

## **Adoption of a New United Nations General Assembly Resolution Highlighting Evaluation Capacity Building for the Achievement of Development Results at Country Level**

*19 December 2014*

For the first time in the history of the United Nations - a landmark, stand-alone United Nations General Assembly Resolution, titled “[Capacity building for the evaluation of development activities at country level](#)” has been approved through general consensus and cross-regional support of forty-two countries, during [the UN General Assembly Second Committee meeting of 13 November 2014](#) and adopted by the [United Nations General Assembly in the plenary session of 19 December 2014](#).

The resolution emphasizes the importance of building capacities for the evaluation of development activities at country level. The value added of this resolution is that it changes the business-as-usual approach. It allows for interaction and cooperation amongst all the relevant partners, including those of the UN System, the national and international stakeholders, to coordinate efforts to further strengthen the Member States capacities for evaluation. Most importantly, the resolution emphasizes that national ownership and national priorities form a strong base for building national capacities to manage and oversee evaluations.

Through this resolution, Member States agree that evaluation is an important component of development processes, and recognize evaluation as a country level tool that can help strengthen and support development results.

This is a first time a resolution acknowledges that the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) has endorsed 2015 as the International Year of Evaluation (initially [declared by EvalPartners](#) under the leadership of UN Women and IOCE). The document builds on this momentum to foster capacity building and enhance partnerships for evaluation at the country level.

It is also significant to note, that as indication of how important the sponsoring Member States felt this resolution is, they requested the UN Secretary-General to provide in 2016 an update, on the progress made in building national evaluation capacities. This report will be considered during the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development (QCPR) of the United Nations system in 2016.

Building national capacities takes time, for this reason, this resolution is aimed at countries to be able to attain the necessary guidelines and skills to evaluate programmes and policies in the following years, and strengthen national capacities to be prepared to start implementing in 2016 the new sustainable development agenda.

UNEG looks forward to working together with all partner to enhance national evaluation capacities during the 2015 International Year of Evaluation and beyond.

***Additional information on upcoming activities will be made public in the UNEG website in 2015.***

## [Resolution from the Second Committee](#)

### **List of countries co-sponsors of the resolution:**

The Mission of Fiji to the UN with the technical support from UNEG, initiated and presented the resolution to the Second Committee on behalf of Mexico, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa and Vanuatu.

On 13 November the following countries joined as co-sponsors: Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Kiribati, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tonga, Turkmenistan and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France, Guinea, Serbia and Ukraine.

### **Additional information:**

See a [video](#) of Ms. Deborah Rugg, UNEG Chair discussing the UN Resolution on Evaluation.  
See a [video](#) of Mr. Marco Segone, UNEG Vice-Chair discussing the 2015 International Year of Evaluation and other activities.

### **See what partners are saying on the new resolution:**

[Mission of Fiji to the UN](#)

[Fiji Newspaper](#)

[NEC Community of Practice](#)

[EvalPartners](#)

[Australasian Evaluation Society Inc.](#)

[American Evaluation Association](#)