

ANNUAL REPORT

2025



MCA Indigenous
Evaluation TIG
Opening Workshop



Suite-806, 8th floor, Twin Tower-2, Seoul street-10/1, 2nd khoroo, Sukhbaatar district,
14251 Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia



info@mongolianevaluation.mn



www.mongolianevaluation.mn

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President's Greetings

Dear Members, Partners and Friends of Mongolian Evaluation Association (MEA),

Warm yet fresh like ice frost greetings from Mongolia!

The year 2025 was a year of transformational changes at MEA - from the very first day of January until the end of December, MEA community was deeply and meaningfully engaging and contributing to building and strengthening evaluation ecosystem in Mongolia engrained in trust and support of our national and international evaluation community.



Among many wonderful achievements, I would like to highlight and share some of them with you here. MEA entered to an official partnership with DEval – German Institute for Development Evaluation and Authority for Government Supervision to strengthen evaluation system in Mongolia. Together with them, MEA was honored to support undertaking the first INCE – National Evaluation Capacity Index and policy evaluation capacity trainings. With the co-hosting of the Center for Evidence-based social Science of Lanzhou University and UNICEF China and financial support from DEval, the 3rd Summer Evaluation Bootcamp was held at Lanzhou University in June with global participation of 80 young and emerging evaluators (YEEs). The Evaluation Training of Trainers (ToT) provided by DEval to train 20 MEA members the was most timely investment for MEA enabling us to meet an ever-increasing demand from our government and public on evaluation management and methods.

At regional level, Asia Pacific Evaluation Association's leadership in nurturing national VOPEs through different initiatives such as indigenous evaluation seed grants, 5th APEA Conference bursary in partnership with Asian Development Bank, and engaging our members through various Thematic groups have helped MEA's works and voices shared and heard globally, was truly inspiring and instrumental. At global level, MEA was awarded as a 'Legacy Champion' supporting Youth in Evaluation Standards by Eval4Action which encouraged immensely us to even further meaningfully and sustainably commit ourselves to support YEEs in every vein of our work.

Today, we are wrapping up our wonderful 2025 year with 270 members, 10 institutional members, 12 Topical Interest Groups (TIGs) and 5 official national and international partnerships with more renewed spirit and commitment to advance professionalization and institutionalization of evaluation at national level in Mongolia and beyond.

We look forward to 2026 where we be supporting development of National Evaluation Standards, 4th Summer Evaluation Bootcamp, 2nd INCE, systematic evaluation training packages, strategic partnerships and advocacy, among many others.

On behalf of MEA, I would like to thank you for being an MEA member, partner and friend with us to advance the evaluation in Mongolia for the betterment of the people and the society.

Erdenechimeg (Chimgee) Ulziisuren,
Founder & President

About Us

The Mongolian Evaluation Association (MEA) is a government registered, non-profit, non-partisan Voluntary Organization for Professional Evaluation (VOPE) established in 2021. MEA supports the growth of the evaluation community and profession in Mongolia by promoting the development of evaluation expertise, facilitating knowledge sharing, and encouraging collaboration. MEA serves its members through professional development events, networking, and social interactions.

Our Vision

To promote professionalization and institutionalization of evaluation at national level in Mongolia.

Our Mission

- To promote application and standards of scientific evaluation methods in development policy and programs of Mongolia
- To develop capacity of Mongolian evaluators
- To increase awareness and value of evaluation in society
- To contribute to strengthening of national evaluation system

Strategic Goals 2022-2026

- Strengthen the evaluation community
- Enhance evaluation relationships and interactions
- Support individual evaluators' professional development needs
- Facilitate strong administration of the organization

Board of Directors 2025

 Erdenechimeg Ulziisuren Founder & President	 Darinchuluun Bazarvaani Co-Chair of Advocacy & Partnership	 Gereltsetseg Adiya Secretary
 Delgermurun Sukhbaatar Co-Chair of Advocacy & Partnership	 Itgemjit Gankhuyag Co-Chair of Members Engagement & Communication, YEE	 Uyangaa Munkhbat Co-Chair of Members Engagement, YEE
 Purevdulam Jamiyansuren Capacity Building Chair	 Myagmartsermaa Delgersaikhan Co-Chair of Evaluation Capacity Development	 Khaliunaa Batjargal Co-Chair of Communication, YEE

STRATEGIC GOAL 1

CREATION OF EVALUATION COMMUNITY

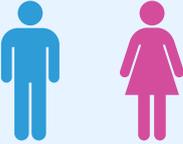
Membership Profile in 2025

In 2025, MEA continued to demonstrate growth in its membership base, building on the solid foundation of 268 individual members and 10 institutional members from the previous year. The association has remained steadfast in its commitment to serving both experienced evaluators and young and emerging evaluators in Mongolia.

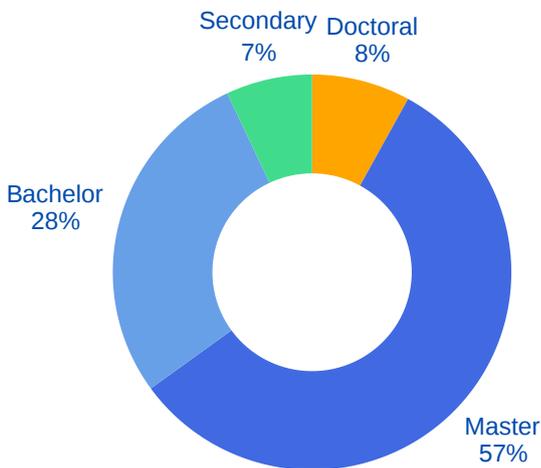
270 members, 9 Board members
 Professional – 248 (92%)
 Student – 22 (8%)

