



Annual Report-2024



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PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

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

Heartfelt greetings from Mongolia and I wish you all a Happy New Year full of happiness and success in your personal and professional lives.

So many wonderful things happened in 2024 with tireless efforts of our outgoing and new Board as well as dedicated members and with the support and collaborations of organizations who cheer us trusting our vision and efforts. We farewelled the year 2024 with 228 members, 7 institutional members, 10 Topical Interest Groups (TIGs) producing 8 Learning Sessions, 11 Newsletters, receiving 2 scholarship (IPDET, AEA travel reward), participating in 2 global campaigns (gLOCAL, Youth in Evaluation Week), and presenting and contributing to 4 international evaluation conferences (ADB's Asia Evaluation Week, UNDP/GEI's National Evaluation Capacities Conference, Lanzhou University's in Evidence-based Sciences Forum, APEA's M&E Academic Symposium), having 2 MoUs with 2 academic institutions (American University's (AU) MS. Measurement and Evaluation and Center for Evidence-based social Science of Lanzhou University), co-organizing 2nd Summer Evaluation Bootcamp with UNICEF and AU, 2 in-person tailor-made trainings, 1 seed grant from APEA/EvalIndigenous, initiated discussion to start MA in M&E at National University of Mongolia, and numerous contributions to various webinars and events organized by our international evaluation community.



Among the highlights of our achievements, becoming a Super Champion for upholding the Youth in Evaluation Standards by Eval4Action and Asian Champions from the World Evaluation Case Competition for the 3rd time in a row are the ones that stand out most as these testify our solidarity in actions to strengthen national evaluation capacity and system in Mongolia.

We look forward to 2025 where we will be deepening our existing partnerships and expanding our cooperation with new partners to operationalize our vision of contributing to promoting professionalizing and institutionalizing evaluation at national level in Mongolia.

From the Mongolian Evaluation Association, we would like to thank you for partnering 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

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

Board of Directors

2024-2027





CREATION OF EVALUATION COMMUNITY

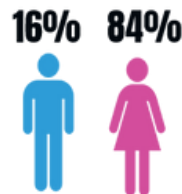
Membership profile

Our members grew by 208% compared to 2022 i.e. grew from 72 members in 2022 to 228 individual members and 7 institutional members in 2024

MEA in 2024

228 members, 9 Board members

- Professional - 212 (93%)
- Student - 16 (7%)

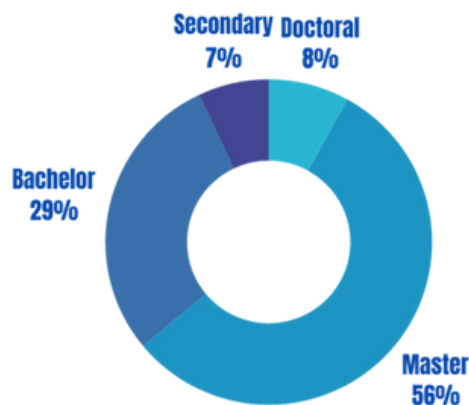


Young and Emerging Evaluators (YEEs) - 50%

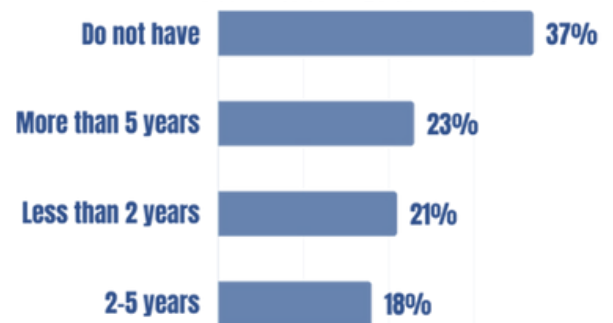
Young under 35 age - 49%

Emerging (less than 5 years experience) - 79%

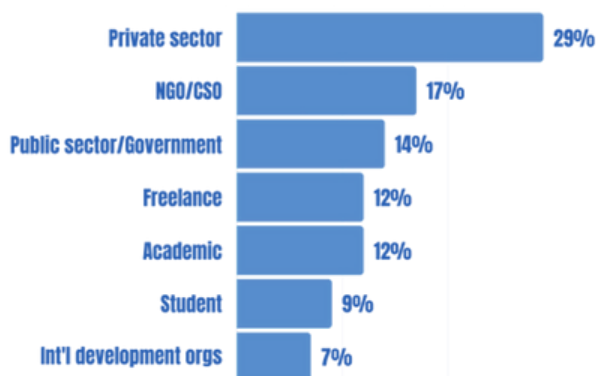
Educational background



Experience in evaluation



Employment sector



7 Institutional members



City

- 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



Top 3 reasons for joining





CREATION OF EVALUATION COMMUNITY

Topical Interest Groups (TIGs)

The Topical Interest Group (TIG) is a platform where members of MEA can deepen their understanding of various sub-fields of evaluation. In 2023, 7 TIGs were established, and in 2024, 3 more were established. ([For more click here](#)).

