

# International Year of Evaluation (EvalYear)

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EvalPartners<sup>1</sup>, in consultation with the evaluation offices of International Organizations including UN agencies and the World Bank's IEG, OECD/DAC and emerging countries, private foundations and other key stakeholders, including regional and national evaluation associations, propose to designate 2015 as the International Year of Evaluation (EvalYear) in order to advocate and promote evaluation and evidence-based policy making at international, regional, national and local levels.

## **Purpose**

Declaring 2015 as the International Year of Evaluation is intended to contribute to high-level debates at international and national level on the role of evaluation in good governance for equitable human development. EvalYear will position evaluation in the policy arena, by raising awareness of the importance of embedding evaluation in the processes associated with the implementation of the forthcoming Sustainable Development Goals at international and national levels.

## **The conceptualization of EvalYear**

In the spirit of EvalPartners, EvalYear will bring together diverse stakeholders into a movement designed to mobilize the energies and enhance the synergy of existing and new evaluation initiatives at international and national levels. For example, EvalYear will help to shape opinion and influence decision making through conferences of regional and national Voluntary Organizations for Professional Evaluation (VOPE), UN evaluation-related meetings and other events organized by other partners that will keep the spotlight on policy coherence for equitable and sustainable development and good governance in the international and national arenas.

In preparation for the launch of the SDGs, the EvalYear movement will contribute to the ongoing discussions about (i) the lessons to be learnt from the MDG experience, including MDG8; (ii) the design of the future set of global development goals, and (iii) follow up activities related to the Busan's Global Partnership on aid effectiveness.

## **Proposed operationalization**

EvalPartners, representing a partnership among major stakeholders, including VOPEs, UN agencies and donor agencies, will declare 2015 as the International Year of Evaluation. A roadmap to 2015 as EvalYear will be prepared and implemented in 2013-2014. EvalPartners Management Group, in consultation with the International Advisors Group, will be responsible to develop the roadmap.

For additional information, or for joining the initiative, please contact Marco Segone (msegone@unicef.org) and Natalia Kosheleva (nkochele@yandex.ru ), EvalPartners co-chairs, and Jim Rugh (jimrugh@mindspring.com), EvalPartners Coordinator.

Note: Individual chapters can join the IOCE, if they wish. While only regional VOPEs, such as CES, sit on the Board of Directors of IOCE, other members have a direct connection to exciting initiatives such as EvalPartners.

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<sup>1</sup> EvalPartners is an innovative partnership designed to enhance the capacities of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) to influence policy makers, public opinion and other key stakeholders so that public policies are based on evidence, and incorporate considerations of equity and effectiveness. The objective of the Initiative is to enhance the capacities of CSOs to engage in a strategic and meaningful manner in national evaluation processes, contributing to improved country-led evaluation systems and policies that are equity-focused and gender equality responsive.