



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

# SDG for EvalSDGs

**Lazima Onta-Bhatta**  
**Assistant Country Director**  
**UNDP Nepal Country Office**  
**28 October 2015**  
**NEC 2015, Bangkok**

# Outline

Three key elements to strengthen M&E vis-à-vis the SDGs:

- 1) Ensuring **integration of the SDGs into the national planning and monitoring frameworks**, national development plans, sectoral plans, etc.;
- 2) **Building capacity** on evaluation and promoting the use of evaluation;
- 3) **Creating networks and platforms** for dialogues, sharing of knowledge and national capacity building

# 1. Integrating SDGs into national planning and M&E

- **Understand the SDGs**: dissemination, dialogue, advocacy
- **Agree on national** indicators, baselines and targets
- **Integrate SDGs** into national development plan and M&E framework, sectoral plans, sectoral M&E results framework
- **Localize SDGs** at sub-national levels
- **Prioritize SDGs** in the national context
- **Carry out bottleneck analysis** early on to help accelerate implementation to achieve SDGs in the priority areas

# The Nepal Context

- **UNDP supported the National Planning Commission (NPC) to do all the above with the MDGs**—some more successfully than others
- **A study on the status of the SDGs in Nepal** elaborating on their relevance, possible indicators & targets for 2030, and challenges is completed: this report will enable further discussions to refine and agree on the indicators and targets
- **NPC is already planning**
  - **to integrate the SDGs** into the national development plan: the new plan will begin in mid-2016.
  - **to revise the existing national M&E framework** and guidelines to integrate the SDGs
  - **to identify the data needs** and availability of disaggregated data and analyses

## 2. Building capacity and using evaluation

- A **collaborative approach** is needed for capacity building on evaluation at all levels
- **Expanded areas in the SDGs** demand expertise to develop sound M&E systems that help measure SDGs: **implying new capacity needs**
- Developing the **culture of using evaluation as a tool for evidence-based policy making and oversight**: capacity gaps at institutional and individual levels to make this happen

# The Nepal Context

- **Collaborative approach ongoing** between UN agencies, Government, academic institutions, community of evaluators for capacity building:
  - Support to NPC to develop national M&E guidelines, training manuals, TOT, training to line ministries, sectoral results framework (UNDP)
  - Support to Central Bureau of Statistics to design and conduct annual HH survey, census, multiple indicator cluster surveys, etc. (UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women)
  - Universities to develop and teach courses on evaluation (UNFPA)
  - Support to the community of evaluators (UNICEF)
  - Support to conduct 3<sup>rd</sup> party evaluations of national programs (UNDP)
- **UN M&E Group plans on strengthening coordination** among the UN agencies in delivering their support in capacity building, particularly given the new and expanded SDGs

# Government's initiatives to strengthen M&E

- **M&E Bill**: drafted; further consultations planned
- **Evaluation cadre in civil service**: proposed for civil service act amendment
- **Evaluation norms and standards**: drafted
- **Management response plans prepared** and monitored by NPC (fairly new practice)
- **Internal evaluation** of projects by NPC
- **2-week pre-service and one-week in-service training** on M&E mandatory for all civil servants
- **Proposal to develop e-learning** certified packages on evaluation

# Using evaluation

- **Parliamentarian Forum for Development Evaluation in Nepal**: already formed and active as a loose network of 19 Parliamentarians who represent different political parties, ethnic background, etc.
- **Project to support the Parliament in capacity development**: one area is building capacity to understand and use evaluation for policy-making and oversight functions.
- **Orientation to the Parliamentarians on evaluation** being organized in late November 2015
- **Capacity needs assessment** completed by end 2015 based on which **capacity development plan** will be developed and implementation initiated in 2016
- **More efforts needed to make sure evaluation findings are used** for policy and planning decisions.



# 3. Creating networks and platforms

Critical for:

- Knowledge generation and sharing
- Innovation
- Capacity development
- Dialogues
- Partnership building among Government, community of evaluators, media, private sector to conduct evaluations, disseminate findings and recommendations, policy advocacy based on evidence

# The Nepal Context

**EvaNet:** Network of GoN, UN, DPs, community of evaluators, academic institutions

- Started in 2013 with the objective of promoting interactions among Government, UN agencies, Development Partners, community of evaluators, academic institutions, and parliamentarian forum on development evaluation to build evaluation capacity
- Meets annually
- Recommendations of EvaNet meetings disseminated in policy forums and incorporated in the M&E plan of the NPC
- Proceedings of the EvaNet documented and published
- Efforts ongoing to make the EvaNet more active

# Conclusion: SDG4EvalSDGs

- S** = **Strategic linking** of national/sub-national plans and M&E framework with the SDGs
- D** = **Development of Capacity** at all levels both for understanding the SDGs, localizing it and measuring it, evaluating interventions to achieve the SDGs, and using evaluation for evidence-based policy making and oversight
- G** = **Good partnership** with the community of evaluators, academic institutions, media, CSOs, for dialogue, sharing of knowledge and innovations, dissemination of evaluation, capacity building, and policy advocacy

**SDG4EvalSDGs**

Thank you