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



Board of Directors Change

As the term of our previous board members concluded this year, we conducted a recruitment process for new board members. A new team joined the Board of Directors in September 2024, and held meetings to discuss the plan and milestones. The new board members are introduced on page 3.





ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

Learning Sessions

MEA has been organizing online monthly sessions covering various evaluation topics since 2022. This year, we hosted a total of eight learning sessions on the following themes:

1. International Approaches to Program Evaluation & Application to Mongolia
2. Utilization-Focused Evaluation (UFE): A Decision-Making Framework
3. Mainstreaming ESG in Mongolia: Challenges and Opportunities
4. Ripple Effects Mapping (REM): An Overview
5. Nexus of Evaluation and System Thinking
6. Navigating ESG, IMM & MEL Nexus: Strategies for Sustainable Impact
7. Social and Solidarity Economy and MEL Nexus for Sustainable Development
8. Accelerating Progress Towards the 2030 Agenda through Country-Led SDG Evaluations



These sessions featured national and international experts, MEA members, and TIG chairs, and board members as speakers and moderators.

[For more click here.](#)



ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

Monthly Newsletter

MEA has been releasing monthly newsletters since October 2022. These newsletters are distributed to all our members, as well as MEA's friends and supporters. The newsletters highlights key activities from the month, features a member spotlight, and provides updates on upcoming events to keep our community informed and engaged.



[For Monthly Newsletters click here.](#)



ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

M&E Education Curriculum Translation

MEA Board Member Dr. Ganzorig Gonchigsunlaa and member Dr. Ariunaa Dashtseren have translated the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) curriculum, "Enhancing Monitoring and Evaluation Education in Asia Pacific: Curriculum for Academic Courses", published by the Asia Pacific Evaluation Association (APEA). As part of efforts to promote academic education in the region, the curriculum is now available in Mongolian language.



In-person events

Apart from the trainings, and work meetings, this year MEA hosted two special in-person events. In March, we welcomed Ms. Sonia Chand Sandhu, Principal Evaluation Specialist from the Independent Evaluation Department of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), for a session where she shared insights about ADB's evaluation system. In December, we concluded the year with a New Year Party.



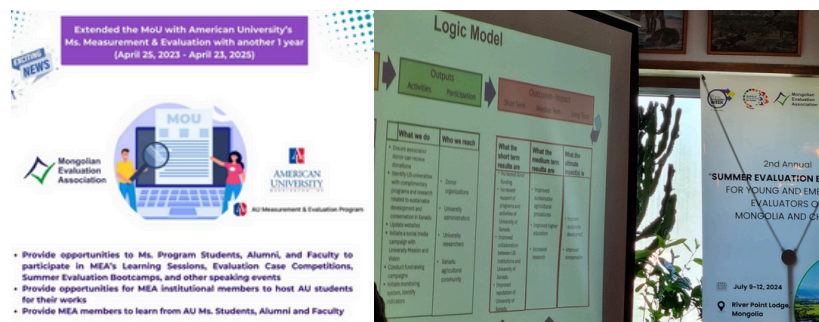


ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

Partnership

Extending Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with American University: MEA signed a MoU in 2023 with the MS in Measurement & Evaluation Program at American University, and extended the agreement for another year in April 2024. As part of this collaboration, students, alumni, and faculty from the program conducted five workshops during MEA's Summer Evaluation Bootcamp.

These workshops focused on the following topics: Logic Models, Most Significant Contribution, Qualitative Analysis using Microsoft Excel and Word, Quantitative Methods in Evaluation, and Complexity in Evaluation



New Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Center for Evidence-based Social Science, Lanzhou University: MEA signed a MoU the Center for Evidence-Based Social Science at Lanzhou University in November 2024 in Lanzhou, China. The five-year partnership aims to strengthen academic exchanges, talent development, and collaborative research between the two institutions. The MoU seeks to jointly promote the research, application, and dissemination of evaluation practices, benefiting evaluators in both Mongolia and China.

