPEs, UNICEF, UNW, UNFPA, UNDP, WFP	At least 60 persons received certification in online evaluation courses
2.7	Ensure available training materials from VOPEs and all UN Agencies is shared to NPC repository as a reference materials	2017-20	NPC	VOPEs, UN Agencies, DPs	Training materials well documented in the NPC.
2.8	Make evaluation material available through repository centre/EvalSDGs knowledge portal	2017-20	NPC, UN Agencies	VOPEs, DPs	Training materials well-documented in the repository centre in the NPC. Increased understanding on EvalSDG.
2.9	Learn from global EvalSDGs initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop brief papers/IEC materials on EvalSDGs - Translate global briefing papers on EvalSDGs into Nepali. 	2017-20 Ongoing	NPC, VOPEs	DPs, UN Agencies	Efforts to institutionalize evaluation aligned with global EvalSDGs initiatives

3. Networking and Coordination

	Major Activities	Time	Stakeholder	Expected Outputs
--	------------------	------	-------------	------------------

		Frame	Lead	Support	
3.1	Organize Annual Evaluation Networking Meeting.	2017 ongoing	NPC	UN agencies and VOPEs	National evaluation capacities enhanced through increased collaboration and sharing.
3.2	Establish networking and learning mechanism (including EvalSDGs) at the national and sub-national levels.	December 2018 ongoing	VOPEs	UN agencies, Universities, World Bank, and potential institutes	Increased understanding about the use of evaluation at all levels
3.3	Organize quarterly networking meetings of VOPEs (12 meetings).	June 2017 ongoing	VOPEs	NPC, UN agencies, NPFDEPN	Networking and collaboration among VOPEs and evaluators increased.

4. Planned Evaluation and SDG Monitoring

	Major Activities	Time Frame	Lead	Support	Expected Outputs
4.1	Institutionalize internal evaluation system in the NPC and all the line ministries - Internal evaluation - External evaluation	2017-20	NPC, Line Ministries	UN Agencies, DPs, VOPEs	20 Internal evaluation conducted. 12 External evaluation conducted.
4.2	Two Meta Evaluations (theme-wise and from gender and equity lenses).	2017-20	NPC, Line Ministries	UN Agencies, DPs, VOPEs	Two meta evaluations conducted.
4.3	Collection of equity focused and gender-responsive disaggregated data as per the need of SDG and other indicators through annual HH Survey; NLSS, 2018; NPHC, 2021; MICS 2018/19 and NDHS, 2017	2017-20	NPC, CBS	UNICEF, UNW, UNDP, UNFPA, DPs	Gender and equity-based disaggregated data collected and analyzed for SDGs.
4.4	Preparation of SDGs baseline report.	August 2017	NPC	UNICEF, UNW, UNDP, UNFPA, DPs	SDGs baseline report produced.
4.5	Collection and analysis of GBV data.	2017-20	NPC, CBS MoWCSW, UNW, UNFPA	DPs, VOPEs	GBV-related data regularly collected/updated.

	Major Activities	Time Frame	Lead	Support	Expected Outputs
4.6	Conduct Annual Nepal Social Inclusion Survey.	2017-20	NPC, TU, DPs	UN Agencies	Nepal Social Inclusion Survey Report published.
4.7	Develop tools and technology on 1) equity-focused, and 2) gender responsive evaluation. Pilot and tailor it to national context in meta evaluation.	2017-20	VOPEs	NPC, UNICEF, UNW, Other Agencies, DPs	Equity-focused and gender-responsive tools and technology developed and operationalised.

5. Documentation, Dissemination and Use of Evaluation

	Major Activities	Time Frame	Stakeholders		Expected Outputs
			Lead	Support	
5.1	Disseminate evaluation findings	2017-20 Ongoing	NPC, UN Agencies	DPs, VOPEs	Evaluation findings well-dissemination and used
5.2	Tracking of Management Response Plans (MRP) for implementation of evaluation recommendations.	June 2018 Ongoing	NPC	Line ministries, DPs, VOPEs	Uptake of evaluation evidences increased
5.3	Use evaluation findings in policy formulation and resource allocation decisions.	2017-20 Ongoing	NPC, MoF, LMs, Provincial and Local governments	UN Agencies, VOPEs, DPs	Use of evaluation evidences in policy and decision making increased.
5.4	Use disaggregated data in NDAC and MDAC-level discussions.	2017-20 Ongoing	NPC, LMs, Provincial and Local governments	CBS, Programmes, Projects	Use of results-based disaggregated data improved in policy discussions and decisions.
5.5	Organization of talk programmes on Evaluation through workshops and Conferences	2017-20	NPC	Line ministries, DPs, VOPEs	M&E knowledge sharing and dissemination among GON, DPs, UN and VOPEs strengthened