

Independent Office of Evaluation



October 2024



IFAD Corporate Induction



Latest Evaluation Policy: 2021

- Prepared by a task force IOE and Management (per Peer Review 2019); for the first time, covers self-evaluation (IOE) and independent evaluation (management)
- Promotes: (i) accountability; (ii) learning; and (iii) collaboration between IOE and Management

Safeguard elements to independence

- IOE reports to the Executive Board (EB), supported by the Evaluation Committee
- Only the EB can appoint and remove the Director IOE (single tenure, 6 years, no reemployment by IFAD)
- EB and Gov Council approve IOE's work programme and budget
- Director IOE clears reports without need of external authorization
- Director IOE has autonomy in selecting and managing staff



IOE Multi-year Evaluation Strategy: 2022-2027

Objectives



1. Contribute to forge IFAD as a **transparent**, **learning**-**oriented and accountable** organization



2. Improve evaluation **coverage**, promote **transformative evaluations**, ensuring rigour, and cost-effectiveness.



3. Engage with Management, member states and other external partners to support evaluation capacity inside and outside IFAD



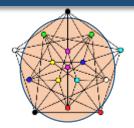
4. Retain and deepen IOE's position as an **internationally recognised leader** in rural development evaluation

Key elements

A) Selectivity of evaluation topics; B) Rebalancing evaluation products; C) Strengthen engagement with Management; D) Evaluation capacity development; E) Raise the bar



IFAD Evaluation Manual – Evaluation Methodology and Process



Institution-wide coverage (IOE and Management)



Foster collaboration and synergies between Self Evaluation and Independent Evaluation



Includes evaluation approaches that emerged in the recent years (e.g., transformative change, complexity and systems thinking, social justice, gender intersectionality)



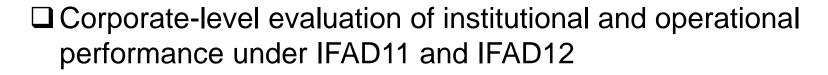
Part 1: Evaluations in IFAD (general principles and methodology)

Part 2: Guidance on self and independent evaluation products



Electronic document with hyperlinks for references to videos / presentations. **Virtual training module**

Evaluations that are currently on-going or starting soon





- ☐ Thematic evaluation of IFAD-funded interventions in human nutrition
- ☐ IFAD's strategy and operations in Small Island Developing States
- ☐ Country Strategy and Programme Evaluations in: Argentina, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ghana Lao People's Democratic Republic, Zimbabwe.
- ☐ Project-level evaluations in: Cabo Verde, Lesotho, Montenegro and Sri Lanka.



What happens when an evaluation is completed?

- ☐ Management prepares a 'Management Response' highlighting what actions it will take to address the recommendations
- ☐ In the case of a country programme evaluation, the Response is jointly prepared by Management and the Government and is called *Agreement at Completion Point*
- ☐ Management reports to the Executive Board its follow up to evaluation recommendations. From 2024, Management will have an online database of its follow-up to the recommendations
- □ IOE and Management engage in learning events on major evaluations

New Programme/ Strategy



Management Response



Evaluation



Differentiated Evaluations

Evaluation reports



Annual Report on Independent Evaluation (ARIE)



Project Completion Report Validations (PCRVs)









- IFAD role in elevating the operational knowledge to inform the rural transformation debate at global level.
- Decisive shift away from its overly centralized KM architecture and allocate sufficient human and financial resources across decentralised levels.
- Monitor KM effectiveness and focus on costeffective KM practices and products at global and operational levels.
- 4) IFAD's upcoming strategic framework to define IFAD's KM as driver of rural transformation within a global context of uncertainty and crisis.

https://webapps.ifad.org/members/eb/142/docs/EB-2024-142-R-23.pdf https://webapps.ifad.org/members/eb/142/docs/EB-2024-142-R-23-Add-1.pdf



Communication and knowledge sharing tools & products





Issue No.35 - October 2021

Feature:

