

**One size does not fit all:**  
**Adapting and adopting international evaluation norms**  
**in the Asia-Pacific region**

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# Evolution of evaluation

COVID-19 has empowered national evaluators to come forth as first-hand evaluators on the ground as never before due to international travel restrictions.



**international evaluators**

Birth of Mongolian Evaluation Association, Sep 2021



**local evaluators**



local evaluators as data collectors



Member of:



International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation

**Birth of Mongolian Evaluation Association, Sep 2021**



**Vision: Promote professionalization and institutionalization of evaluation at national level**

# MEMBERSHIP

148 members, 9 Board members, 1 CEO

- Professional - 120 (81%)
- Student - 28 (19%)

## City:

- UB, Mongolia
- Darkhan-Uul, Mongolia
- Dornod, Mongolia
- Uvurkhangai, Mongolia
- Buena Vista, Colorado, USA
- Arlington, Texas, USA
- Virginia, USA
- Bloomington, USA
- Sydney, Australia
- Beijing, China
- Ankara, Turkey



# Mongolian Evaluation Association

## TOPICAL INTEREST GROUP

1. Costs, Benefits & Economic and Financial Evaluation
2. Quantitative Evaluation Methods
3. Climate Change (Environmental Evaluation)
4. Health Sector Evaluation
5. Promoting National Evaluation Policy & System
6. Social Impact Measurement and Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG)
7. Organizational and System Evaluation

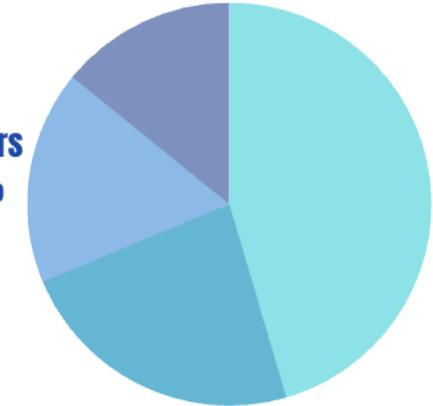
## How many years of experience of evaluation do you have?

More than 5 years  
14.1%

2-5 years  
17.2%

Less than two years  
23.2%

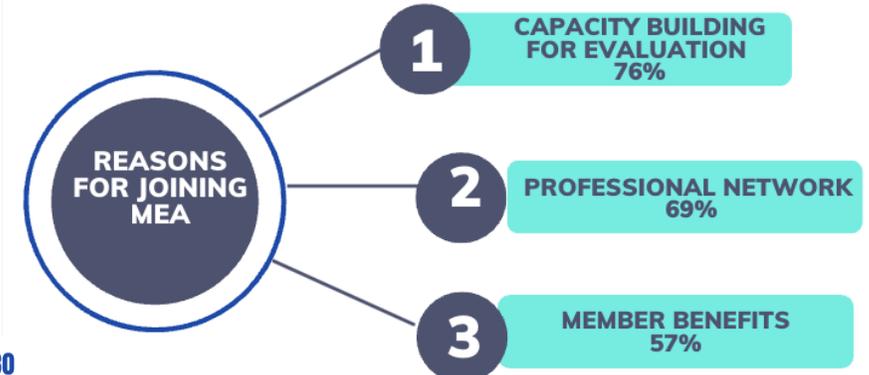
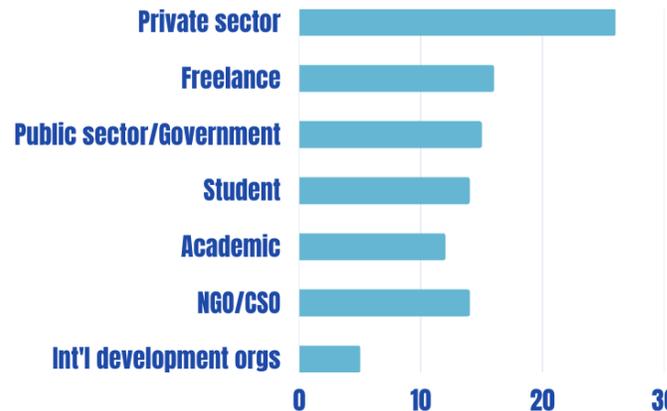
Do not have  
45.5%



### Young and Emerging Evaluators

YEEs - 50%  
Young under 35 age - 53%  
Emerging (less than 5 years experience) - 84%

## Employment sector



# Learning from evaluation associations around the world about evaluation standards to develop our own contextualized made-in Mongolia fundamentals of evaluation, such as standards, code of ethics and other norms



## African Evaluation Guidelines - Standards and Norms

### Preamble.

The African Evaluation Association (AfREA) was founded in 1999 to respond to the growing demand in Africa for information sharing, advocacy and advanced capacity building in evaluation. In conjunction with the national associations and committed donors, AfREA thrives to develop the concept of an African evaluation community. The African Evaluation Guidelines developed and endorsed by African Associations, networks and evaluators present a framework for conducting evaluations that are sensitive to the African context and are in line with international practice, standards and norms for evaluations.