Male - 16% Female - 84%

Young and Emerging Evaluators (YEEs)
 YEEs - 49%
 Young under 35 age - 53%
 Emerging (less than 5 years experience) - 79%



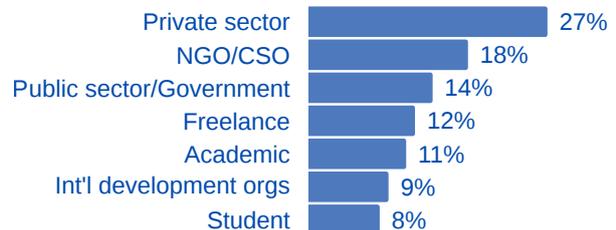
Educational Background



Years of experience in evaluation



Employment sector



Location



- Ankara, Turkey
- Arlington, Texas, USA
- Beijing, China
- Bloomington, USA
- Buena Vista, Colorado, USA
- Darkhan-Uul
- Dornod
- Gennevilliers, France
- Sydney, Australia
- Ulaanbaatar
- Virginia, USA
- Osaka, Japan
- Chiba, Japan
- Murun, Khuvsgul
- Mannheim, Germany

Institutional members



STRATEGIC GOAL 1

CREATION OF EVALUATION COMMUNITY

Board of Directors action

The year 2025 witnessed significant leadership transitions and new appointments that strengthened the governance structure and expanded the capacity of the association. Two members of the Board of Directors resigned voluntarily, and the term of one member concluded. In each instance of a board vacancy, an open recruitment process was conducted to appoint new members and complete the board's composition. During the year, the Board of Directors held five virtual meetings and two in-person meetings. In accordance with MEA's strategic work plan, board members have established task forces and actively engaged in advancing key initiatives. The board members are introduced on page 4.

New Board Appointments Throughout 2025

Month	Name	Position	Key Expertise
April 2025	Delgermurun Sukhbaatar	Co-Chair of Advocacy & Partnership, Board Member	15+ years MEL experience, RBM specialist, government capacity building
August 2025	Uyangaa Munkhbat	Co-Chair of Members Engagement, Board Member (YEE)	Fresh energy, co-lead of EvalYouth Mongolia, community building
November 2025	Myagmartsermaa Delgersaikhan	Co-Chair of Evaluation Capacity Development, Board Member	Deep commitment to strengthening evaluation systems, capacity development expert

Projects Overseen by Board Members:

1. Co-Chairs of Evaluation Capacity Development (ECD): Purevdulam.J, Myagmartsermaa.D
2. Co-Chairs of Members Engagement: Itgemjit.G, Uyangaa.M
3. Co-Chairs of Communication: Khaliunaa.B, Itgemjit.G
4. Co-Chairs of Advocacy & Partnership: Darinchuluun.B, Delgermurun.S
5. Secretary: Gereltsetseg.A
6. Treasury: Byambasuren.U (MEA member)

STRATEGIC GOAL 1

CREATION OF EVALUATION COMMUNITY

Establishment of Policy Evaluation Taskforce (POET) Aug, 2025

With the endorsement of MEA's Board, the MEA Policy Evaluation Task Force was officially established in August. This team will lead MEA's efforts in developing policy evaluation methodologies and serve as a key force in implementing policy evaluation initiatives in collaboration with government, national, and international partners.

Purpose and Role:

- Serves as the **leading body within MEA** for policy evaluation methodology development
- Acts as the key unit to be mobilized for contributions to requests from national and International partners



Capacity Building: Task Force members benefit from priority access to specialized training opportunities, such as DEval's policy evaluation training

Establishment of Evaluation Training Working Group (ETW) Dec, 2025



With the aim of contributing to the strengthening of evaluation development in Mongolia, enhancing the skills of evaluators, unifying their voices, and improving organizations' evaluation management capacity, the Evaluation Training Task Force was established in December.

Purpose and Role:

- Develop a basic and intermediate-level training curriculum on evaluation management
- Develop basic and intermediate-level evaluation training curricula
- Participate in organizing training activities

This working group will provide professional evaluation training, training on teaching methodologies, and relevant information in response to requests from MEA members and organizations.

CREATION OF EVALUATION COMMUNITY

Topical Interest Groups (TIGs)

The Topical Interest Group (TIG) is a platform where members of MEA can deepen understanding of various sub-fields of evaluation. ([For a more detailed introduction to TIG](#))

Continuing TIGs:

1. Costs, Benefits and Economic and Financial Evaluation
2. Quantitative Evaluation Methods
3. Climate Change and Environmental Evaluation
4. Health Sector Evaluation
5. National Evaluation Policies and Systems
6. Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG)
7. Organizational and System Evaluation
8. Law Evaluation
9. Gender Evaluation
10. Education Evaluation
11. Happiness
12. Indigenous Evaluation

New TIGs in 2025

😊 Happiness Topical Interest Group (TIG)

Official Launch: June 11, 2025

The Mongolian Evaluation Association proudly launched its newest Topical Interest Group (TIG) focused on Happiness. Chaired by **Uyanga Zalaa-Uul**, the group will advance evaluation frameworks that center well-being and happiness in policies and programs.

Vision from the Chair: "Let's collectively become global experts in evaluating happiness."



MEA looks forward to contributing to a more holistic, people-centered approach to evaluation through this important work.

First Gathering: October 24, 2025

The inaugural evening gathering at the MEA Office brought members together to reflect, share, and connect around the theme of happiness and wellbeing in the evaluation community.

