Editorial: Making 2015 Year of Evaluation a Collective Success

Year 2014 has been a very productive year in terms of strengthening enabling environment for evaluation. Foundation has been laid from UN Resolution on evaluation to the establishment of national evaluation policies at country level. VOPEs around the world have been actively engaged in promoting evaluation culture together with respective governments and other stakeholders. This is the year parliamentarians became a global force in strengthening evaluation culture. The foundation has been laid to launch Global Parliamentarians Forum for Evaluation in this year. It’s now up to each of us to make sure the International Year of Evaluation a great success by helping to further strengthen enabling environment for evaluation at global, regional and country level. And we are already on a strong track!

Marco Segone and Natalia Kosheleva, EvalPartners Co-chairs

Evaluation Torch Starts Moving from January

During EvalYear, we will carry a virtual “2015 evaluation torch” to link the discussions that will happen all over the world around the four selected themes for EvalYear. The “2015 evaluation torch” that can/should be customized to the local culture/language/context, will symbolize that we are united in strengthening evaluation.

We encourage every evaluation gathering to include: A ceremony of bringing in the Evaluation Torch (created locally in each gathering, or using/adapting a virtual one); Use the evaluation torch to brand the festivities you create locally—e.g. agenda, messages, slides, etc; A process of discussing messages about the four EvalYear themes received from previous evaluation gatherings, and generating new messages to share with following evaluation gatherings; A ceremony for passing on the Evaluation Torch to other evaluation gatherings. The 2015 evaluation torch finally goes to Kathmandu where the Global Evaluation Week will be held.

Evaluation Torch Lighted at United Nations

EvalYear Map

If your organization and/or VOPE is planning a major event, please upload it to the virtual crowd world map available online.

In 2015 Evaluation Torch Move to

New Delhi, India

India Evaluation Week organized by IAMR and Planning Commission of India being held from 19-23 January 2015 in New Delhi, India

Abidjan, Ivory Coast

1ERE Journées Ivoirienes de l’Evaluation, 09-10 et 11 février 2015, Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire, Réseau Ivoirien de Suivi et
On 17 December 2014, Ambassador Thomson of Fiji Mission to the United Nations (sponsor of the UN resolution on National Capacity Development), Deborah Rugg (UNEG Chair and OIOS Evaluation Director) and Marco Segone (EvalPartners co-chair and UN Women Evaluation Director) lighted the 2015 International Year Evaluation Torch. The torch was then passed on to Indran Naidoo (UNDP Evaluation Director), Colin Kirk (UNICEF Evaluation Director), Scott Green (OCHA Evaluation Director), Navis Hanif (UN DESA), Andrea Cook (UNFPA Evaluation Director), Vincent Herlihy (Mission of Ireland), Rafael Lourenço Beleboni (Mission of Brazil) and Peni Suveinakama (Mission of Fiji).

The torch will be symbolically passed on to the global evaluation community throughout the 24 events scheduled all over the world to celebrate the International Year of Evaluation, starting with the India Evaluation Week scheduled for January.

VOPEs Lighted Evaluation Torch in Bishkek

On December 11, 2014 representatives of five VOPEs - from Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Russia, Tajikistan and United States - attending a seminar in Bishkek concluded the discussion of the Global Evaluation Agenda 2016-2020 and plans for its implementation in the CIS region by lighting five EvalYear torches. Then the fire of EvalYear was shared among all seminar participants to symbolize their commitment.
Use of Social Media in EvalYear

It would be great to use social media to maximize the impact of your event and EvalYear 2015. Some of the suggestions may be to: Use Facebook by posting pictures and updates; Post blogs on related websites and on the LinkedIn discussion groups; Tweet about them and encourage social media network to repost and reblog; Promote EvalYear to the top of the Tweeter pyramid by using it again and again; Connect with government evaluation office Twitter and Facebook accounts and blog websites and keep linking them, and commenting on their posts. Messages can be on an evaluation topic such as the theme for your event, your thoughts for EvalYear, evaluation issues in your region, the post-2015 agenda, the value of P2P collaboration, excellence in evaluation, etc. Also we would suggest to make some video clips of the event and share them virtually. Please use #EvalYear in tweets. Also you might create a short event hashtag to be used together. EvalPartners social media team is available and willing to help you in this regard;

Esteban Tapella - etapella@gmail.com - specially video creations
Tessie Catsambas - tcatsambas@encompassworld.com - specially Tweets
Pablo Rodríguez- Bilella - pablo67@gmail.com - Social media in general
Ritu B. Nanda - rituubnanda@feministevaluation.org - blogging and social media in general
Rashmi Agrawal - Rashmi_agrawal56@rediffmail.com - to share first experience in Delhi and coordination with event organizers.

Resources/ Useful Links

Your International Year of Evaluation