The guidelines for evaluation are ethical principles and quality criteria. They are a set of rules and requirements that are necessary to all stakeholders and applicable throughout the evaluation process. These principles show a shared system of values among all evaluation stakeholders in Africa.

The evaluation standards help enhance independence and impartiality in the conduct of evaluation. They ensure transparency and a participative methodology and create conditions of ownership of evaluation and its results. Also, they aim to standardize methods and upgrade the trustworthiness and usefulness of evaluation.

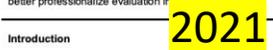
This edition of the evaluation guidelines, aggregate the various works of stakeholders in the field of evaluation in Africa. It is also in line with the major trends and good practices in evaluation worldwide.

This version takes into account universal standards and promotes requirements justified by the state of evaluation in Africa. It guides the process and products and embraces all sectors and timeframes of the evaluation project. They are maximal and incorporate a pluralist dimension. They help give credit to evaluation stakeholders, make reliable the evaluation processes and better professionalize evaluation in Africa.

### Introduction

This document presents the guidelines for evaluators on how evaluations should be framed when conducted in Africa. The purpose of the guidelines is to establish a common understanding of principles to be adhered to by evaluators and those being evaluated. The guidelines seek to increase transparency, coherence and efficiency in generating and using evaluative knowledge for institutional and organizational learning and effective management for results, and to support accountability. The guidelines apply to all evaluators conducting evaluation in Africa and institutions being evaluated in Africa.

The African Evaluation Association subscribes to the international development goals, especially the African Union (AU) and New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) strategic



### Introduction

#### Purpose and scope of these standards

The Evaluation Standards published by the Swiss Evaluation Society (SEVAL Standards) aim to contribute to the professionalization of evaluation practice in Switzerland. Adhering to the main principles expressed in these Standards will help to increase the quality and credibility of evaluations.

The SEVAL Standards provide a foundation and help in planning and carrying out evaluations, drafting mandates, tenders and evaluation agreements, and ensuring quality during evaluations or in subsequent assessments. They can also be used as teaching materials for professional training and development.

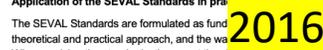
The SEVAL Standards may be applied to all types of evaluations, regardless of their institutional context, the procedures chosen, and the specific sector, and regardless of whether it is an external, an internal or a self-evaluation. The SEVAL Standards are not designed for evaluating persons.

#### Application of the SEVAL Standards in practice

The SEVAL Standards are formulated as fundamental principles. However, the background, organization, theoretical and practical approach, and the way they are applied, is carried out differ from case to case. When applying the standards, they must thus be adapted to the specific situation. Individual standards are interrelated. They should therefore always be interpreted within the context of the actual evaluation and taking into account the standards as a whole. The explanations provided for the individual standards are intended to help in applying them.

#### Audience of the SEVAL Standards

The quality of any evaluation does not only depend on the evaluators themselves, but is the result of the interaction of various people assuming various roles in the process. The SEVAL Standards are therefore addressed to all those who are involved in an evaluation or who influence it in some way.



## Norms and Standards for Evaluation



### D'Eval Methods and Standards 2018

## STANDARDS FOR DEVAL EVALUATIONS

### Introduction

The overall objective of the German Institute for Development Evaluation (D'Eval) is to increase the effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of development cooperation. On the way to achieving these goals, D'Eval conducts scientifically sound and policy-relevant evaluation work. In this process, high-quality evaluations are based on standards, their verifiability and comparability as well as a professional understanding of the work of evaluators. In the policy field of development cooperation, D'Eval operates at the nexus between politics, science and implementation practice.

D'Eval evaluation standards are embedded in existing standards and guidelines, above all the standards of the German Evaluation Society (DeGEval) from 2016 and the quality standards for development evaluation of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) from 2010, as well as the guidelines of German Research Foundation (DFG) for safeguarding good scientific practice from 2015.

The special organisational placement of D'Eval as an independent evaluation institute in the policy field of development cooperation make the formulation and implementation of own standards worthwhile. Distinctive features include the central importance of the identification of policy-relevant evaluation items, the participation of stakeholders in the evaluation process, independence, integrity, the implementation of institutional learning processes as well as the replicability of evaluation results.

The standards for D'Eval evaluations are ambitious minimum standards that should apply in principle to all D'Eval evaluations. Specific areas of tension between individual principles are openly discussed and explained. D'Eval evaluation standards are

periodically tested and refined. As regards content, D'Eval evaluation standards are organised according to the criteria of utility (U); evaluability (E); fairness (F); independence and integrity (I); accuracy, scientific rigour and comprehensibility (A); as well as comparability (C).

### Utility

**U1 Politically relevant evaluation objects**  
The identification of relevant evaluation objects lays the foundation stone for utilisation-focused evaluation.