CREATION OF EVALUATION COMMUNITY

☀ Indigenous Evaluation Topical Interest Group (TIG)

Official Launch: November 29, 2025

The Mongolian Evaluation Association is pleased to announce the official launch of our Indigenous Evaluation Topical Interest Group (TIG), established in collaboration with MEA members and representatives from the **Tsaatan community**.

Leadership: Azjargal Amarsanaa -
Indigenous Evaluation TIG Chair

Through shared learning and collaboration, empowering Indigenous youth evaluators and strengthening community-led evaluation practices, ensuring Indigenous perspectives are rooted in Mongolia's evaluation landscape.

Valuing and learning from Tsaatan communities' wisdom, nomadic lifeways, and their approaches to preserving mother language and unique culture, humility, and resilience as essential foundations for this TIG



ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

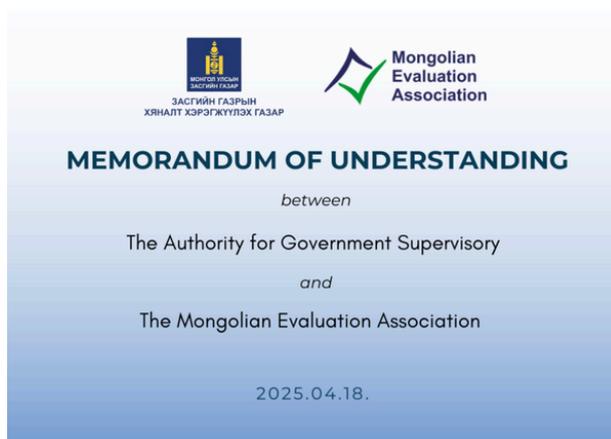
Major Partnerships and Agreements

1. Memorandum of Understanding with Authority for Government Supervisory

Signed in April 2025, this MoU marks a significant milestone toward strengthening and professionalizing the evaluation system in Mongolia. This partnership represents MEA's long-term commitment to advancing evaluation practice at the national level.

Key Focus Areas:

- Introducing international monitoring and evaluation methodologies
- Building national evaluation capacity
- Collaboration on policy evaluation initiatives
- Supporting government agencies in strengthening evaluation systems



2. Memorandum of Understanding with German Institute for Development Evaluation

Signed in February/March 2025, this strategic partnership aims to enhance national evaluation capacity and system in Mongolia. This collaboration represents a significant investment in the future of evaluation in Mongolia.

Partnership Objectives:

- Support development of a Master's degree program in Monitoring and Evaluation at the National University of Mongolia
- Strengthen evaluation competencies through specialized training programs
- Promote knowledge exchange between German and Mongolian evaluation communities
- Implement the National Evaluation Capacities Index (INCE) in Mongolia
- Support Annual Summer Evaluation Bootcamp



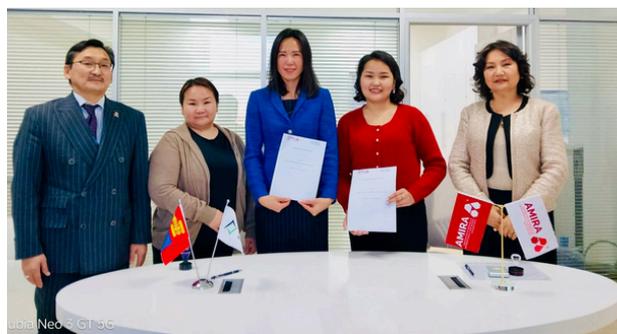
STRATEGIC GOAL 2

ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

3. Memorandum of Understanding with Association of Mongolian Internationally Recognized Accountants (AMIRA)

On December 15, 2025, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Association of Mongolian Internationally Recognized Accountants (AMIRA). This collaboration aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Strengthen professional development and capacity building in accounting, finance, and evaluation.
- Promote knowledge sharing and best practices among professionals in both fields.
- Foster collaboration on research, policy development, and community initiatives.



This step is a strategic move towards our vision to promote professionalization of evaluation in Mongolia through introducing credentialed evaluators' program in Mongolia.

MEA continues its productive partnerships with the American University (MS in Measurement & Evaluation Program) and Lanzhou University (Center for Evidence-Based Social Science).

STRATEGIC GOAL 2

ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

National Evaluation Capacity Index (INCE) Implementation

Historic Launch Event

On March 21, 2025, the National Evaluation Capacity Index (INCE) was successfully launched in Mongolia, kicking off an introductory training on March 21, 2025. Around 730 officials from 164 public and private sector organizations attended the training organized by the Monitoring and Evaluation Department of the Authority for Government Supervisory, in collaboration with the Mongolian Evaluation Association and DEval.

INCE Results National Workshop (May 14, 2025)

🏆 Historic Milestone: Mongolia - First Country in Asia to Complete INCE Assessment

The Mongolian Evaluation Association is proud to share the successful completion of the National Workshop on the Results of the National Evaluation Capacities Index (INCE), held at the **Government Palace**. This event, co-organized with DEval and AGS, marks a significant achievement for Mongolia and its evaluation community.

Assessment Results and Findings:

Overall Score: Average index score of 4.4 out of 10, highlighting both strengths and areas for improvement

Highest Score: Use of evaluation scored the highest among all dimensions

Lowest Score: Evaluation services scored lower, pointing to where targeted capacity building, resources, and collaboration will make the greatest difference

Coverage: Assessment covered 144 organizations — ministries, government agencies, local administrations, state-owned enterprises, universities, and civil society organizations

Regional First: Mongolia became the first country in Asia to conduct and present the INCE assessment (previously only conducted in Latin America)

MEA's Commitment Moving Forward:

With the INCE results as a baseline, MEA will:

- Promote professional standards and ethical guidelines
- Support tailored training and mentorship for evaluators
- Advocate for stronger institutional frameworks and resources
- Facilitate dialogue among government, civil society, academia, and the private sector
- Build international partnerships to bring in global knowledge and exchange good practices



ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

Major Training and Capacity Building

1. In-house MEAL Training for Good Neighbours Mongolia

MEA successfully delivered comprehensive Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL) capacity-building training. As MEA launched tailor-made organizational capacity-building activities in 2024, this was the first training of 2025.

