



In partnership with



Final Report of the

**IOCE Grant to South Asia
Parliamentarians Forum for
Development Evaluation**

Introduction

IOCE-EvalPartners provided USD 50,000 grant to the Parliamentarians Forum for Development Evaluation to conduct a regional consultation on National Evaluation Policies in South Asia. The grant was managed by Sri Lanka Evaluation Association (SLEvA). After conducting the regional consultation there was a balance of funds, therefore it was allocated to few other activities with approval from IOCE. This is a brief report to summarize all activities, but full report of the regional consultation and other products of the project are attached.

1. Regional consultation

Parliamentarians Forum for Development Evaluation with support from International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE) and in collaboration with Sri Lanka Evaluation Association (SLEvA) organized South Asia Regional consultation on National Evaluation Policies which was held at Mount Lavinia Hotel in Colombo from Thursday 18 to Friday 19 September. The overall objective of the initiative is to create an enabling environment that fosters and promotes development of equity focused and gender-responsive evaluation policy and practices.

The two days programme discussed importance of NEP, examples from other countries, preparation of country work plans for the NEP process and how to work with stakeholders in the process. All eight countries came up with work plans to process NEP in respective countries.



Following are the conclusions of the consultation:

i. National Evaluation Policy is a need at country level

In principle it was agreed that national evaluation policy is a need at country level as a guiding document to create enabling environment for evaluation. National evaluation system and

implementation of the policy is also equally important. Therefore attention should be paid to implementation part of the NEP as well.

ii. Need for evaluation culture with policy framework

Creating an evaluation culture is needed even though the policy framework is established. This will help to give a meaning to the policy and also would help to practically use evaluations for improvement of development work.

iii. Parliamentarians, VOPEs, governments, other stakeholders collaboration for NEP process

It was highlighted that need for all stakeholders to work together on the national evaluation policy process. Parliamentarians, VOPE leaders, government evaluation champions, donors, civil society etc should be involved and contribute for a successful process.

iv. Importance of advocacy

Although the national evaluation policy/ bill/ constitutional provisions are prepared, approved it by the cabinet of ministers, parliament or constitutional assembly needs lobbying and advocacy. EvalPartners has published Advocacy toolkit for evaluation which can be a good resource for this course.

v. Leadership and coordination role in VOPEs

VOPEs have an important role to play in the process particularly getting other stakeholders on board, convening meetings, coordination and communication with stakeholders who are part of the process.

vi. Capacity building of parliamentarians and policy makers in evaluation

It is needed to capacity building of parliamentarians and policy makers in evaluation at national level. This will help to strengthen national evaluation system which leads to enabling environment for evaluation at country level.

vii. Learning from other countries and sharing best practices

As establishment of NEP is a challenging and time consuming process, it would be good to learn from other countries. Particularly countries where NEP is legislated and in implementation.

Please find the full report here <http://www.pfde.net/images/pdf/rcrv1.pdf>

2. Update to the “Mapping National Evaluation Policies” study

PFDE with support from EvalPartners conducted a study on mapping national evaluation policies in 2013 <http://www.pfde.net/index.php/publications-resources/2014-02-28-19-05-00>. However there were changes to national evaluation policies in some countries. Therefore PFDE assigned Dr. Barbara Rosenstein to collect and review updates and prepare the 2nd edition. The report also includes new categories by organizing countries in a more systematic way. The report is published and uploaded on

the PFDE website and Barbara made a presentation on Skype at the SLEvA workshop on National Evaluation Policies.

Please find the full report here <http://www.pfde.net/index.php/publications-resources/global-mapping-report-2015>

3. Documentation of EF&GR National M&E Systems

Under the EvalPartners Innovation Challenges project #3 PFDE together with other partners documented six case studies on National Evaluation Policies in selected countries. EvalPartners new publication “engendering NEPS” reveals that only few countries under review has gender aspects in NEPS. It was also a need to develop EF&GR M&E systems. Therefore under this grant PFDE assigned Katerina Stolyarenko to research existing EF&GR M&E systems, analysis and document four selected systems. This assignment was to further study on which countries have gender responsive M&E systems and then select four countries and document them as case studies. The consultant prepared four case studies; Australia, Nepal, Philippines and Sweden. This will add up total case studies to 11.

Please find all four case studies here <http://www.pfde.net/index.php/publications-resources/case-studies-on-ef-gr-m-e-systems>

4. Update to the PFDE Website

Also the funds were used to improve and update the PFDE website and pay hosting charges for four years. PFDE website was launched with funding from EvalPartners IC#3 project. Hosting fee was paid for one year expiring in Nov 2015. Now the website hosting is secured up to year 2019.

Link to the site <http://www.pfde.net/>

5. SLEvA workshop on National Evaluation Policies

Sri Lanka Evaluation Association conducted a workshop on National Evaluation Policies with participation of parliamentarians and evaluators. The workshop was held on 29th March at the Janaki Hotel in Colombo. The workshop was attended by more than 45 participants. Hon. Kabir Hashim, Minister of Highways and Investment Promotion and Hon. D.E.W. Gunasekara, Member of Parliament made commitments to take the policy forward. Addressing the event, Hon. D.E.W. Gunasekara pointed out as the chairman of (Committee of Public Enterprises – COPE) he feels evaluation is a need to track development in the country. Mr. David Rider Smith, former advisor to UNDP, DFID and the government of Uganda made a presentation on how three entities developed evaluation policies. Dr. Barbara Rosenstein and Katerina Stolyarenko made presentations based on the mapping national evaluation policies – 2nd edition and recent studies on NEP. Next step is to SLEvA to prepare a briefing for the Cabinet of Ministers and Kabir to lobby the policy through the Cabinet.



Hon. D.E.W Gunasekara, Member of Parliament addresses the crowd emphasizing need for evaluation policy in the country.

6. Financial Updates

The total grant was USD 50,000 to the Parliamentarians Forum. After deducting IOCE contributions of PFDE and SLEvA (USD 100 x 2 = 200), IOCE transferred USD 49,800 to the SLEvA Rupee account in Sri Lanka. SLEvA received LKR 6,468,517 in the account. The following financial reporting is based on the amount SLEvA received in the account.

Activity	Amount spent (LK)	Remarks
1. Regional consultation	4,895,217	
2. SLEvA admin cost for the regional consultation	329,830	
3. Consultancy fee for Barbara Rosenstein with bank fees	469,500	Mapping NEP- 2 nd edition
4. Consultancy fee for Katerina Stolyarenko with bank fees	544,825	Case studies on GR M&E systems
5. SLEvA workshop on National Evaluation Policies	89,145	
6. PFDE website improvement and hosting charges for four years	140,000	
7. Total expenditure	6,468,517	
8. Total received	6,468,517	
9. Balance	-	

7. Annexes

- i. Regional Consultation report <http://www.pfde.net/images/pdf/rcrv1.pdf>
- ii. Mapping report – Feb 2015 <http://www.pfde.net/index.php/publications-resources/global-mapping-report-2015>
- iii. Case studies on EF&GR M&E systems
 - a. Australia <http://www.pfde.net/images/pdf/cs/CSAustralia.pdf>
 - b. Nepal <http://www.pfde.net/images/pdf/cs/CSNepal.pdf>
 - c. Sweden <http://www.pfde.net/images/pdf/cs/cssweden.pdf>
 - d. Philippines <http://www.pfde.net/images/pdf/cs/CSPhilippines.pdf>