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Partnership initiation with DEval: Following our participation in the Asian Evaluation Week and the National Evaluation Capacities Conference, MEA and the German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval) initiated a partnership to explore opportunities for strengthening evaluation capacity in Mongolia. As part of this collaboration, MEA reached out to the Authority for Government Supervision to discuss diagnosing the national evaluation system and introduce the National Evaluation Capacities Index (INCE). Additionally, MEA and DEval have started formalization of our partnership through MOU and to advance monitoring and evaluation (M&E) practices in Mongolia to be signed in January 2025.



ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

Seed Grant Award

MEA has been selected for the "Indigenous Evaluation Knowledge Transfer Activities for the Asia Pacific Region" seed grant for 2024-2025 by the Asia Pacific Evaluation Association. The project, titled "Elevating Tsaatan Voices: Sowing the Seeds of Indigenous Evaluation in Mongolia," focuses on empowering the Tsaatan people, a reindeer-herding community residing in the northernmost part of Mongolia near the Russian border, to actively participate in the formulation and evaluation of conservation policies in their region.

A team of four MEA members, along with a local indigenous collaborator, has begun work on the project. Field data collection was conducted in November in Tsagaannuur soum and the West Taiga Tribe of Khuvsgul aimag. During the visit, the team organized a workshop on Participatory Evaluation for Tsaatan community representatives and facilitated a focus group discussion with 16 participants. Additionally, individual interviews were conducted with elder members in Tsagaannuur soum and families in the East Taiga Tribe. Government representatives also participated, contributing valuable insights to the project's objectives.





ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

Participation in Evaluation Conference and Events

MEA representatives participated in four international evaluation conferences and events in 2024:

1. Asian Evaluation Week (AEW): Organized by the Asian Development Bank in September in Shanghai, China, two delegates—Founder and President Ms. Erdenechimeg Ulziisuren and Board Member Ms. Uugantsetseg Gonchigdorj—attended. Ms. Erdenechimeg delivered presentations at two panel sessions: “Transforming Evaluation Practices in the Asia Pacific through Professionalizing Regional Standards and Code of Ethics” (in collaboration with Asia Pacific Evaluation Association leaders) and “Leveraging Evaluation Capacity Development for Strengthening Transparency and Good Governance,” where she highlighted Mongolia's evaluation capacity development efforts.
2. National Evaluation Capacities (NEC) Conference: Organized by the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office in October, Ms. Erdenechimeg represented MEA in Beijing, China, delivering a presentation titled “VOPE: Bridging as a Knowledge Broker to Advance National Evaluation Capacity and Systems.”
3. American Evaluation Association (AEA) Annual Conference: Held in October in Portland, Oregon, under the theme “Amplifying and Empowering Voices,” MEA members Ms. Oyuna Jukov and Ms. Tseveengerel Amgalan participated. Ms. Tseveengerel, a former government officer in evaluation, was awarded an AEA International Travel Grant and presented her poster titled “Challenges and Strategies in Implementing Results-Based Management in Mongolia.”
4. Evidence-Based Sciences and Knowledge Translation Forum: In November, Ms. Erdenechimeg delivered a presentation on “Evaluator’s Competency Framework, Norms, Standards, and Ethics” at the forum co-organized by the Center for Evidence-based social Science of Lanzhou University in China.
5. Academic Symposium on M&E Education: Organized by the Center for Evaluation (CFE) at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the Asia Pacific Evaluation Association (APEA), the symposium was held in December in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Ms. Uugantsetseg Gonchigdorj participated in a roundtable session titled “Can Academic Courses Help Us in Career Development in M&E: Voices of Youth.”





ENHANCE EVALUATION RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS, AND RESOURCES

Evaluation Capacity Building Activities

Organizational M&E capacity building training: In November, MEA conducted an in-house MEAL capacity-building training for ADRA Mongolia. The training aimed to strengthen evaluation skills and share expertise. Sessions provided a foundational understanding of organizational MEAL practices and included tailored components designed to address specific organizational challenges.