Training Content:

- Internal M&E systems
- MEAL planning
- Results-based management
- M&E frameworks
- Case work and practical applications

MEA commends Good Neighbours Mongolia for their dedication to enhancing their MEAL capabilities and looks forward to further collaboration.

2. Policy Evaluation Training with DEval



During their visit for the INCE Results Workshop, the DEval team delivered an in-person policy evaluation training for colleagues from the Authority for Government Supervisory and MEA members.

Training Topics Covered:

- Fundamentals of evaluation and why it matters
- Core principles of policy evaluation
- Practical lessons from Germany's evaluation experience

For many participants, this was an opportunity not just to learn, but to discuss, reflect, and explore how to apply these ideas in the Mongolian context. From MEA's perspective, this represents the beginning of deeper, ongoing capacity development for members and partners.

3. "Methods of Economic Efficiency for Evaluation" Training

Led by **Dr. Ganzorig Gonchigsumlaa** (MEA Board Member - Capacity Building Chair), this training was a great success.

Participants gained:

- Methods for evaluating the economic efficiency of projects, programmes, and policies
- Deeper understanding of key concepts and terminology in economic efficiency evaluation
- Strengthened knowledge through group exercises and applied learning



STRATEGIC GOAL 2

ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

4. 2-day Workshop on Policy Evaluation Design

MEA was honored to support DEval's country-led policy evaluation workshop, marking the start of the design phase for the policy evaluation of **Parliament Resolution No. 36: On Certain Measures to Ensure Food Supply and Safety**.

The workshop covered:

- Establishing the foundation for evaluation— objectives, purpose, and use
- Country-led evaluation with an SDG focus
- Participatory stakeholder mapping to identify competencies and engagement strategies



5. Workshop on "Country-led Evaluations with a Focus on the SDGs"

On 12 September, within the framework of the MoU between the German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval) and the Mongolian Evaluation Association (MEA), Sabine Palmreuther and Dirk Hoffmann, DEval Evaluators, conducted a workshop on "Country-led Evaluations with a Focus on the SDGs." The session explored:

- Core principles of country-led evaluation
- The importance of national ownership in evaluation
- Ways to link policy evaluation with the Sustainable Development Goals



6. "Evaluation Management Training of Trainers" with DEval

The German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval) kicked off its Evaluation Management Training in Mongolia with a comprehensive three-day Training of Trainers program.



Trainers: Dr. Anna von Werthern and Sabine M. Palmreuther (DEval)

Outcome: Participants left well-equipped and motivated to apply their learning toward strengthening Mongolia's evaluation ecosystem

Impact: Created a pool of qualified trainers to cascade evaluation management knowledge across Mongolia

STRATEGIC GOAL 2

ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

Participation in International Evaluation Conferences and Events

Asian Evaluation Week 2025 (Sep 1-4, 2025, Xi'an, China)

The Mongolian Evaluation Association made contributions to the Asian Evaluation Week, organized by the Asian Development Bank, for the following two sessions:



Session 1: "From Principles to Practice: Applying Global Norms for Better Evaluation for All – Case of Mongolia"

Session 2: "Institutionalizing Evaluation and Strengthening YEE Engagement in Mongolia" - a panel discussion featuring representatives from APEA, UNFPA, DEval, and the Government of Mongolia



These sessions showcased Mongolia's progress in building its evaluation ecosystem and the critical role of youth engagement in strengthening evaluation capacity.

5th Asia Pacific Evaluation Association (APEA) Conference (Tokyo, November 11-14, 2025)

The conference opened with successful workshops, where MEA actively contributed by supporting the Winter School for Young and Emerging Evaluators, presenting ongoing work Indigenous Evaluation for Reindeer Herders, and sharing Mongolia's experience in country-led SDG evaluation.

Key Contributions:

- **Erdenechimeg Ulziisuren, Founder and President** : Contributed to key discussions on gender transformative evaluation, professionalization, and regional standards and AI in evaluation trainings.
- **Azjargal Amarsanaa (Indigenous Evaluation TIG Chair)**: Presented MEA's Indigenous Evaluation work supported by APEA and the Ford Foundation
- **Khaliunaa Batjargal (Co-Chair of Communication, YEE)**: Panelist in the plenary discussions on the final Day at United Nations University, focused on M&E education and capacity development
- **Commitment**: MEA remains committed to advancing the **Tokyo Call for Action for the Institutionalization of Evaluation in Mongolia**



ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

First International Evaluation Capacity Development Forum (June 2025)

Historic Global Forum

MEA was honored to take part in this global forum organized by Lanzhou University and UNICEF, uniting evaluation leaders, young and emerging evaluators (YEEs), and partners to advance inclusive, innovative evaluation systems.

Forum Highlights:

- **Keynotes and Panels:** Composed of GEI, UNICEF, DEval, ADB IED, AIIB & NDB exploring:
 - Institutionalizing evaluation
 - Using AI for inclusive practice
 - Youth leadership in evaluation
 - Aligning evaluation with national systems
- **Eval Torch Handover** - symbolic passing of evaluation leadership
- **Advocating Youth in Evaluation Standards** - affirming shared commitment to a youth-led, evidence based evaluation future
- **Youth Voices:** YEEs shared reflections on breaking barriers, local ownership & creating safe, meaningful spaces for youth



MEA extends sincere thanks to everyone who made this inspiring day possible. Together, we are building stronger, more inclusive evaluation communities globally.

