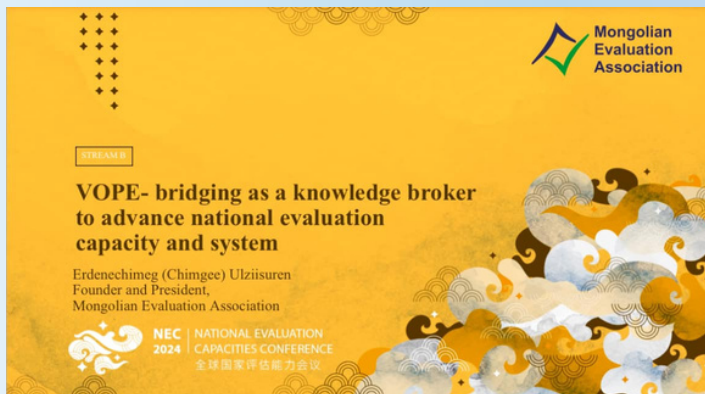# NEWSLETTER

MEA PARTICIPATED IN UNDP NATIONAL EVALUATION CONFERENCE IN BEIJING

The 2024 National Evaluation Capacities Conference, 8th in the series of conferences, was co-hosted by the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) from 14 to 18 October 2024 in Yanqing District, Beijing, China. The main theme of the conference was "Responsive Evaluation: For Government, For Inclusion, For the Future." The theme brought light to the importance of sharing experiences and lessons in strengthening national evaluation systems and their role in achieving the SDGs among others. This year's conference was organized around three intersections: National Evaluation Systems; Inclusive Evaluation Systems; and Future-driven Systems and Approaches.

500 delegates from all over the world representing Government, Parliament, int'l organizations, VOPEs and academia rigorously discussed the inclusion of evaluation these 3 days in Beijing, and as a result Beijing Action Plan for Responsive Evaluation Systems for 2023 was drafted. and shared with the participants for comments.

Ms. Erdenechimeg Ulziisuren, founder and president of the Mongolian Evaluation Association, represented the organization at the National Evaluation Capacities Conference in Beijing. She delivered a presentation on "VOPE- bridging as a knowledge broker to advance national evaluation capacity and system."

Mongolian Evaluation Association

STREAM B

VOPE- bridging as a knowledge broker to advance national evaluation capacity and system

Erdenechimeg (Chimgee) Ulziisuren
Founder and President,
Mongolian Evaluation Association

NEC 2024 | NATIONAL EVALUATION CAPACITIES CONFERENCE
全球国家评估能力会议

This year from Mongolia, a newly appointed Parliament Member Ms. Mandkhai Mendbayar, Ms.Elbegzaya Tserenbaljir, Officer at Evaluation & Monitoring Department of Secretariat at Parliament, Ms. Khurelmaa Dashdorj, Planning, M&E Officer, UNICEF Mongolia also participated the NEC Conference.

MEA MEMBERS ATTENDED AMERICAN EVALUATION ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MEA members took participated in the AEA Annual Conference, held in Portland, Oregon, with the theme "Amplifying and Empowering Voices." With over 37 years of history, AEA continues to be a vital resource for MEA as it works toward institutionalizing evaluation in Mongolia. Despite MEA being only three years old, it has already received tremendous support from AEA, its past Presidents, the Washington Evaluators, American University, and several leading figures in the evaluation field.

Her third attendance at the conference, Oyuna Jukov shared her experience:
Over four days, she not only participated for her own growth but also represented the Mongolian Evaluation Association (MEA) in strengthening connections within the global evaluation community
She was proud to further this networking at the conference and celebrate MEA member Tseveengerel Amgalan, who, as a former government officer in evaluation and current MSc student in Data Science at Bentley University, presented her poster on "Challenges and Strategies in Implementing Results-Based Management in Mongolia." Tseveengerel was awarded an International Travel Grant by AEA, and she looks forward to reading the completed research soon.

The conference emphasized the importance of inclusivity in evaluations, highlighting voices from Indigenous groups, youth, and marginalized communities. A notable presentation by Global Affairs Canada introduced the "Localization Analysis Framework", a tool to assess programs' alignment with locally-led development and local ownership.

