



Friends of Evaluation for a UNGA Resolution to Promote Country-led Evaluation of the SDGs

Background – limited country-led evaluations of the SDGs

In 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, UNICEF, the International Institute for Evaluation in Development (IIED), and the EvalSDGs network¹ first tabled the idea of a new resolution to *Promote Country-led Evaluations of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*. By then, it was already clear that while mentioned in the 2030 Agenda, very few countries had conducted evaluations of the SDGs at the national level or reported on such activities at the High-Level Political Forum.

A new resolution to accelerate national progress towards the SDGs

The current COVID-19 crisis calls for greater national ownership of evaluation to accelerate the SDGs. Countries are fast losing ground in their efforts to achieve their national targets. Evolving consensus from the grassroots up by various Member States, UN agencies, and other partners affirm that a *UNGA resolution is needed to better articulate the why and how of effectively putting countries in the driver's seat in leading evaluations that are useful to them in their contexts.*

A new UNGA Resolution that scales up Country-led Evaluations aligned with the Voluntary National Review process, will provide leaders with the critical evidence and insights needed to accelerate SDG action, because, now more than ever evidence matters.

To capitalize on the energy already created for evaluation and speed up the much-needed country level activities, Nigeria, Finland, and an expanding number of governments worldwide, UN agencies and civil society partners see growing momentum for this Resolution and are driving it forward in 2021.

Nigeria invites Member States to join the informal Friends of Evaluation Group

The Government of Nigeria, who is in strong support of strengthening the national evaluation system, placing the evaluation function at the centre of their government's work, cordially invites other countries to join the global efforts in raising awareness and advocating for a new UNGA resolution on Country-led Evaluation of the SDGs by joining the informal **Friends of Evaluation Group**.

What is expected of the informal Friends of Evaluation Group?

As a supporter of the UNGA to Promote Country-led Evaluations, friends of this initiative will:

1. Participate in virtual consultations, seek engagement of others and share the draft resolution
2. Contribute to preparing the resolution side-event at the HLPF and other events (Apr-June)
3. Participate in the July HLPF side-event and consultations to finalize the resolution (July-Aug)
4. Join in tabling the new Resolution with the 2nd Committee (mid-September)
5. Attend formal 2nd Committee Sessions negotiating the approval of the Resolution (Oct-Nov)

Further reading

- Download the [Explanatory Note](#) & [Annexes](#) about the proposed Resolution
- Download the key messages [here](#); and watch the video [here](#)
- Visit the [Evidence Matters microsite](#) for background information

¹ [EVALSDGs: Evaluation to connect national priorities with the SDGs](#)