STRATEGIC GOAL 2

ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

MEA In-Person Gatherings

MEA Catch-Up Lunch (April 27, 2025)

Members of MEA came together to reconnect, reflect on recent achievements, and share fresh ideas for the future. We discussed MEA's ongoing initiatives, upcoming events, including the Summer Bootcamp, and the growing momentum for institutionalizing evaluation in Mongolia.



Happiness TIG Gathering (October 24, 2025)

The Happiness Topical Interest Group (TIG) of the Mongolian Evaluation Association hosted an evening gathering at the MEA Office. Members came together to reflect, share, and connect around the theme of happiness and wellbeing in the evaluation community.

New Year Party 2025-2026

In 2025, Mongolian Evaluation Association brought its members together for a warm and cosy New Year Party to celebrate the year's achievements and strengthen our professional community. The event provided an opportunity to reflect on key milestones reached in 2025, and share MEA's plans and priorities for 2026. As part of the celebration, MEA recognized outstanding contributions by awarding the Most Outstanding Young and Emerging Evaluator, Most Committed Member, and Most Valuable Institutional Member of MEA for 2025.



STRATEGIC GOAL 2

ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

Monthly Newsletter

MEA successfully published 11 newsletters from January to November 2025, continuing its tradition established in October 2022. These newsletters were distributed to all members, friends, and supporters, keeping the community informed and engaged.



- January: Key Highlights of 2024, Seed Grant preliminary findings
- February & March (Combined Issue): Presidential transition, Call for Board applications, MoU with DEval
- April: Summer Bootcamp registration closure, New Board Member announcement, MoU with AGS
- May: Legacy Champion Award announcement, DEval visit, Tsaatan Voices project completion
- July-October: New Board Member (Uyangaa Munkhbat), Policy Evaluation Task Force launch
- November: Evaluation Management Training, WECC participation, Indigenous Evaluation TIG launch

Learning Sessions

MEA continued its tradition of organizing monthly learning sessions covering various evaluation topics. Altogether 6 sessions held featuring national and international experts, MEA members, TIG chairs, and board members as speakers and moderators. All sessions are available on the MEA YouTube channel: "Mongolian Evaluation Association (MEA)".

Mongolian Evaluation Association | **DEval** LEARNING SESSION #2025/01 | ZOOM

"NATIONAL EVALUATION CAPACITIES INDEX (INCE)"

SPEAKER



Juan Carlos Sanz
Evaluator, DEval

Juan Carlos Sanz, who joined DEval in May 2014, specializes in participatory approaches, stakeholder networking, and supporting national evaluation units in ECD projects. Previously, he coordinated international cooperation projects across Latin America and Africa, collaborating closely with the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation's Evaluation Unit.

Thursday | 30 January 2025 | 8 pm - 9 pm UB time

Mongolian Evaluation Association | **DEval** LEARNING SESSION #2025/02 | ZOOM

"SUSTAINABILITY-INCLUSIVE EVALUATION: SUPPORTING THE INCLUSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY INTO COUNTRY-LED EVALUATION"

SPEAKER



Anna Warnholz
ECD Advisor, DEval

Anna Warnholz is ECD Advisor from the German Institute of Development Evaluation (DIEG). As part of DIEG's ECD team, she works in Latin America, Anglophone Africa, and Asia, focusing on climate change and energy-related topics. She is currently providing technical support on the application of the Footprint approach in a country-led evaluation of the National Planning Unit of Colombia in a joint exercise with the Footprint Evaluation Initiative and the Global Evaluation Initiative.

Friday | 21 February 2025 | 4 pm - 5 pm UB time

Mongolian Evaluation Association | LEARNING SESSION #2025/03 | ZOOM

"BEYOND EVALUATION: UNLOCKING THE POWER OF EVALUATIVE THINKING"

SPEAKER



Ziad Moussa
Board of Directors, International Evaluation Academy

Ziad Moussa is a multi-disciplinary development professional with an intellectual and professional passion for Evaluation. Over the past 25 years, he has managed complex multi-country evaluations across the Arab world and the Global South, in well over 40 countries and with almost every major donor on the circuit. He specializes in evaluation in fragile contexts, particularly in conflict/post-conflict settings, as well as local governance systems and processes. He was the driving force behind establishing the Middle East and North Africa Evaluation Association (MEANEA). He was also elected as President of the International Organization of Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE) between 2015 and 2017 and Co-Chair of EvalPartners between 2016 and 2018. He currently serves in the Board of Directors of the International Evaluation Academy.

Thursday | 13 March 2025 | 3 pm - 4 pm UB time

Mongolian Evaluation Association | LEARNING SESSION #2025/04 | ZOOM

"UNITED NATIONS AI IN EVALUATION CASE STUDIES"

SPEAKER



James Goh
AI.YZE, CEO, Founder

James is the Founder and CEO of AI.YZE, an AI consultancy that provides cutting-edge solutions for evaluation teams, including an online AI tool on www.aiyze.com. He has led multiple data science and evaluation projects for development organizations such as Dalberg, ID Insight, and One Acre Fund. With a master's degree in data, economics, and development policy from MIT, James specializes in leveraging AI to drive innovation in the development sector.