The conference featured a No-Code AI Hackathon, where participants explored how AI tools such as chatbots and platforms like GPTs could enhance evaluation practices, sparking creativity and showing the potential for AI to reduce the digital divide.

The MERL Tech Initiative led a session on the use of AI tools like GenIA, NLP, and LLMs to transform SBC programming, focusing on areas such as sexual health and vaccine uptake. These AI tools are improving monitoring and evaluation but face challenges around ethics and data quality.

Dr. Reinhard Stockmann's research on the global institutionalization of evaluation resonated with MEA's goals. His findings will be shared at the upcoming APEA webinar, moderated by Tseveengerel Amgalan.

Story Slam: Participants shared impactful stories about how new evidence shifted their perspectives and careers. The facilitator, Anne-Louise Sterry, expressed interest in conducting a similar session with MEA in the future.
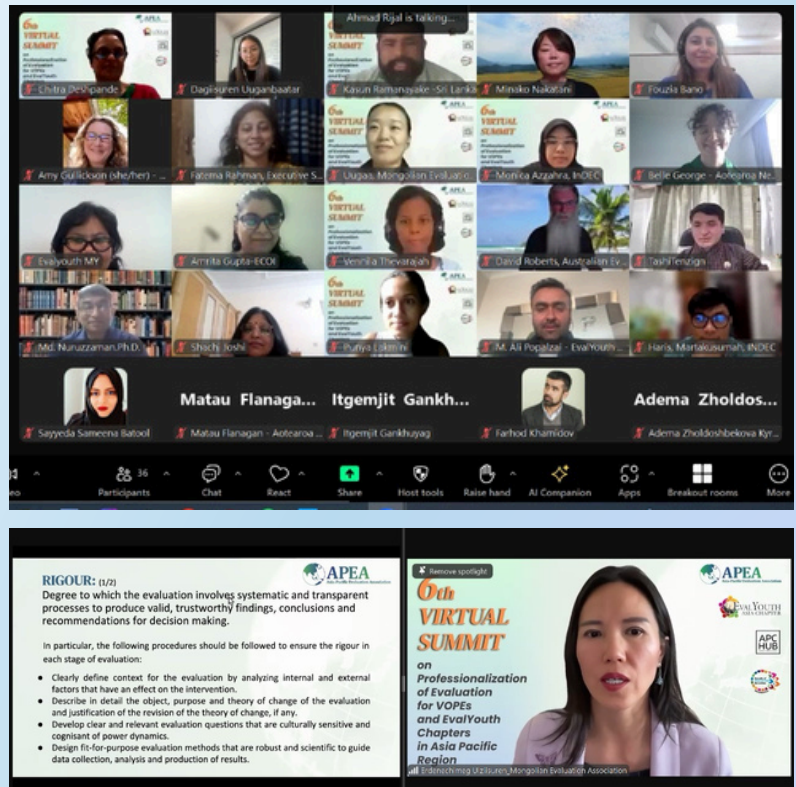
6th Virtual Summit on Professionalization of Evaluation

MEA Participated in the APEA's 6th Virtual Summit on Professionalization of Evaluation for VOPEs & EvalYouth Chapters

Professionalization of Evaluation Theme Group of the Asia Pacific Regional Evaluation Strategy organized this summit to share the first draft of the APEA's Evaluation Standards with the VOPEs and EvalYouth Chapters and to their valuable feedback for further refinement of the document.
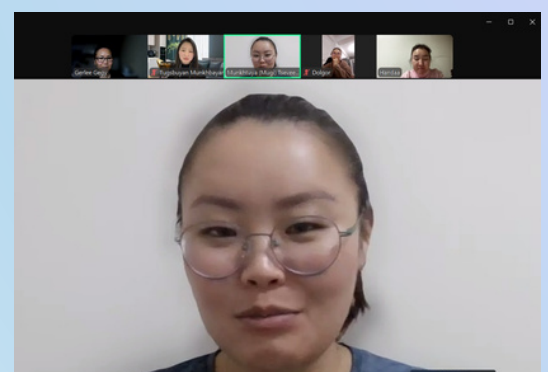
Ms. Erdenechimeg Ulziisuren, MEA Founder and President, who is a Co-Leader of the Professionalization of Evaluation Theme of the APRES co-presented the draft of the Evaluation Standards with Professor Keiko Nishino, Former Vice President of APEA.