Evaluation training scholarship award: MEA representatives have been participating in the International Program for Development Evaluation Training (IPDET) since 2022. MEA member Ms. Oyundalai Odkhuu was awarded a full-board scholarship for the IPDET 2024 cohort, which she completed from July 14 to 27 at the University of Bern. She began her evaluation career as one of 22 interns in the six-month YEE internship program organized by MEA in 2023. During the program, she attended two specific courses: I-C Quantitative Impact Evaluation and II-b From Insights to Influence: Communication Strategies to Amplify Evaluation Utility.





SUPPORT INDIVIDUAL EVALUATORS, YOUNG & EMERGING EVALUATORS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Youth in Evaluation Week-Summer Evaluation Bootcamp

MEA jointly with EvalYouth Mongolia has actively participated in the annual Youth in Evaluation Week convened by the Eval4Action advocacy campaign since its initiation in 2023. This year, MEA celebrated the campaign from July 8 to 12, 2024, by organizing two events to promote Young and Emerging Evaluators (YEEs). One of these events was the second Summer Evaluation Bootcamp (SEB), which serves as the flagship program aimed at building the capacity of YEEs in evaluation.

The first SEB was held in August 2023 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. This year, we expanded the scope of the second SEB to include YEEs not only from Mongolia but also from China. The three-day in-person training was made possible through our partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), which provided both financial support and resource persons as speakers. Through our partnership within the signed MOU, we collaborated again with American University (AU), with 5 alumni contributing as speakers virtually for the 2nd SEB sessions. Additionally, Professor Howard Whiter from the Center for Evidence-based social Science of Lanzhou University conducted a virtual session on Impact Evaluation.

Among the participants, 4 are working as Monitoring and Evaluation professionals in international organizations such as GIZ Mongolei, the New Development Bank, and a local NGO. Additionally, there were 2 PhD candidates from the Center for Evidence-Based Social Science at Lanzhou University, China, and 1 PhD student from Boston University. The participants also included employees from government entities, private research firms, development projects, and undergraduate students.

Regarding the quality of the sessions, 61.9% rated it with highly satisfying and 38.1% satisfying.





SUPPORT INDIVIDUAL EVALUATORS, YOUNG&EMERGING EVALUATORS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Youth in Evaluation Week-Champion Youth: Good Practices by VOPEs and Youth Organizations

The second event we conducted during the Youth in Evaluation Week campaign was the Youth in Evaluation Champions. MEA and EvalYouth Mongolia organized the global campaign "Youth in Evaluation Week: Champion Youth - Good Practices by VOPEs and Youth Organizations" virtually.

The event aimed to highlight and share successful practices and approaches adopted by VOPEs and youth organizations, providing a platform for learning and inspiration through the experiences and insights of seasoned professionals and young champions in the evaluation sector. We were privileged to have representatives from the evaluation community in Africa, India, Yemen, and Bhutan, who shared their experiences and good practices.

2024 youth in evaluation WEEK
Upholding Youth in Evaluation Standards
8-12 July 2024

Youth in Evaluation Champions:
Good practices by VOPEs and youth organizations

10 July 2024
9AM ET (9PM UTC)
<https://rb.gy/23essu>

Organizing Team

- Anarmas Baatar, Mongolian Evaluation Association
- Enkhjin Natsagdorj, Mongolian Evaluation Association
- Galbedrakh Erdenetsogt, Mongolian Evaluation Association
- Ilgernjit Ganikhuyag, Mongolian Evaluation Association
- Khalunaa Batjargal, Mongolian Evaluation Association
- Lkhagvadulam Chimedamba, Mongolian Evaluation Association
- Oyundalai Odkhui, Mongolian Evaluation Association
- Tushigien Gantuga, Mongolian Evaluation Association
- Asela Kalugampitiya, Evaluation Association
- Rajani Kayastha, Evaluation Association

Best Practices of Youth in Evaluation (Experience VOPE/Youth organizations)

- NASHWAN AHMED**
Founder, EvalYemen
- YATIN DIWAKAR**
Co-Founder, EvalYouth India
- PHUNTSHO CHODEN**
President, Evaluation Association of Bhutan
- EMAN SHADY**,
Member of Egyptian Association Evaluation



SUPPORT INDIVIDUAL EVALUATORS, YOUNG&EMERGING EVALUATORS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

gLocal Evaluation Week-Webinar

MEA has been participating in the gLocal Evaluation Week, organized by the Global Evaluation Initiative, since 2023. This year, the sixth annual gLocal Evaluation Week was held from June 3 to 7. We hosted a webinar titled "How can we strengthen national evaluation capacities and systems in ways that enhance the potential for achieving transformational change?" in partnership with UNICEF, OECD, and WHO.