Wednesday | 30 April 2025 | 8 pm - 9 pm UB time

Mongolian Evaluation Association | LEARNING SESSION #2025/05 | ZOOM

"NAVIGATING UNPREDICTABLE PATHS: MY EXPERIENCE WITH OUTCOME HARVESTING"

SPEAKER



Zachariah Su
Consultant-Specialist, Universal Management Group

Zachariah (Zach) Su is a Consultant-Specialist at Universal Management Group (Canada) where he manages consulting projects, contributes to business development and leads the design and implementation of evaluation methodologies. Through the evaluations he has worked on, Zach has facilitated learning on and assessed the performance of, international development and humanitarian assistance programming that focused on a range of thematic areas such as food and education systems strengthening, and peacebuilding, among others. Zach has applied methodological approaches and tools such as Outcome Harvesting, theory-based approach, and realist evaluation. A Singaporean national and resident of Canada, Zach maintains a keen interest in his home continent of Asia, and is eager to learn from the experiences of fellow Asian evaluators and practitioners.

Wednesday | 21 May 2025 | 7 pm - 8 pm UB time

Mongolian Evaluation Association | LEARNING SESSION #2025/09 | ZOOM

ASSESSING SYSTEMS CHANGE

SPEAKER



Jeremy Starr
Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Specialist

Jeremy Starr is a Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) specialist with extensive experience designing and implementing MEL systems for complex, donor-funded programs globally. He has led initiatives in governance, market systems, resilience, and food security, focusing on adaptive learning and systems changes. Currently a MEL Specialist at DAI Global, he supports multiple development programs, leading adaptive learning initiatives and providing technical guidance on MEL design and evaluation. With an MSc in Measurement & Evaluation and expertise in research design, capacity building, and participatory methods, Jeremy brings a practical, hands-on approach to evaluating dynamic programs.

Thursday | 25 September 2025 | 8 pm - 9 pm UB time

ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

Final report: Elevating Tsaatan Voices: Sowing the Seeds of Indigenous Evaluation in Mongolia

Research team of Mongolian Evaluation Association (MEA) members successfully completed the study "Elevating Tsaatan Voices: Sowing the Seeds of Indigenous Evaluation in Mongolia" a heartfelt and groundbreaking project empowering one of Mongolia's Indigenous communities, the Tsaatan reindeer herders. With generous support from the Asia Pacific Evaluation Association (APEA) and EvalIndigenous, this research used culturally responsive and participatory evaluation methods to explore how land conservation policies have impacted the Tsaatan's livelihoods, food security, and cultural practices. ([Full report](#))



Indigenous Evaluation Toolkit Available in Mongolian

Major Achievement (May 2025): The Toolkit on Indigenous Evaluations, developed by the Asia Pacific Evaluation Association (APEA), is now available in the Mongolian language. This translation makes critical indigenous evaluation resources accessible to Mongolian-speaking evaluators and communities, supporting culturally appropriate evaluation practices. ([For more information, please read](#))



Published on the website of EvalParticipativa:

Our research titled "Elevating Tsaatan Voices: Sowing the Seeds of Evaluation in Mongolia" has been published as an article on EvalParticipativa, the online platform of the global Community of Practice and Learning supporting participatory and inclusive evaluation.

This platform is a global professional network dedicated to advancing participatory evaluation. ([Full article](#))



Awarded with "Germinating Grant" funded by APEA and Ford Foundation

In November, MEA was awarded with the "Germinating Grant" from APEA and Ford Foundation to support the development of the capacity of Indigenous Tsaatan Evaluators in Mongolia.

Drawing on insights from the seed project "Elevating Tsaatan Voices: Sowing the Seeds of Evaluation in Mongolia", this follow-up initiative focuses on advancing Tsaatan evaluators' skills while increasing national awareness of Indigenous Evaluation within Mongolia's professional evaluation network. The project also seeks to foster constructive collaboration between the Tsaatan community and the newly established Tengis-Shishged Specially Protected Area administration, serving as a bridge for dialogue and mutual understanding for participatory decision-making.

ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

Contribution to regional Evaluation Code of Ethics and Evaluation Standards Development

Efforts in Advocating and Disseminating Code of Ethics for Evaluation in the Asia Pacific Region

MEA proudly joined the video launch of the Code of Ethics for Evaluation in the Asia Pacific Region, demonstrating its commitment to ethical evaluation practices.

A video discussion featured **Erdenechimeg Ulziisuren** (Founder & President of MEA) and **Minako Nakatani** (Executive Director of the Japan Evaluation Society) introducing these principles and reflecting on ethical foundations for evaluators in the Asia Pacific region.



Four Guiding Principles:

- Integrity:** Maintaining honesty and transparency in all evaluation activities
- Accountability:** Taking responsibility for evaluation processes and outcomes
- Respect:** Honoring the dignity, diversity, and rights of all stakeholders
- Beneficence:** Maximizing benefits and minimizing harm through evaluation

"Evaluation Standards in the Asia Pacific Region" Publication



The Asia Pacific Evaluation Association (APEA) published "**Evaluation Standards in the Asia Pacific Region**", a milestone publication developed under the Professionalization of Evaluation theme group within the Asia Pacific Regional Evaluation Strategy. Beyond outlining principles, the document provides practical guidance for implementation, training resources, and pathways for policy integration to strengthen the quality, credibility, and usefulness of evaluations across the region.

Erdenechimeg Ulziisuren, Founder & President of MEA who is a member of the Professionalization Theme led the process of developing the Evaluation Standards along with other Theme members. The work published and presented in November at the 5th APEA Conference in Tokyo. This represents a shared vision for quality evaluation across the Asia Pacific region.

STRATEGIC GOAL 2

ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

MEA gLocal Evaluation Week 2025 (June 2-7, 2025)

MEA continued its active participation in the global-local (gLocal) Evaluation Week, organized by the Global Evaluation Initiative. In 2025, MEA hosted multiple events and a career session, connecting global evaluation practices with local Mongolian contexts.

