UNICEF Evaluation Policy Revision 2018

Comments received on draft evaluation policy and revisions made

George Laryea-Adjei
UNICEF Director of Evaluation

March 9th 2018
Comments Received from:

- Member states participating in the February 12th workshop
- Written comments from member states before and after 12 February
- Audit and Advisory Committee
- Evaluation Advisory Panel
- Global Evaluation Committee
- Other UN agencies participating in the February 12th workshop
Overview

• A number of comments were received expressing appreciation for the draft policy and the policy review process.

• Appreciation was also expressed for enhancing the evaluation culture within UNICEF

• The revised draft policy reflects in its text many of the comments received, including revisions for greater clarity

• The following slides note show examples of how some the comments have been addressed (far more comments have been addressed in the actual draft policy).
Rationale For Policy Update

- Comments focused on making a stronger link with the theory of change and on making clearer the policy position on national evaluation capacity development

- **Response:**
  - Text revised to reflect the theory of change and clarify UNICEF’s position on national evaluation capacity development (E.g. para 8)
Provisions To Uphold UNEG Norms

• Strengthening the table on Safeguards (Table 1) to reflect better all the UNEG general norms.

• Make clearer provisions for impartiality (as separate from independence), gender equality, human rights

• Provisions for disclosure

  • **Response**
  • Table 1 has been revised, including making clearer the provisions for impartiality, gender equality and human rights, and utility, and including provisions for all UNEG general norms

  • Disclosure policy approved by the Executive Board for the audit function has been included in the evaluation policy (Table 1)
Evaluation Use

- A number of comments were received regarding use of evaluations: the prominence given to enhancing use is appreciated, however this needs to be expanded

  - **Response:**
  - The chapter on use has been expanded and revised to make clearer UNICEF’s actions to enhance use (paras 19-24)
  - The section on management response has been expanded to clarify the process and reporting on management responses (para 23)
  - Reporting on use is included in the Evaluation Annual Report (para 54)
Governance

• Comments expressed appreciation for the articulation of governance arrangements

• Suggestions to ensure that roles and responsibilities are consistently articulated throughout the policy

• Response:
  • Text revised to ensure consistency in roles and responsibilities (E.g. Table 2 and Chapter VIII)
Comments noted the need to enhance this section of the policy to articulate better the support which UNICEF will provide to the development of national evaluation capacity.

**Response:**

- This section has been expanded in the text (and is now the stand alone Chapter X)
Partnerships and System-wide Evaluation

- Comments focused on the need to elaborate on UNICEF’s role in system-wide evaluation, and how UNICEF will work with other UN agencies in support of evaluation
  
  - **Response:**
  - Text revised (Chapter IX)
A number of comments asked for more detail of the functioning and resourcing of the proposed pooled fund for evaluation

- **Response**
- Text has been revised (para 49)
- Some of the questions relate to the operational details of the proposed fund which are usually not included in such a policy
Risks

• Comments highlighted the need to link the risks identified in the policy with those noted in the theory of change

  • **Response:**
  • Text revised (para 52)
Implementation and Reporting on the Evaluation Policy

- A number of comments were received regarding detailed operational issues or questions regarding the operationalization of the policy.

- Reporting should include reporting in the status of implementation of management responses.
  
  • **Response**
  
  • Text on reporting revised (para 54)
  
  • The policy will be accompanied by an Executive Directive and by updated guidance to be provided by the Evaluation Office (Para 53)
  
  • Operationalisation will be underpinned by the guidance provided by the Evaluation Office (para 53)
  
  • Guidance will be provided on the types of evaluation to be used in different contexts (para 20)
THANK YOU!