gLOCAL
EVALUATION WEEK
powered by GEL

WEBINAR

7
JUNE 2024
TIME : 9:00 – 10:00 PM
ULAANBAATAR,
MONGOLIA TIME

#gLOCAL2024

GEL
Global
Evaluation
Initiative

clear
Center for Learning on Evaluation and Results
Associated Office

IEG
Independent Evaluation Group
WORLD BANK GROUP
World Bank • IFC • MIGA

Speaker
Xin Xin Yang
Multi-Country Evaluation
Specialist (China, DPRK,
Mongolia),
UNICEF

Speaker
Megan Grace Kennedy-
Chouane
Head of Evaluation Unit,
Development
Cooperation Directorate
OECD

Speaker
Riccardo Polastro
Chief Evaluation Officer,
World Health
Organization

Speaker
Erdenechimeg
(Chingee) Ulziuren
Founder & President,
Mongolian Evaluation
Association

unicef
for every child

**Mongolian
Evaluation
Association**

OECD

**World Health
Organization**

The speakers discussed the three dimensions of evaluation systems—individual, institutional, and enabling environment—and emphasized the importance of harmonization and coordination in national evaluation systems (NES) efforts. Additionally, the webinar highlighted the taxonomy distinguishing evaluation, monitoring, research, and audit, as well as foundational elements such as the OECD DAC evaluation criteria.



SUPPORT INDIVIDUAL EVALUATORS, YOUNG&EMERGING EVALUATORS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

3rd time Asia Champions of World Evaluation Case Competitions

A team of Mongolian students has been participating in the World Evaluation Case Competition since 2022, and this year, our team 'Progresso' was crowned Asia Champions for the 3rd consecutive time.

This year, the case assignment was revised, presenting the team with new challenges. Despite this, our students performed exceptionally well. Their task was to develop a comprehensive proposal for expanding AfA's internal evaluation capacity to enhance its programming, which includes emergency aid, educational initiatives, and long-term community development projects for displaced individuals in Armenia.



This experience provided an incredible opportunity for the students to apply their knowledge of evaluation theory in a real-world, high-stakes context, while contributing to the growth of a vital organization working on the frontlines of humanitarian aid.





SUPPORT INDIVIDUAL EVALUATORS, YOUNG&EMERGING EVALUATORS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Awarded as a Super Champion promoting Youth in Evaluation

Recognizing our commitment and efforts to promote Young and Emerging Evaluators (YEEs) and empower young people in evaluation, the Mongolian Evaluation Association (MEA) was honored with the prestigious Super Champion Award for upholding the Youth in Evaluation Standards.



MEA proudly became one of the six Super Champions recognized globally. This milestone was celebrated during the inauguration of the second Youth in Evaluation Week on July 8, 2024.





FACILITATE STRONG ADMINISTRATION OF MEA

Leadership roles at MEA

This year, the MEA welcomed new Board of Directors as stated in Chapter 1. The new leadership team has been assigned specific roles to lead and enhance MEA's operations for greater effectiveness. The new leadership structure now includes dedicated roles such as Chair of Capacity Building, Partnership, Advocacy, Communication, Membership, Secretary, and Treasury—positions that were not part of the previous board's framework. This expanded structure reflects MEA's commitment to strengthening its governance and enhancing its operational efficiency.

The team held a planning meeting to outline their strategic priorities. With clearly defined roles, several board members have already taken charge of their respective areas and initiated new projects and activities. Current ongoing projects include organizational capacity-building training, integrating monitoring and evaluation (M&E) into official academic curricula, and enhancing the national evaluation system.

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.

For this term, the two YEE representatives on the board are Ms. Itgemjit Gankhuyag who has been also appointed as Membership Chair and Ms. Khaliunaa Batjargal who has been appointed as Communication Chair, ensuring that the voices of young evaluators are included in MEA's decision-making processes.