1. Webinar: "Participatory Evaluation for Climate Resilience"

This webinar gathered voices from government, academia, and civil society to discuss community participation in climate adaptation evaluation.

- Panelists:**
- Ms. Chuluunkhuu Baatar
 - Ms. Bayartsetseg Terbish
 - Mr. Sanchir Jargalsaikhan
 - Ms. Ariunaa Norovsambuu



2. Webinar: "Measuring What Matters: Evolving Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) Evaluation Tools and Approaches"

This session explored how evaluation practices must evolve to keep pace with the growing role of SSE entities in creating decent work, fostering social inclusion, and promoting sustainability.

- Speakers**
- Mr. Bat-Orshikh Erdenebat
 - Ms. Bolormaa Purevsuren



4. Career Event: Nurturing Young Evaluators (June 6, 2025)



Co-organized with the Sustainable Employment for Youth program by the Zorig Foundation and the NUM Career Center, this interactive meeting engaged students and Young and Emerging Evaluators (YEEs) in conversations about evaluation's value and career opportunities.

- Hosted by:**
- Ms. Uugantsetseg Gonchigdorj
 - Ms. Purevdulam Jamiyansuren
 - Ms. Byambasuren

4. GEI/CLEAR Webinar: "Language and M&E in Central Asia"

Hosted by GEI CLEAR Pakistan and Central Asia, this webinar explored how linguistic and conceptual differences shape the understanding and implementation of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) systems in Central Asia countries including Mongolia. By connecting experienced practitioners with future professionals, MEA underscored its dedication to building a vibrant, youth-inclusive evaluation community. Ms. Erdenechimeg Ulziisuren joined the webinar bringing Mongolia's context in evaluation terms and concepts with its challenges and opportunities with esteemed global evaluation thought leaders and practitioners



STRATEGIC GOAL 3

SUPPORT INDIVIDUAL EVALUATORS INCLUDING YOUNG & EMERGING EVALUATORS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Major Recognitions in 2025

1. Youth In Evaluation Legacy Champion Award (May 2025)

🏆 PRESTIGIOUS RECOGNITION

MEA was awarded the prestigious Legacy Champion Award at the Summit for the Future of Evaluation! This recognition celebrates MEA's exemplary commitment to promoting youth leadership in evaluation and upholding the Youth In Evaluation Standards.

A special thanks to EvalYouth Global Network and eval4action for their support in advancing youth engagement in evaluation worldwide.



This award recognizes MEA's outstanding efforts in ensuring that young people are not only subjects of evaluation, but also leaders in the evaluation process. It follows MEA's previous recognition as a **Super Champion** in 2024 (awarded during the second Youth in Evaluation Week on July 8, 2024).

2. First VOPE Pulse Champion (May/June 2025)

🌟 GROUNDBREAKING ACHIEVEMENT

As part of MEA's commitment to strengthening the enabling environment for evaluation (Dimension 1 of the Global Evaluation Agenda – GEA 2.0), MEA was recognized as the first VOPE Pulse Champion!

Recognition Based On:

MEA proudly published its first comprehensive research study: "Elevating Tsaatan Voices: Sowing the Seeds of Indigenous Evaluation in Mongolia."

This study focused on the Tsaatan community of the northern taiga. Aimed to highlight Indigenous knowledge, cultural values, and lived experiences in evaluation.

By amplifying marginalized voices and advocating for inclusive, participatory approaches, MEA takes a step toward addressing policy gaps and challenging conventional methods.



STRATEGIC GOAL 3

SUPPORT INDIVIDUAL EVALUATORS INCLUDING YOUNG & EMERGING EVALUATORS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

3rd Summer Evaluation Bootcamp (SEB 2025)

From June 8–13, 2025, the Third Summer Evaluation Bootcamp gathered 80 young and emerging evaluators, practitioners, and experts from 21 countries in Lanzhou, China. Hosted by Lanzhou University, MEA, and UNICEF, the bootcamp created a unique space where evidence, practice, and passion came together.



The MEA team of 20 arrived, of which 15 funded by DEval, on June 7, ready to share experiences from Mongolia and learn alongside peers from across Asia and beyond.

Learning Content over four days:

- **Fundamentals:** Theory of Change, logframes, and ethics and standards in evaluation
- **Formative and Process Evaluations:** How these strengthen programs
- **Large-N Impact Evaluations: Measuring effectiveness at scale**
- **Humanitarian Context:** Evaluating humanitarian aid
- **Community Building:** Building global evaluation communities
- **Professional Development:** Guidance on professional accreditation and career pathways

More than tools, the bootcamp highlighted collaboration, cultural context, and the power of local knowledge. Panels and discussions with the **Global Evaluation Initiative, UNICEF, and MEA** encouraged participants to see themselves not only as learners but as contributors to a broader evaluation network.

Cultural Experience:

- Participants walked by the famous **Yellow River**
- Had dinner on the mountain top
- Experienced Lanzhou's culture and hospitality



The bootcamp wrapped up with certificates, smiles, and—most importantly—a shared commitment to bring these lessons back to work and communities.

The Mongolian Evaluation Association extends gratitude to:

- **Lanzhou University and UNICEF** for hosting and organizing this inspiring week
- Our sponsors, especially to **DEval**
- All **speakers and mentors** who generously shared their expertise
- Every **participant** whose curiosity and openness turned the bootcamp into a real learning community

STRATEGIC GOAL 3

SUPPORT INDIVIDUAL EVALUATORS INCLUDING YOUNG & EMERGING EVALUATORS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

World Evaluation Case Competition (2025) - 4th Consecutive Year

November 8, 2025

A joint team representing **Mongolia and China** proudly took part in the World Evaluation Case Competition (WECC 2025)—marking our **4th consecutive year of participation**.