Evaluation for transformational change award

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Director's Column

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INDRAN NAIDOO, PhD



Project Performance Evaluations

Support to Agricultural Development and Rural

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Impact Evaluations

Community based integrated Natural Resources Management Project in Ethiopia

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Newsletter









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Podcasts







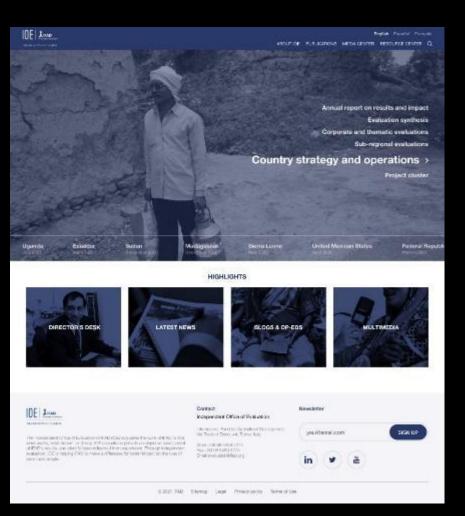
Twitter

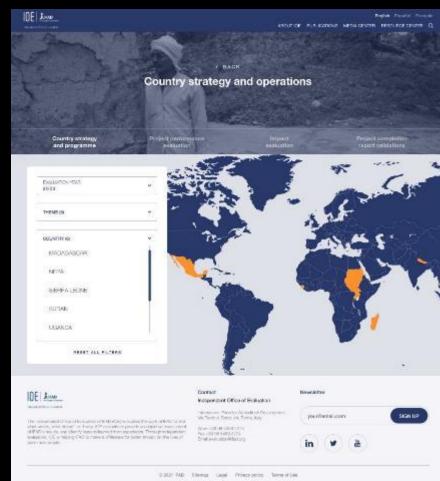
LinkedIn YouTube



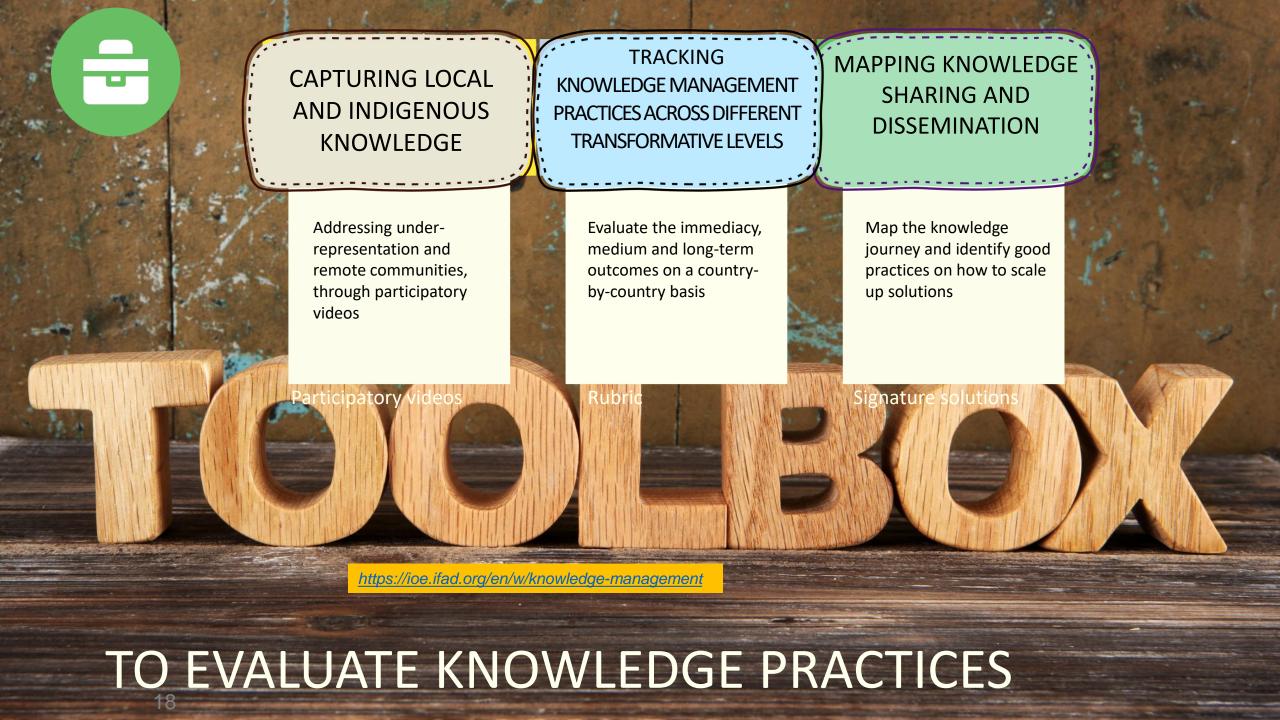


IOE website









EvaluationPills



#1 How can we apply neuroscience-based principles to improve evaluation processes?

As an evaluator, you want change in a positive direction. If you can understand what is going on in the brain of the evaluand, you have a greater likelihood of improving that change.







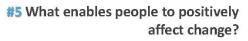
#4 How do you reconcile the independence construct & desire to build engagement with the evaluand?

You shift the conversation and the culture to get people to become more self-critical rather than defensive. Now, there is a demand for evaluations, in IFAD, because we are credible.



#2 How is IOE testing neuroscience principles' application to help improve IFAD's effectiveness?

We are bringing about evaluative conversations. This is because the process is more important than the evaluation report, insofar as it is where the learning takes place.



Factors that allow people to feel motivated to change are: autonomy (how free am I to do what I need to do); competence (do I have the necessary skills); social relations.





#3 How we can communicate eval findings based on neuroscience to trigger uptake of recommendations?

Coming to a meeting with a positive intention is important because you want that to mirror in the other person's brain.







#6 What hinders people from positively affecting change?

People become very insecure when change occurs at a rapid pace. When people are insecure, they become more fixed and rigid in their own opinions.



