

NEWSLETTER

MEA Monthly newsletter

ISSUE#2023/7

July 2023

MEA CEO, AND MEA BOARD MEMBER ATTENDED IPDET 2023 GLOBAL TRAINING



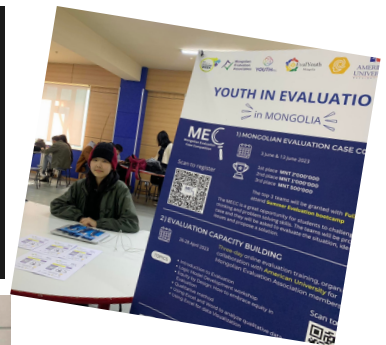
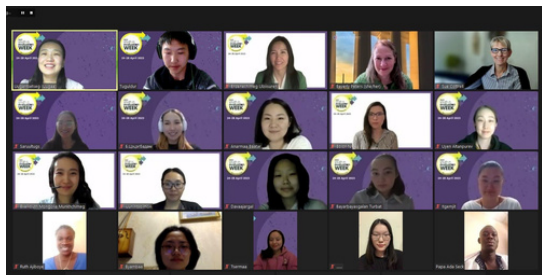
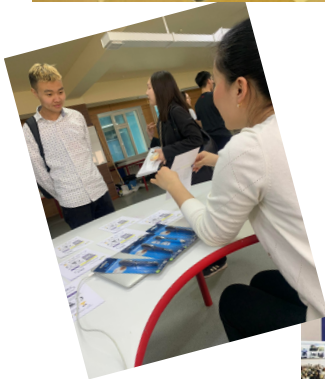
Ms. Bayarmaa Lkhagvadorj, MEA CEO and Ms. Uugantsetseg Gonchigdorj, MEA Board member attended IPDET 2023 with 170 people from 60+ countries

Ms. Bayarmaa Lkhagvadorj, CEO of Mongolian Evaluation Association (MEA) and Ms. Uugantsetseg Gonchigdorj, board member of MEA attended evaluators' flagship global training IPDET 2023 with 170 evaluators from 60+ countries in Bern, Switzerland. Big thanks to IPDET and Global Evaluation Initiative for their support and scholarship to make this happen. We look forward to hearing all the news and knowledge from them at the MEA Summer Happy Hour at 6pm on August 2, 2023 at Cosy Club Ulaanbaatar.

LIGHT MIDTERM EVALUATION OF THE "YOUNG AND EMERGING EVALUATORS INTERNSHIP" PROGRAM HAS BEEN KICKED OFF

The Mongolian Evaluation Association in partnership with EvalYouth Mongolia Chapter and YOUTHinc Young Mongolian Professionals Association launched the Young and Emerging Evaluators Internship Program for Mongolian youth aged 18-34 in the March of 2023. The internship program is halfway through and we have initiated a 'Light Midterm Evaluation' to learn the progress so far against the objectives and course correct in the remaining time.

Within the scope of the Memorandum of Understanding between American University (AU) and Mongolian Evaluation Association, an external evaluation team consisting of a national young and emerging evaluator - Ms. Munkh-Uchral, and Ms. Jennifer Ottolino, Ms. Nada Mousa, and Ms. Shelli Golson-Mickens, who are international experienced evaluators of AU Measurement & Evaluation Program are carrying out this light midterm evaluation as pro-bono.



MEA FOUNDER & PRESIDENT JOINS IOCE PROFESSIONALIZATION OF EVALUATION TASK FORCE



Since June, 2023,

**ERDENECHIMEG ULZIISUREN,
FOUNDER & PRESIDENT OF MEA**

started serving as a

Professionalization of Evaluation Task
Force Volunteer for

International Organization for
Cooperation in Evaluation



In June 2023, International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE) Board approved Ms. Erdenechimeg Ulziisuren, Founder & President of Mongolian Evaluation Association's participation in the Professionalization of Evaluation Task Force.

The Professionalization of Evaluation Task Force was established in 2015 to support IOCE's role and action in the professionalization of evaluation, in particular to promote:

- (i) improved access to quality education and training;
- (ii) dissemination of evaluation knowledge and good practices;
- (iii) harmonization of ethical guidelines and guiding principles for evaluators;
- (iv) agreed evaluator capabilities or competencies frameworks;
- (v) legitimate ways of recognizing the fundamental knowledge, skills and dispositions needed to carry out work to an adequate standard of quality.

Mongolian Evaluation Association's vision is to promote professionalization and institutionalization of evaluation. Therefore, volunteering for the Professionalization Task force is not only in line with our vision, but also a great honor and opportunity to contribute to development of field of evaluation internationally.

Happy hour

Summer



Get together

Fresh insights from IDPET

Welcome new members



Drinks on your own;
Canape will be served



Members are **free**
Non-members: 10k



6-9pm, Wednesday,
August 2, 2023



Cozy Club, front of
Bayangol hotel,
Ulaanbaatar

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Ms. Myagmartsermaa Delgersaikhan
Knowledge task force team lead of MEA

She is a young and emerging evaluator with a passion to work in the development sector of Mongolia and has an extensive experience from project design and management, grants acquisition, and engagement to monitoring and evaluation.

After intensive academic training of B.A of Business Administration at Mongolia International University and M.A of Economic Analysis at Corvinus University of Budapest, she has pursued a career in the non-profit development sector in multiple fields for international and local organizations/projects, including World Vision International Mongolia, USAID-funded BEST program, and World Bank projects.

Currently, she is serving as a Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant for the World Bank "Strengthening fiscal and financial stability" project. She oversees monitoring overall project progress and evaluating project results and outcomes to achieve the project goal.

