UNESCO Evaluation Policy

Information Meeting for Permanent Delegates and Observers to UNESCO

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17 March 2015
An evolving internal context

Why a new policy?

Executive Board decision (189 EX/Decision 16):

“Invites the Director-General to revise the evaluation policy (176 EX/27) for the period 2014-2021, in particular in relation to the role of the Executive Board to “endorse, on a six-yearly basis, the UNESCO evaluation strategy”, taking into consideration the change from 6 to 8 years in the planning cycle of UNESCO’s Medium Term Strategy (C/4)”
An evolving external context

- Increased professionalization of the function through UNEG and at global level
- Post-2015 sustainable development agenda point requires more joint evaluation and support of national capacity building* for evaluation
- Independent System-Wide Evaluation (ISWE)*
- 2014 JIU review of the evaluation function

* respective General Assembly resolutions in 2014, 2012
Key steps in development of the Evaluation Policy

- Consultations held with Programme Sectors, BSP, central services & field
- Informal consultations with member states
- Peer review by senior evaluation experts from OECD, ILO, UNODC, UNFPA, UN-Women, JIU and the UNESCO Oversight Advisory Committee (OAC)
- Information Meeting with Member States (17 March 2015)
What the policy needs to address

What should the improved function look like?

- More strategic and comprehensive
- Better resourced at all levels
- Better planned and overseen
- More systematic and consistent
- Credible and quality assured decentralized functions
- Informs key planning, activities and decisions
- Builds and promotes a learning organization
Ensuring Evaluation Use: Building an Evaluation Culture

STANDARDS:
Impartiality
Intentionality
Transparency
Ethics
Timeliness
Quality
Inclusiveness
Equity
Utility
Empowerment
Gender equality

Management, Response and Follow-up Mechanism
Inclusive and participatory evaluation processes
Targeted knowledge products and sharing based on the evaluation
New policies and programmes take evaluations into account
Evaluations reflected in results reporting (EAP)
Implications for the Policy: What is new?

1. Formalization of an ‘evaluation system’ comprised of corporate and decentralized evaluations
2. Corporate evaluations – high significance & strategic importance
3. Decentralized evaluations – better planning, quality assurance & use
4. System-wide context & emphasis on national capacity building
5. Funding mechanism
Evaluation System in UNESCO

Internal Oversight Service

IOS EO conducted strategic evaluations submitted to Executive Board

System-wide, joint UN, JIU, partners

CORPORATE EVALUATIONS
(cross-cutting, programme, thematic, impact)

DECENTRALIZED EVALUATIONS
(programme / sub-regional or regional)

DECENTRALIZED EVALUATIONS
(project level / national)

Sector conducted evaluations submitted to donor

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Indicative Evaluation Plan (Corporate & Decentralized)

EVALUATIONS

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<td>Programmatic&lt;br&gt;2 MLA per Sector / yr.</td>
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<td>Decentralized&lt;br&gt;2 - 5 per Sector / yr.</td>
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<td>Cross-cutting&lt;br&gt;2 / yr.</td>
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Next Steps

• Presentation of the Policy to EX
• Implementation of the Policy
• Monitor and report on progress via the IOS Annual Report