IFAD Innovation Talks #13Building a humanized approach for better results

#7 How can an evaluator foster positive change?

You are more likely to achieve change when you are focused on removing barriers to the work of the evaluand, and if this intention is aligned with the desire of the evaluand.



Evaluation through the lens of brain science

A conversation with

Dr Indran A. Naidoo

Director, Independent Office of Evaluation IFAD

Dr Srini Pillay, M.D.
CEO, NeuroBusiness Group

EvaluationPills

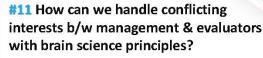


#8 To what extent are the principles of engagement applied across the UN system in the eval context?

It's a cookie cutter approach. In the bureaucratic UN processes, you cannot get the space for the deeper discussion and engagement. Very few offices have the latitude to do so.







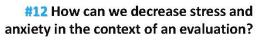
We agree to disagree, agreeably. We are not always going to get consensus, and that's fine. The challenge is in the fact that there is an element of ego to overcome.





#9 How can we overcome habit pathways that inhibit positive change?

Decrease stress, promote a culture that flourishes in agility, and foster a growth mindset where there is an understanding that errors can be course corrected with hard work.



Prioritize tasks; focus on the 'here and now'; remember that 'this too shall pass'; address what you can control; and shift your attention from the problem to the solution.





#10 How important is the human element in evaluation?

Evaluation is a human business. Having information does not translate into changing the situation. More important than the result is the conversation to bring about the change.







#13 What constitutes objectivity?

Reality is not just about quantitative information, but also qualitative information. The range of what constitutes evidence is very broad. There is no 'one size fits all' methodology. We hope people become more thoughtful in terms of how evaluations are carried out and received.



Mindset Strategies for Post-Evaluation Transformation



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4