Team Performance:

- Demonstrated **strong youth collaboration** between Mongolia and China Showcased **analytical rigor** in evaluation methodology
- Embodied the **spirit of evaluation that transcends borders**
- Built on previous successes: Mongolia was **Asia Champion for 3 consecutive years** (2022- 2024)



The competition continues to provide an incredible opportunity for young evaluators to apply their knowledge of evaluation theory in real-world, high-stakes contexts while contributing to organizations working on critical development challenges.

EvalYouth Mongolia Mentorship Programme (EYMMP) 2025

Programme Conclusion - November 23, 2025

On November 23, EvalYouth Mongolia proudly concluded the 2025 Mentorship Programme with the announcement and awarding of the champion team of the first Mongolian Evaluation Case Competition.

 **Congratulations to Team Athena for their impressive achievement!**

Programme Highlights:

- Fostered the **next generation of evaluators** through structured mentorship
- Culminated in the **Mongolian Evaluation Case Competition**
- Provided hands-on evaluation experience and professional development
- **Commitment:** EvalYouth Mongolia remains committed to fostering the next generation of evaluators, and this initiative marks only the beginning of long-term efforts to strengthen youth engagement in the evaluation field

Our heartfelt gratitude to our generous sponsors and partners:

- Mongolian Evaluation Association
- SICA Mongolia
- Lorinet Foundation
- Cognos International LLC
- Ernst & Young Mongolia



FACILITATE STRONG ADMINISTRATION OF MEA

Leadership and Governance

In 2025, MEA significantly enhanced its board structure to improve operational effectiveness and governance. The expanded leadership structure now includes clearly defined roles that were not part of the previous board's framework.

Enhanced Board Structure

Dedicated Leadership Roles:

- **Chair of Evaluation Capacity Development** - Leading training and professional development initiatives
- **Chair of Advocacy & Partnership** - Promoting evaluation at policy and national levels and managing relationships with national and international partners
- **Communication Chair** - Overseeing newsletters, social media, and member communications
- **Chair of Members Engagement** - Managing member recruitment, retention, and engagement
- **Secretary** - Board administration and record-keeping
- **Treasury Chair** - Financial management and sustainability

Young and Emerging Evaluators in Decision-Making

As part of MEA's commitment to promoting Young and Emerging Evaluators (YEEs), the organization has reserved **two slots on its Board of Directors specifically for YEE representatives**—a policy that continues in the current term.

Current YEE Board Representatives:

- **Itgemjit Gankhuyag** - Co-chair of Member Engagement and Communication
- **Khaliunaa Batjargal** - Co-Chair of Communication
- **Uyangaa Munkhbat** - Co-Chair of Members Engagement
- **Myagmartsermaa Delgersaikhan** - Co-Chair of Evaluation Capacity Development

This policy ensures that young voices are not only heard but actively shape the strategic direction of the association, in line with MEA's recognition as a Youth in Evaluation Champion and Legacy Champion.



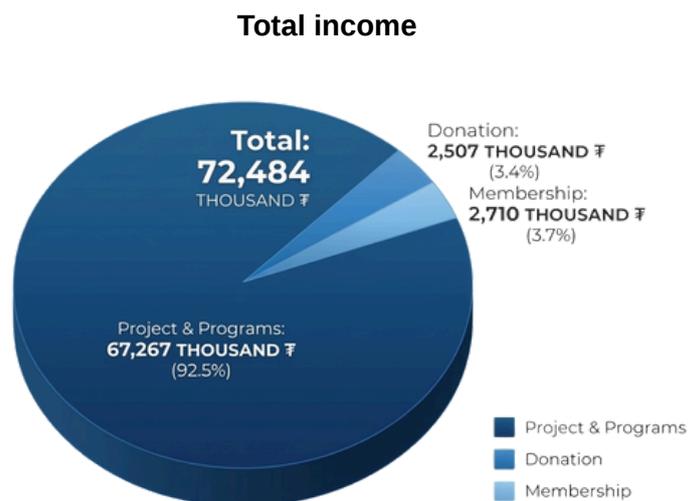
FACILITATE STRONG ADMINISTRATION OF MEA

Financial Performance

MEA continues to strengthen its financial sustainability through diversified revenue streams. The organization introduced its membership fee in April 2023, and in 2025, members continued to support the organization through membership renewals.

Revenue Streams in 2025:

- **Membership Fees:** Individual and institutional member contributions
- **Grants:** APEA/EvalIndigenous Seed Grant ("Germinating Capacity of Indigenous Evaluators"), Ford Foundation support
- **Partnership Support:** DEval scholarships for Summer Bootcamp, training program support
- **Project Funding:** Capacity-building training contracts with organizations (Good Neighbours Mongolia, ADRA Mongolia, etc.)
- **Sponsorships:** Support from SICA Mongolia, Lorinet Foundation, Cognos International LLC, Ernst & Young Mongolia for supporting YEE initiatives



Key Expenditure Areas:

- Project and member activities (Annual Summer Evaluation Bootcamp, conferences, trainings)
- Seed grant project implementation (Elevating Tsaatan Voices)
- Communication and outreach (website update and maintenance, google suit)
- Operational expenses (Board meetings)
- Bank fees and taxes





MEA Communication resources

-  +976 70008563
-  info@mongolianevaluation.mn
-  <https://www.linkedin.com/company/76201504/admin/>
-  <https://twitter.com/MonEvalAssoc>
-  <https://www.facebook.com/MonEvalAssoc/>
-  <https://www.youtube.com/@MonEvalAssoc>
-  www.mongolianevaluation.mn