FEBRUARY 2017 NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT UPDATE: NO ONE LEFT BEHIND, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO EVALUATE SDGS WITH AN EQUITY-FOCUSSED AND GENDER RESPONSIVE LENS FOR KENYA

Partners: The Government of Kenya through the Monitoring and Evaluation Department (MED), the Kenya School of Government (KSG), the Kenya National Assembly’s Caucas and the Evaluation Society of Kenya (ESK).

1. **Curriculum Review and Revision Component with KSG:**
   - As last reported, activities and implementation timelines related to this component have been delayed due to inevitable circumstances.
   - New consultant reviewed and revised M&E manuals by (facilitator’s guide and participants’ manual) consultatively, from gender and HRS dimensions. This was by mid November 2016.
   - The revised manuals were validated at stakeholders’ workshop in November 2016.
   - The consultant accordingly, finalized the manuals based on workshop comments and input. She has been paid her honoraria fee.
   - The revised manuals will be pilot tested in a week-long training planned for the week of 21st March. The participants will be drawn from national and county government levels as well as ESK members. The ESK members will be paid-up for by the project while the government counterparts will be paid-up for by development partners under KSG are other funding arrangements. It is expected that the training may act as an opportunity to further, refine the manual.

2. **Parliamentary Component:**
   - This activity involves parliamentary advocacy towards Gender and social equity evaluation. The target audiences are MPs, senators, media, government (MED), parliamentary support staff and ESK members. The activity has entailed lengthy high level lobbying to get it going including at high levels of the Ministry of Devolution and Planning as well as parliament/senate.
   - The activities and implementation timelines of this component have kept on changing due to inevitable circumstances. Accordingly, a shift was made from the earlier planned participation of the target audience from the 2016 National M&E in November to a breakfast meeting in Dec 2016. This was however, post poned last minute as the legislators went on a sudden recess until February.
   - The new date for the breakfast event is now 2nd March. The venue had already been booked and paid –up for using ESK alternative funds to be refunded by this project upon disbursement of the next tranche (which was confirmed to have hit account last week).

3. **Media Component:**
- This component was finally implemented in November 2016. The initial proposed feature and timelines changed. The Nation Media made a new proposal which was approved by EvalPartners and the advertising feature was published in November 2016 (attached). Prior to this an opinion piece free of charge on promoting M&E (as part of the proposal commitments was published in the Business Daily link below): http://www.businessdailyafrica.com/Opinion-and-Analysis/Monitoring-and-evaluation-can-help-spur-growth/539548-3448268-fin2i4z/index.html

4. **Other Activities that are now under implementation based on the now revised approved budget:**

- Production and dissemination of EvalSDGs/EvalGender+ IEC materials.
- Organisation and holding of national stakeholders EvalGender+/EvalSDGs advocacy event.
- Conducting EvalGender+/EvalSDGs advocacy events in 2 counties.

5. **Challenges**

As outlined below, this project has been characterised by inevitable delays in the activities and implementation timelines as well as budget revisions. These have been communicated, accordingly to the IOCE/EvalPartners secretariat.

This is attributed to the nature of the high level stakeholders/partners the Society is collaborating with, in the scheme of things. We have had to fit into their contexts. The delays are however, worth the while as engaging with such partners is growing the ESK brand into a respected national and relevant institution to the country’s development agenda.

In the absence of a secretariat, the project is being co-ordinated (including providing technical support where necessary) on a voluntary basis by the chair of ESK. It is compounded by the fact that it is done in the midst of other competing priorities.