EVALSDGs Network
The State of Play
General Assembly 2020
Over 2019/2020, EVALSDGs has kept its promises in building capacities on evaluation of the SDGs and disseminating the knowledge produced widely in various platforms and forums...

• As part of its partnership with IIED and UNICEF, EVALSDGs has produced Briefing Paper 12 on “Evaluating sustainable development: how the 2030 Agenda can help”, which was published and launched in July 2019.
• 2 more briefings are in the pipeline

• Following the retreat in Helsinki in March 2019, EVALSDGs, UNICEF, IIED and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland had collaborated to produce a guidebook to serve the evaluation commissioners and managers: Evaluation to connect national priorities with the SDGs, a guide for evaluation commissioners and managers
• It was officially launched during an special event at the UNICEF Headquarters on 4 February 2020.
• It is available in Spanish and French as well.
Over 2019/2020, EVALSDGs continued its webinar series. Three webinars were conducted over this period...

- Webinar on “Unintended Consequences and Trade-offs: Evaluating in the Nexus of Environment, Climate and Development” was held on 4 December 2019, in partnership with UNICEF, GEF, Green Climate Fund, IEO, and Earth-Eval. Almost 150 participants attended the webinar.

- Webinar: “Evaluation Criteria: What has changed, why, and why does it matter?” was scheduled for 16 January 2020, in collaboration with the OECD DAC Evaluation Criteria Task Force to explore the key aspects of the revised criteria. The webinar was attended by more than 200 participants

The webinar materials are available to the wider public on the EVALSDGs website (the full recording can be watched at Recording Webinar 4 December, and the presentation is available for download at Presentation slides).
Over 2019/2020, EVALSDGs continued its engagement in regional and global forums...

At the National Evaluation Capacities (NEC) 2019 Conference:

• A one-day workshop on “Embedding Evaluation in Voluntary National Reviews” brought together 33 participants from 24 countries,
• a panel on “Making the case for country-led evaluations of the SDGs” was held to promote a multi-stakeholder dialogue on the relevance and urgency of country-led evaluations of the SDGs

• In the frame of the IDEAS Global Assembly and Third International Conference on Evaluating Environment, held in Prague, Czechia, in October 2019, EVALSDGs joined forces with UNICEF and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland to organize a panel on “Evaluation of the SDGs: country-led evaluations of Finland and Nigeria

• In February 2020, EVALSDGs and UNICEF convened a plenary during the 8th EvalMENA conference, held in Dead Sea, Jordan, under the theme of “Evaluation for Sustainability and Change”. The plenary focused on “Making the case for country-led evaluations of the SDGs: building on MENA country experiences (a multi-stakeholder perspective)
Over 2019/2020, EVALSDGs continued its building capacity through...

• The free e-learning course on “Evaluation and the 2030 Agenda”, launched in collaboration with UNITAR and UNICEF, EVALSDGs. The course was self-paced and took place over three weeks (2–20 September 2019).

• Sharing insights on evaluation and the SDGs. An example is issue #7 focusing on Impact Stories and the SDGs, highlighting the challenges of measuring impact of the SDGs due to their complexity...

• Engaging with VOPEs and networks by launching recently an on-line Dialogue for an Insight on the SDGs IMPLEMENTATION LANDSCAPE: VOPES AND NETWORKS...
In 2020, EVALSDGs continued its engagement on many fronts ...

- EVALSDGs recently launched an initiative on “Evaluation of the SDGs in the post COVID19 era”

- EVALSDGs is planning its engagement at the HLPF 2020 (mostly virtual), along with partners (UNICEF, MAF and IIED)
These achievements were fulfilled with the current EVALSDGs structure...

For the post 2020, EVALSDGs should feature its agility and flexibility though Taskforces... in order to:

- Ensure flexibility to address new emerging issues
- Encourage members’ engagement
- Maximize the outreach
In fulfilling its role and mandate, EVALSDGs reflects an agile and flexible structure.