



**THE UNITED NATIONS
EVALUATION
DEVELOPMENT GROUP
FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

UNEDAP



About us

“[The United Nations General Assembly]...encourages the United Nations development system to strengthen its evaluation activities, with particular focus on development results.”

United Nations General Assembly Resolution 59/250,
dated 17 December 2004

The United Nations Evaluation Development Group for Asia and the Pacific (UNEDAP) is an inter-agency network which promotes an evaluation culture and contributes to UN Coherence on evaluation. It also aims to strengthen regional evaluation capacities among UN agencies and their partners. UNEDAP aspires to ensure that evaluation is addressed as a distinct and strategic function by UN agencies and their partners who share the same goals and vision of promoting human development. At the same time, UNEDAP intends to contribute to the professionalization of the evaluation function in the region.

“...evaluation is increasingly recognized as an indispensable tool for accountability and learning for both public and private institutions fostering good governance.”

Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities of the United Nations development system: conclusions and recommendations, dated 13 August 2007

Launched in February 2007 and based in Bangkok, UNEDAP brings together evaluation professionals from UN agencies and their partners in Asia and the Pacific. The current active members who take the lead in planning and implementing activities include: the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP); the International Labour Organization (ILO); the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF); the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN); the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

UNEDAP’s work is guided by United Nations regulations and guidance, as well as internationally recognized standards, most notably:

- The United Nations Secretary General’s Bulletin ST/SGB/2000/8, dated 19 April 2000: “Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation” that governs the evaluation of United Nations activities;
- The Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities of the United Nations development system: conclusions and recommendations A/62/253, dated 13 August 2007;
- The Norms and Standards for Evaluation in the UN System as defined by the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) and;
- The Ethical Guidelines for UN Evaluations by UNEG.

What we do

Professionalization and Harmonization of Evaluation through Training:

UNEDAP organizes, co-organizes, and contributes to formal training sessions on evaluation-related topics in order to harmonize evaluation concepts and approaches, and to further strengthen the skills of UN evaluation professionals in the region. UNEDAP also develops and updates training materials. UNEDAP training sessions are delivered by regional and/or headquarter-based UN evaluators. Prominent past training events include:

- A five-day training session in 2009 on “Evaluation in the Context of United Nations Reform: What is evaluation and how to design and manage the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and joint evaluations in Asia and the Pacific.” The training was attended by 35 UN staff members, representing 12 different entities from 12 countries in the region; and
- A five-day training session in 2011 on “Evaluation in the UN Context,” which involved 39 UN evaluation professionals and practitioners from 11 UN entities from 15 countries in the region.

In addition, UNEDAP organized:

- A training course on “What a UN Evaluator Needs to Know”, in partnership with the UN Evaluation Group (UNEG) in 2008 and;
- Country-level training events on “Evaluation in the UN Context for the UN Country Teams” in the Philippines and Viet Nam in 2010.

“Thanks for the opportunity UNEDAP gave me to participate in the course. It has been great to learn more on evaluation, exchange experiences with colleagues, and to gain the knowledge that will allow me to work better within the system. Now I feel better prepared to continue carrying on my UNDAF-related activities.”

Participant on the “Evaluation in the UN Context” course, 2011.

Networking:

UNEDAP facilitates the growth and professionalism of evaluation professionals, allowing them to learn from one another across national borders and across work areas through both formal and informal networking activities. Through UNEDAP, members have the opportunity to exchange ideas, good practices, and lessons learnt. UNEDAP also networks with other national and sub-regional evaluation associations through, for example, the provision of substantive support to international evaluation conferences and professional development workshops.



Joint Evaluations and Studies:

UNEDAP's taskforce on joint evaluations is aimed at conducting studies, research and joint evaluations in order to contribute to a better understanding of the gaps and challenges of various evaluation-related issues in the Asia-Pacific region. In 2011, UNEDAP commissioned a regional thematic study of National M&E Systems in Asia and the Pacific for which five countries were selected for case studies. This ongoing study is expected to guide UNEDAP's systematic engagement in national evaluation capacity development in the region.

“The capacity to plan, manage, implement, and account for results of policies and programmes is critical for achieving development objectives - from analysis and dialogue through implementation, monitoring and evaluation.”

Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness

Technical Advice:

UNEDAP plays an important role in contributing its expertise to evaluations carried out by other UN agencies. UNEDAP has been highly active in many initiatives, including as a member of numerous evaluation reference groups and evaluation management groups of UN-led evaluations. These include the Evaluation of the United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (UNIAP) Phase III (2007-2010); the Country-led Evaluation of Viet Nam Delivering as One (2010); and the UNDAF Mid-Term Review of India (2011). UNEDAP also provides technical inputs on Terms of Reference for evaluations and on the selection of evaluators.



How we work

Evaluation specialists from member organizations meet at least once every quarter to discuss relevant issues and ongoing challenges. They also maintain intensive interaction through email and informal meetings. A coordinator is appointed by members to represent UNEDAP and to serve as a member of the Peer Support Group of the United Nations Development Group Asia-Pacific. An annual work plan sets out activities and objectives for UNEDAP each year. Specific task forces are also established to take the lead in carrying out key activities including the Evaluation Training Taskforce and the Joint Evaluation Taskforce.





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(as of October 2011)

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