

Plan for global thematic evaluations 2014-2017

Informal meeting of the Executive Board:

2 December 2013



Overview

- A plan for global thematic evaluations
- Purpose and principles
- Evaluation products and priorities
- Prioritized topics for global thematic evaluations, year by year
- Resources
- Implementation, risks and mitigation
- Reporting
- Discussion points

A plan for global thematic evaluations



UNICEF had committed to preparing:

“...a global evaluation plan, laying out strategic priorities for evaluation and identifying major global thematic evaluations to be undertaken independently by the Evaluation Office...in line with international standards of best practice; and providing timely dissemination of the results for action by management and other stakeholders.”

From UNICEF Revised Evaluation Policy (2013)

Purpose

To provide a framework for generating useful evaluation evidence on the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of UNICEF's work under the Strategic Plan 2014-2017.

Principles

- Utility, credibility and independence
- Coverage
- Interest, demand and relevance
- Risk
- Additionality

Evaluation products

Annually, 2014-2017:

4 major evaluations

2 evaluations

2 evaluation synthesis studies

1 methodological study

Evaluation priorities

Aligned with the Strategic Plan, focusing on:

- 7 outcome areas,
- 7 implementation strategies
- cross cutting issues (gender, humanitarian action)...

...but not prioritizing organizational effectiveness or management efficiency / effectiveness issues

Prioritized topics for global thematic evaluations

2014:

- Child protection
- UNICEF alignment with MDGs
- Policy dialogue and advocacy
- Early learning and development standards
- Evaluability of the strategic plan
- Communication for development
- Synthesis studies:
 - nutrition; emergency response in Syria

Prioritized topics for global thematic evaluations

2015:

- Strengthening national health systems
- Nutritional support and care
- Access to safe drinking water
- Education and peacebuilding programme
- National capacity development
- Partnership strategy implementation
- Syntheses:
 - Social protection; innovation

Prioritized topics for global thematic evaluations

2016:

- H4+ joint programme (maternal /child health)
- Girls' education and gender equality
- MoRES implementation and results
- HIV prevention and treatment
- Transformative agenda (joint)
- Integration and cross-sectoral linkages
- Syntheses:
 - WASH; UNICEF development effectiveness

Prioritized topics for global thematic evaluations

2017:

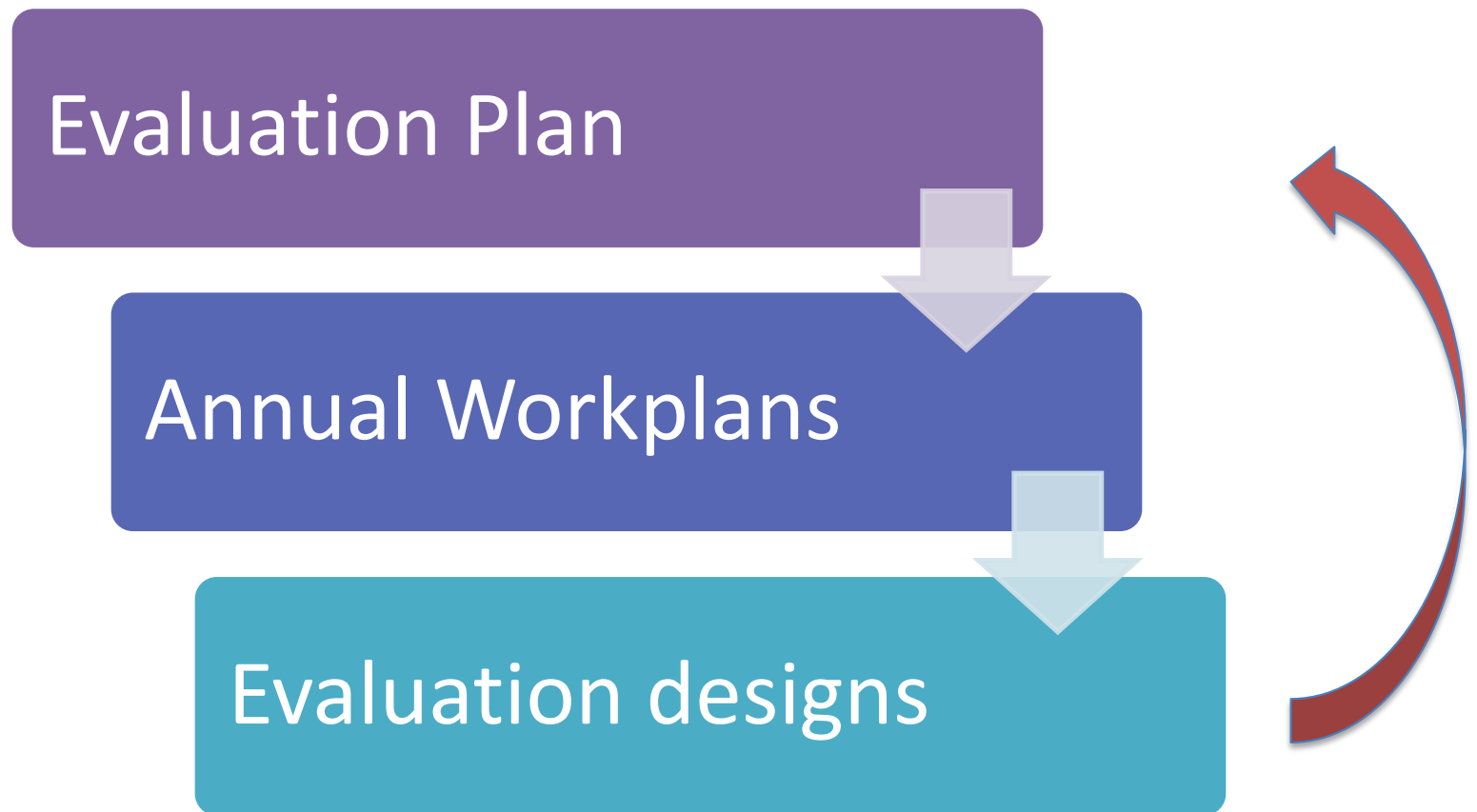
- Health: global and regional initiatives
- Social inclusion: better policies and systems
- Generation and use of knowledge
- Gender Action Plan implementation
- Resilience
- Global and regional programme
- Syntheses:
 - HIV / AIDS; Child protection systems / capacities

Resources for global thematic evaluations

- Global thematic evaluations will be funded from Global and Regional Programme resources
- Annual consultancy costs:
 - Regular resources: \$1.75 million
 - Other resources: \$1 million
- Consultancy costs for each global thematic evaluation: \$250,000 - \$450,000

Implementation

A “rolling approach”



Risks – *and risk mitigation*

- Resource mobilization falls short
 - *Timely resource mobilization by EO*
- Staffing fluctuations
 - *Effective staff management (talent pools)*
- The Strategic Plan is superseded
 - *Adjustments made through “rolling approach”*

Reporting

- Evaluation Office: Annual Report
- Annual report on the evaluation function (Board report)
- Global thematic evaluation reports / Management Responses

Discussion points



Overall, do the topics listed provide a sufficiently full and balanced evaluation agenda?

- Does the plan respond to the needs of the Executive Board and Management?
- Are the principles for prioritization useful?
- Is there sufficient alignment with the SP? Is the coverage of SP issues adequate?
- Does the “rolling approach” to implementation provide enough flexibility?

Thank you!

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(Boys under cascade)