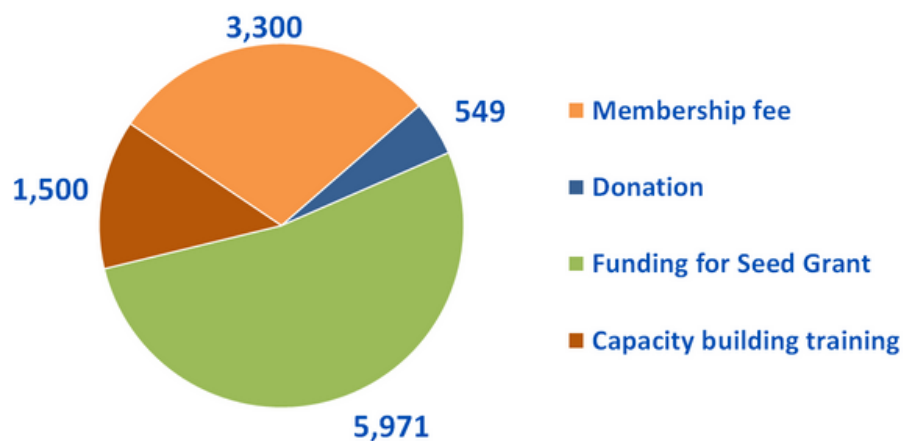


FACILITATE STRONG ADMINISTRATION OF MEA

Financial performance



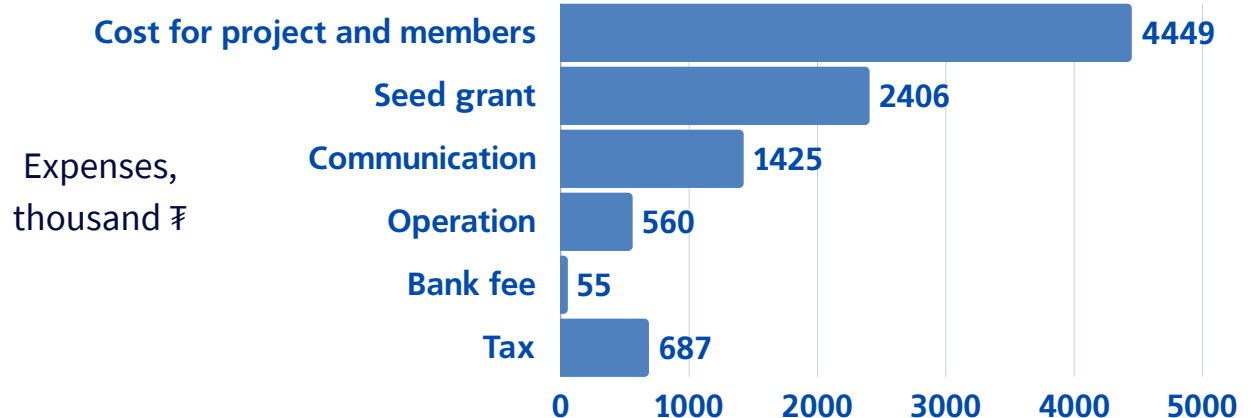
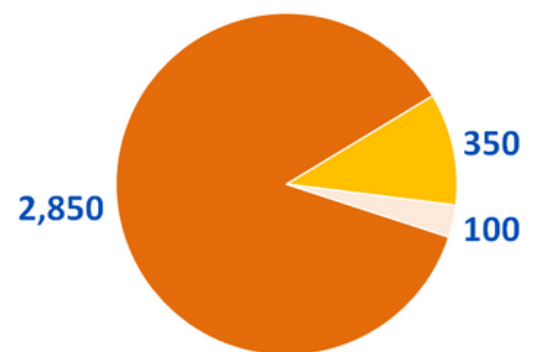
MEA introduced its membership fee in April 2023, and this year, 65% of members have renewed their membership.



Total income,
thousand ₹

Membership fee by
members' type,
thousand ₹

■ Individual member
■ Institutional member
■ Student member



COMMUNICATION RESOURCES

MEA Webpage <https://www.mongolianevaluation.mn/>

MEA Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MonEvalAssoc/>

MEA Strategic plan https://drive.google.com/file/d/1k_jELG1LzXADMx5GP0qNg8cTkgsOhEB/view

MEA LinkedIn page <https://www.linkedin.com/company/mongolian-evaluation-association/>

MEA Twitter <https://twitter.com/MonEvalAssoc>

MEA YouTube Channel <https://youtube.com/@MonEvalAssoc>

MEA Membership policy <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hTudgbIKzkOkE71rVORdyd9V0W1AUCcu/view>

EvalYouth Mongolia Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/evalyouthmongol/>

EvalYouth Mongolia LinkedIn page https://mn.linkedin.com/in/evalyouth-mongolia-180664263?trk=public_post_feed-actor-name

EvalYouth Mongolia Twitter <https://twitter.com/evalyouthmongol>



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