MEA WELCOMES OUR NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dolgor Luvsandandar, MEA Committee Member.

The Mongolian Evaluation Association s pleased to welcome our newest members to the Partnership, Advocacy, and Capacity Building Committees. With their expertise and commitment, we are excited to embark on a new chapter of growth and impact. The fresh perspectives and skills they bring will be invaluable as we work to strengthen MEA's capacity, amplify our advocacy efforts, and forge meaningful partnerships. Together, we aim to drive further progress in evaluation practices and enhance our role in supporting sustainable development across Mongolia. We look forward to fruitful collaborations and collective success in advancing MEA's mission.

Baasanbat Bat-Erdene, MEA Committee Member

Gereltuya Zorigtbaatar, MEA Committee Member

MEA Learning Session

This month's learning session will be hosted with Ada Ocampo, President of the IDEAS network, and Thomas Rossmueller, Partnership and Capacity Development Officer at the UNICEF Evaluation Office. Our board member Puredulam Jamiyansuren will be moderating the event, under the theme "Accelerating progress towards the 2030 Agenda through country-led SDG evaluations".

MEA partnership with Lanzhou University

We are pleased to announce the Memorandum of Understanding between Center for Evidence-Based Social Science at Lanzhou University and Mongolian Evaluation Association will be signed at in China on November 9, 2024. Both parties came to this exciting moment cumulatively expanding mutual partnership starting from initial connection during the 2nd Summer Evaluation Bootcamp in Mongolia in July, and further discussion at UNDP National Evaluation Capacity Conference in Beijing in October this year. The purpose of the MOU is to further strengthen academic exchanges, talent training, and collaborative research between the two institutions, and to jointly promote the research, application, and dissemination of evaluation for evaluators of Mongolia and China.

As part of this collaboration, Ms. Erdenechimeg Ulziisuren, Founder and President of Mongolian Evaluation Association, was invited to attend the "Knowledge Translation in Evidence-based Sciences Forum 2024" hosted by Lanzhou University, where she will be delivering presentation titled "Evaluator's Competency Framework, Norms, Standards, and Ethics" and sign the MoU with the the Center for Evidence-Based Social Science at Lanzhou University.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Galbadrakh Erdenetsogt
MEA Member, YEE

Galbadrakh Erdenetsogt is a current student at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He was first introduced to the field of evaluation through The Young Emerging Evaluation (YEE) Internship Program which profoundly impacted his career, offering him the chance to work with inspiring professionals and develop practical skills essential to the evaluation field. Through a six-month internship organized by the Mongolian Evaluation Association and YOUTHinc, he gained firsthand experience with organizations like UNESCO and ILO, learning to assess project efficiency and the role of evaluations in effective decision-making. His mentors guided him in mastering tools like necessary, equipping him with skills for analyzing and reporting critical data.

A pivotal moment during the internship was his involvement with the manifest-signing-and-standard-adoption team, which introduced him to international evaluation standards. Recognizing the lack of youth-driven evaluation initiatives in Mongolia, he became determined to bridge this gap. Collaborating with his team, he engaged decision-makers and advocated for youth participation in evaluation processes, leading to the successful adoption of these standards in various Mongolian institutions. This experience reinforced his commitment to fostering a sustainable, inclusive evaluation culture, envisioning youth as key contributors to development and societal impact in Mongolia. He was part of team Progresso in the World Evaluation Case Competition, representing Mongolia as the Asian Champion in 2023, which helped him understand the practical side of evaluation. As an active member and YEE of MEA, he also contributed greatly in organizing the Youth in Evaluation Week champion event: Good practices by VOPEs and youth organisations as part of the production team, as well as the 2nd Summer Evaluation Bootcamp, as part of the organization team.

Upcoming GLOBAL events in evaluation

#EvalVisionAsia — CELEBRATING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2024 & GETTING READY FOR 2025!