**U2 Target audience and stakeholders**  
The identification of the relevant target audience and stakeholders serves to promote the acceptance and utility of an evaluation. A thorough identification ensures that all relevant individuals and groups are adequately informed, consulted and

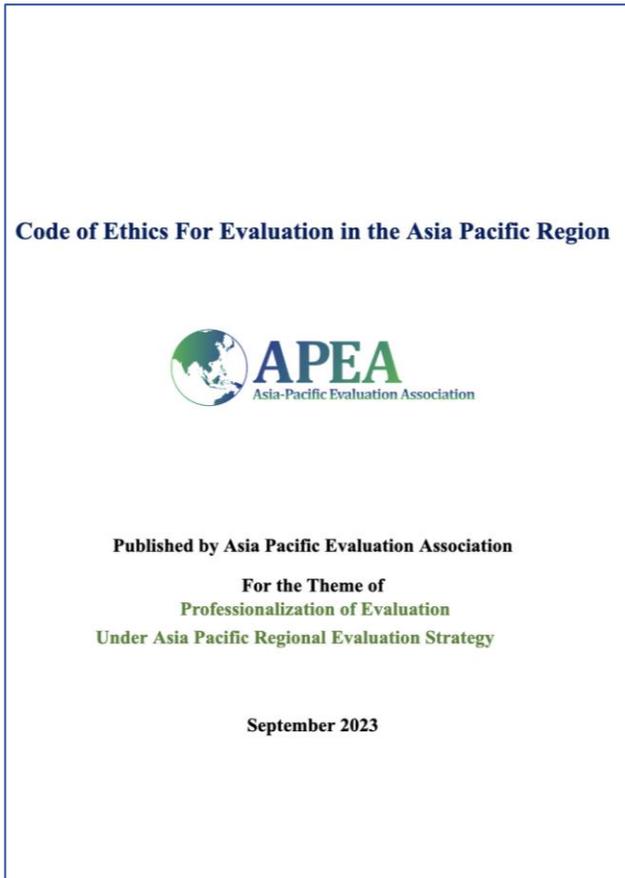
**2018** of target audience and stakeholders  
The identification process serves to take into account the interests and information needs of the target audience and stakeholders of the evaluation and participating groups and individuals.

**U4 Clarification of the evaluation objectives**  
The clarification of the objective serves the impact orientation of the evaluation and the expectation management with evaluation stakeholders.

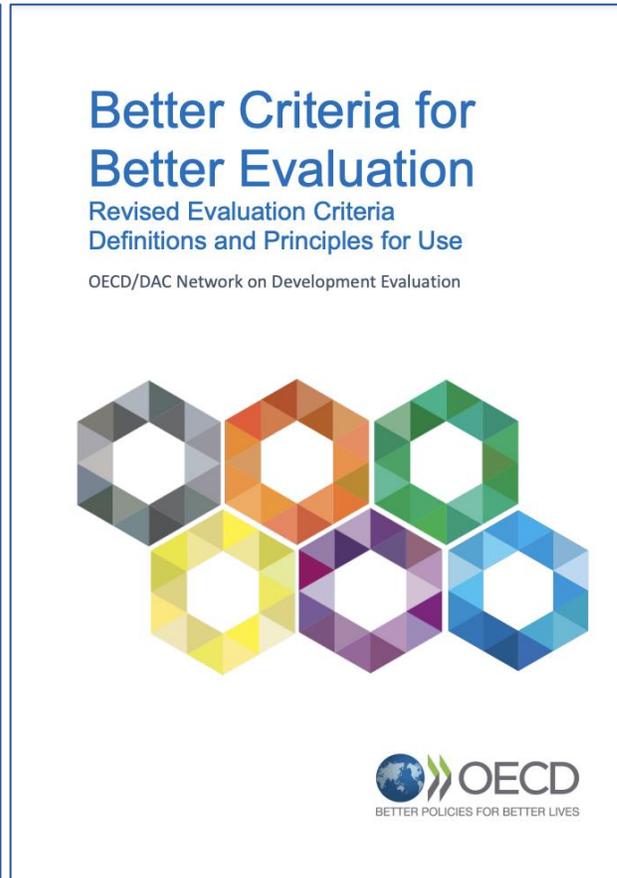
**U5 Evaluation scope**  
The evaluation scope takes into account the objective and desired impact of an evaluation, the interests of the target audience and stakeholders, as well as feasibility and efficiency.



MEA in full swing efforts in promoting professionalization and institutionalization of evaluation in Mongolia as a country-led, country-owned and country-implemented evaluation process in cooperation with Government, academia and CSOs



Hands-on contribution to developing regional Code of Ethics for Evaluation in the Asia-Pacific region to further contextually roll-out in Mongolia



Full translation and soon-to-be launching of OECD Better Criteria for Better Evaluation



Contribution to translating OECD DAC Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation and Results Based Management for Sustainable Development initiated by MERIT project funded by Canada



THANK YOU

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