Workshop on the Development of Equity Focused and Gender Responsive Evaluation Guideline for Cambodia, 22-26 August 2016, Angkor Century Hotel, Siem Reap, Cambodia

**Background:**

Cambodia organized a workshop on the Development of Equity Focused and Gender Responsive Evaluation Guideline for Cambodia, 22-26 August 2016, in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The purpose of the workshop was to draft national equity-focused and gender-responsive evaluation guidelines for the evaluation of Cambodian SDGs, National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) and strategic programmes. Representatives from different agencies including the national monitoring and evaluation working group, Cambodia Evaluation Society (CamES), national evaluation consultants, development partners and UN agencies such as UNFPA, UNICEF and UN Women. This workshop was financially supported by the EvalGender+, and technically supported by UN Women and UNICEF.

**Workshop contents:**

On Day 1, the workshop focused on participants’ familiarization with results-based M&E and equity focused and gender responsive evaluations.

On Day 2, first half of the day focused on discussing country-led M&E systems, SDGs and EvalAgenda 2030 as well as sharing the information of international experience of establishing the country-led M&E systems and the current state of affairs with regard to conduction of EFGRE by those countries which have national evaluation policies (formalized/not formalized). Starting from the second half of the day, the joint development of the Guidelines for Cambodia took place. The approach towards development of the Guideline was as follows:

- Short presentation of concrete examples from other countries the different parts of the guidelines, such as objectives of the guidelines, users of the guidelines, roles and responsibilities, etc. in order to show the participants how it could look like;
- The participants were divided into 4 groups and each group based on the provided examples and developed proposals on how one or another section of the guidelines should look like
- After that the discussion/presentations of each group, the agreement was made on the proposed format/wording of different sections of the Guidelines.

they have developed on the last day.

**Achievements and lessons learnt**

The workshop went as smooth as expected, even though a number of planned activities had to be adjusted to accommodate the participants’ expectations and time, and discovery of more relevant documents such as Neary Ratanak IV and MENI guideline during the workshop.

An important lesson learned during this workshop is the need to review and make sure that all relevant documents are available for the facilitator, which will help to achieve the objective smoothly in a limited time. A checklist of documents should be developed and reviewed prior to the workshop.

**Way forward**

The follow-up and schedule for Cambodia are as follows:

1. Preparation of the first full draft guideline by Consultant - by 1 October 2016
2. Review of the draft guideline by workshop participants and provision of comments to the draft - by 1 November 2016
3. Finalization of the guideline by Consultant and incorporation of comments - by 1 December 2016

After we have the zero draft guideline, the continuing supports will be required from the EvalGender+, CamES, and UN agencies such as UN Women and UNICEF in preparing the next technical proposal and technical assistance to improve and final the draft guideline.

After the draft guideline is available, it is recommended that, before having another workshop, the prospective participants/stakeholders should be oriented on the UN Women’s Equity-Focus and Gender-Responsive Evaluation, which would fruitfully contribute to developing and implementing the national EFGRE guideline for Cambodia.