Details: bit.ly/EvalVisionAsia24 — SAVE THE DATES — Scan Here:

Virtual Events

- Asia Pacific Regional Dialogue on National Evaluation Policies and Systems (NEPS) — 26 Nov 10.00 AM IST
- A Taste of SALT: An Immersive Webinar on Participatory Evaluation — 27 Nov 5.30 PM IST
- Nexus of Environmental, Social, and Governance and Social Impact Measurement and their Value in SDG Evaluation — 28 Nov 6.30 PM IST
- 5th Asia Pacific Winter School for Young and Emerging Evaluators — 30 Nov - 1 Dec
- Academic Symposium on M&E Education — 2 - 4 Dec

Face-to-face Events | Colombo, Sri Lanka

#EvalVisionAsia

ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL DIALOGUE ON NATIONAL EVALUATION POLICIES AND SYSTEMS (NEPS)

26 NOVEMBER — 10.00 AM IST — REGISTER NOW bit.ly/NEPSdialogue2024

SPEAKERS

- Roj Nath Pande — Secretary, Federal Parliament Secretariat of Nepal
- Daniel Alonso Valckx — Multicountry Evaluation Specialist, UNICEF Regional office for South Asia
- Yoko Ishida — President, Asia Pacific Evaluation Association
- Brad Astbury — Associate Professor Health Systems Evaluation, University of Melbourne, Australia
- Ramesh Paudyal — Executive Committee Member of APPFE and Member of NEPS Theme of APRES
- Natalia Nikitenko — Former Member of Parliament, Kyrgyz Republic and Member of the Global Parliamentarians Forum For Evaluation
- Eroni Wavu — Co-Leader of EvalYouth Pacific
- Mohib Iqbal — Member of NEPS Theme of APRES
- Uugantsetseg Gonchigdorj — Board member, Mongolian Evaluation Association and Co-Leader of EvalYouth Asia

MODERATORS

- Yatin Diwakar — Co-Lead of NEPS Theme of APRES
- Rajani Kayastha — Co-Lead of NEPS Theme of APRES

YOUTH IN EVALUATION

Champion — X Space chat — 19 November 2024 | 9 am ET

Moderator

- Khalil Bitar — President, IOCE — Moderator
- Yoko Ishida — President, Asia Pacific Evaluation Association
- Phuntsho Choden — Chairperson, Evaluation Association of Bhutan
- Solomon Gitau — Young and Emerging Evaluator, MEPAK
- Uugantsetseg Gonchigdorj — Board member, Mongolian Evaluation Association
- Ruchi Gaur — Member, Evaluation Community of India
- Oludotun Babayemi — Global Future Officer Cloneshouse
- Faith Nsanshya Chilupula — Evaluation Analyst UNFPA IEO
- Agnes Nyaga — Associate Human Rights Officer, Evaluation Office OHCHR

#EvalVisionAsia — CELEBRATING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2024 & GETTING READY FOR 2025!

APEA WEBINAR

NEXUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND GOVERNANCE (ESG), AND SOCIAL IMPACT MEASUREMENT AND MANAGEMENT (SIMM), AND THEIR VALUE IN SDG EVALUATION

28 NOVEMBER '24 — 06.30 PM IST — REGISTER NOW bit.ly/EvalVisionAsiaSDG

SPEAKERS

- Nina Campbell — Steering Committee Member Energy Evaluation Asia Pacific
- Zoljargal Ganbold — Mongolian Evaluation Association Member, Certified ESG Analyst, and CEO Belget Impact
- Katsuji Imata — Vice President Japan Evaluation Society and President of Social Impact Management Initiative (SIMI) Japan
- Reinoud Willemsen — South African Monitoring and Evaluation Association (SAMEA) Member, Partner at Embedding Impact, South Africa
- Natalia Aquilino — Vice Chair Latin-America and Caribbean Evaluation Network
- Erdenechimeg Ulziisuren — Founder & President Mongolian Evaluation Association and Co-Leader of the Professionalization Theme of APRES

MODERATOR

- Anindita Sharma — Regional Director Asia Pacific ROI Institute

IDEAS Conference
IDEAS & Independent Evaluation Office - New Development Bank

Jointly organized by IDEAS, New Development Bank

MULTI-DIMENSIONAL EVALUATION for influence & transformation

04-06 MARCH 2025 — ROME | ITALY

#IDEASCONF2025