New resources to enhance quality, timeliness and use of evaluations

- Guidance on humanitarian evaluations
- Guidance on evaluation quality assurance and assessment
- Costed evaluation plan: Guidance and template
An evaluation provides an in-depth assessment on what works, for whom, under what circumstances and why. This evidence brings considerable added-value to drive stronger results for all women and girls. However, strong capacities to manage and utilize high-quality evaluations in a dynamic environment are necessary.

Delivering on the commitment in the Evaluation Policy 2024, recently approved by the Executive Board, to strengthen evaluation capacities, improve quality and utilization of evaluations, the IEO is pleased to release a suite of resources to strengthen professional evaluation competencies at decentralized levels. Collectively these resources provide comprehensive guidance and tools to plan, conduct, manage and utilize evaluations, for greater adaptation, accountability and learning.

Evaluation Handbook

The new evaluation handbook provides detailed guidance and useful tools for effectively preparing, managing, communicating and facilitating the use of high-quality, credible and timely evaluations. While designed for country programme evaluations at UNFPA, the handbook can also be used for other types of evaluations, such as regional programme evaluations, project evaluations, joint and system-wide evaluations.
Key features of the handbook

- Step-by-step approach for all phases of the evaluation: preparation, design, fieldwork, reporting and communication and facilitation of use
- Centered on participatory approach to enhance the use of evaluation results
- Adapted to the operational context of UNFPA at the country level
- Strengthened engagement of youth throughout the evaluation process

A must read for evaluation managers, external evaluators, including young evaluators, and other stakeholders involved in evaluation processes.

Watch a video for a quick overview of the handbook.

Guidance on humanitarian evaluations: Compendium to the Evaluation Handbook

This resource provides practical guidance for planning, managing and actively participating in evaluations of humanitarian action. It builds upon the evaluation handbook, providing additional information for each phase of an evaluation within a humanitarian context.
Guidance on evaluation quality assurance and assessment (EQAA)

The revamped EQAA system further bolsters the credibility and quality of UNFPA evaluations by introducing a more rigorous quality assessment framework for evaluations. Notably, the EQAA system encompasses all types of decentralized evaluations, including project-level and humanitarian evaluations.

The EQAA places increased emphasis on assessing the theory of change, ensuring the identification of appropriate evaluation questions, meaningful stakeholder engagement and the co-creation of recommendations. It continues to focus on human rights and gender equality, disability inclusion, leaving no one behind, social and environmental standards, and ethical dimensions in evaluation. It also captures innovation in evaluation such as the ethical and responsible use of GenAI in evaluation processes and efforts to enhance participation in the evaluation.

Costed evaluation plan: guidance and template

This resource provides comprehensive guidance on how to develop the costed evaluation plan attached to a country or regional programme. It outlines the process and delineates the roles of the country and regional offices and the IEO in the development, monitoring and revision of a costed evaluation plan.
Access
- Guidance on humanitarian evaluations
- Guidance on evaluation quality assurance and assessment
- Costed evaluation plan: Guidance and template

Explore UNFPA IEO's full suite of evaluation resources

For further information, please contact Louis Charpentier, Lead, Decentralized Evaluation Team, UNFPA IEO charpentier@unfpa.org

CONNECT WITH THE UNFPA INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OFFICE