



SESSION NUMBER & TITLE
Parallel Session 19 - Evaluations for Greening Development Policies
SESSION TAKE AWAY
By listening to a range of key actors working to strengthen national climate responses (Government decision-makers, evaluators from a range of development banks and agencies), participants will have an understanding of the importance of promoting evaluations to green development policies and practices.
SUBTHEME
Sustainability and resilience
ORGANIZATION/S
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADB • DeVAL • GCF • GEF • IFAD
PANELIST/DISCUSSANT #1: [Daisuke Horikoshi, Principal Evaluation Officer, IEU, GCF]
2 KEY MESSAGES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme (RPSP) provides financial support to countries for various climate-related purposes, ranging from institutional capacity building to adaptation plan formulation. Despite the relatively small grant amounts, the evaluation highlights that some countries have effectively utilized GCF's grants to integrate climate considerations into their development policies, including National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and climate change investment programming. 2. Accessing GCF's Readiness support remains a significant challenge for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and African States. The application process is perceived as demanding, costly, time-consuming, and potentially disproportionate to the support provided. While the RPSP has contributed to establishing organizational structures and policies for climate financing, the high turnover of government staff poses a challenge to sustaining these efforts.
PANELIST/DISCUSSANT #2: [Sven Harten, Deputy Director, DEval]
2 KEY MESSAGES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Germany has been a significant contributor to international climate financing, particularly in the area of adaptation. While it has fulfilled its own financing targets, there is a persistent international financing gap for climate protection and adaptation in developing countries. Germany aims to increase its international climate financing to new annual commitments of 6 billion euros by 2025, aligning with its goal of addressing climate change. 2. The evaluation highlights the effectiveness of measures supporting Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) processes. Participatory and cooperative approaches enhance partner countries' ownership of these processes. However, direct support to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) is limited, and financial cooperation instruments are underutilized. Expanding support for NDCs and NAPs, especially in LDCs, is challenging but necessary for addressing climate change effectively.

PANELIST/DISCUSSANT #3: [Anupam Anand, Senior Evaluation Specialist, IEO, GEF]
2 KEY MESSAGES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Well-managed protected areas with high carbon stocks, such as old-growth forests and peatlands, play a crucial role in climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts by preventing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. These areas help sequester carbon and preserve carbon-rich ecosystems, contributing to climate stability. 2. Evaluation can play a crucial role in promoting effective climate responses and green policies. Innovative evaluation approaches, including geospatial analysis and ecological forecasting, can provide valuable tools for quantifying land cover change, estimating carbon stocks, and evaluating ecosystem services. Effective communication and outreach efforts are essential to ensure that evaluation results reach the intended audience and influence policy decisions effectively. However, several challenges, including capacity limitations, economic interests, communication barriers, and financial constraints, hinder the translation of evaluation recommendations into climate action. Addressing these challenges is critical for promoting sustainable climate responses.
PANELIST/DISCUSSANT #4: [Shimako Takahashi, Evaluation Specialist, IED, ADB]
2 KEY MESSAGES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Policy dialogue and Policy-Based Loans (PBLs) have the potential to bring about substantial change at the strategic and planning levels of governance. 2. Technical assistance (TA) plays a crucial role in establishing a coordination platform for effective policy implementation and reform.
MODERATOR: [Suppiramaniam Nanthikesan, Lead Evaluation Officer, IOE, IFAD]
3 KEY MESSAGES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protected areas, when well-managed, play a crucial role in climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts. They can sequester carbon, preserve carbon-rich ecosystems, and provide multiple ecosystem services, including carbon storage and water resources. 2. Development cooperation, such as Germany's efforts in climate financing, is making significant contributions to international climate goals. However, there is still a growing gap in international climate financing, and this particularly affects climate-vulnerable countries and small island states. 3. Evaluations are essential in promoting effective climate policies. Innovative evaluation approaches, improved communication and outreach, and a focus on decision support can help steer policy development and resource management, addressing complex challenges in climate response policies.
Q&A SUMMARY
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does anyone have insights or knowledge regarding efforts and developments in transitioning to a green economy and addressing the challenges associated with it, particularly in terms of decoupling and adapting national accounting systems to incorporate environmental resources? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decoupling question postponed to a later discussion. • Agreement on indicators for mitigation but not adaptation. • Challenges with shifting baselines and extended time horizons (4-5 years). • Observation that time horizons are getting shorter, possibly due to recent events in Libya. • Mention of experience in finance, specifically in access to finance, microfinance, and SME finance, where some indicators perform better. 2. Why does German aid tend to go to countries that may not need it as much? Is it due to a lack of knowledge, geopolitical reasons, or other factors? There's a mention of the paradox of

aid, where countries with better governance tend to receive more aid but are not necessarily the most at risk. The question here is why this paradox exists.

- German aid allocation has multiple targets, and climate vulnerability is just one of them.
- There are many policy priorities, making it challenging to prioritize vulnerability.
- Geopolitical factors play a significant role in German aid spending, similar to other bilateral donors.
- When examining aid instruments, there were no significant differences found.

Experience

1. Experience:

- An evaluator, often faces resistance when evaluating projects as planned versus how they actually unfold.
- Planning methodologies don't consider important factors, and there's a lack of capacity for complex analysis.
- Suggest using complexity science to simulate different outcomes before project planning to account for complexities.
- Evaluators should also comment on planning processes, not just project content, to improve planning for complexity.

SESSION COORDINATOR

Michelle Angielina Dantayana