Why evaluation field: While projects may appear appealing and worthwhile, it is difficult to know whether they actually achieve their objectives unless data is collected, and an evaluation is conducted. As a result, the most important aspect of the project, evaluation data, provides a deeper understanding of whether, why, and how programs achieve their goals.

Her advice for newcomers: Have a clear vision in the field, Be visible and accessible, Keep learning!

Valuable evaluation resources:

1. Independent Evaluation Group of the World Bank
2. DAC Evaluation Resource Centre
3. OECD guides for Evaluation of Development Programmes
4. Claremont Evaluation Center of Claremont Graduate University

Books to recommend:

1. "Qualitative Research and Evaluation Methods" by Michael Quinn Patton
2. "Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approach" by John W. Creswell, J. David Cresswell

DID YOU KNOW?

TAKEAWAYS FROM "WHAT MAKES EVALUATIONS INFLUENTIAL? PERSPECTIVES FROM A MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANK"

Emmanuel Jimenez and Maya Vijayaraghavan

Asia Pacific Journal of Evaluation, Vol. 01, Issue 01, January 2023

All evaluations seek to exert influence via the instrumental, conceptual, or symbolic use of their findings and recommendations. The authors of "What makes evaluations influential? Perspectives from a multilateral development bank" article analyzed seven case studies of selected corporate, thematic, and sector-wide evaluations by the Asian Development Bank's Independent Evaluation Department (IED) to assess influence and identify contributory factors. They found that organizational and external factors, in addition to outreach and communication efforts, may collectively contribute to the influence of evaluations.

Organizational factors

- IED's crucial accountability function at ADB, where it reports to the Board of Directors, set the stage for actions by the rest of the institution based on its evaluations.
- The timeliness of evaluations is a major determinant of the extent of their influence, and the potential for the use and influence of evaluation knowledge is highest when end users receive it when they need it most.
- Clarity on the rationale and underlying principles of evaluations increases the likelihood of their influence, which may extend beyond recommendations.
- IED's engagement with Management and stakeholders increases their receptiveness to evaluations.

External factors

- Evaluation influence is driven by the global development agenda and practices of other multilateral development banks.

Outreach and Communication activities

- IED's communication initiatives can facilitate the conceptual use of evaluations and heighten the awareness of issues by addressing a broad range of stakeholders and end users.
- Collaboration with other evaluation or development agencies on joint publications may expand the opportunities for conceptual and symbolic use.

You can find the full article in: <https://asiapacificeval.org/apje/>

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Share your events and resources or write a blog related to the upcoming theme month. Link:



In August, USAID Learning Lab will host a Month & Learn! Throughout the month, they'll highlight existing monitoring resources that support locally led development, planning, data quality assessments, conducting site visits and much more! Make sure to visit the [August Month & Learn page](#) weekly as curated resources are added.

Call to contribute to the uptake of standards for enhancing meaningful youth engagement in evaluation



APEA will host the 4th APEA Conference from 4th to 7th December 2023 in Manila, Philippines. The Conference will be part of EvalVisionAsia 2023 to celebrate the Asia Pacific's accomplishments in 2023 and to prepare and welcome 2024. This year's theme is "Future of Evaluation: Leveraging Partnerships for Equitable Development in Asia."



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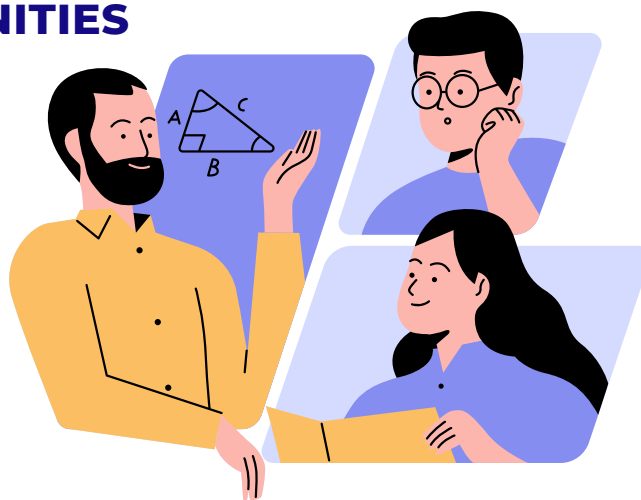


Join us from September 11th-14th in Bangkok, Thailand and partake in this unique opportunity to meet development and evaluation partners from different parts of the globe, attend seminars and exchange knowledge on development challenges and solutions. This year's theme is "Beyond Recovery: Evaluation for Development Effectiveness".

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

First-ever Summer Evaluation Bootcamp

In August 2023, MEA will organize the first five-day Summer Evaluation Bootcamp. MEA members are welcome to join. Also, the champions of the first Mongolian Evaluation Case Competition, which was held in June will be joining. More information is coming soon. Stay tuned!



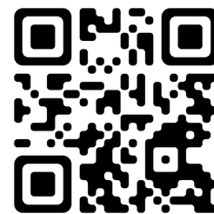
Inclusion is one of the topics of the new discussion: people living with disabilities are often not considered in evaluation. Share your thoughts and enrich our collective understanding on how we can make evaluations more inclusive. Link:

Practice share: Systems practice in intervention design and evaluation

Matt Healey, First Person Consulting.

This free practice share session is divided into two parts. The first is a '101' to help build a common foundation in how systems intersect with our design and evaluation practice. The second half is devoted to addressing questions or challenges provided by YOU upon registration.

To register:



Basics of Evaluation course

It is 1-hour online free course, which provides a good introduction to evaluation. The training is available in Mongolian and in English. Please scan for more info:



JOIN US



www.mongolianevaluation.mn