

# WHO South-East Asia Regional Framework for Strengthening Evaluation for Learning and Development 2022



World Health  
Organization

South-East Asian Region



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## Abbreviations and acronyms

CSC	Country Support and Cooperation
DPM	Director Programme Management
EMG	Evaluation Management Group
EO-RD	Executive Officer to the Regional Director
GNE	Global Network on Evaluation
HIS	Health Information System
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NPO	National Professional Officer
PBAC	Programme Budget and Administrative Committee
PFP	Planning Focal Point
PLN	Planning Officer
PMO	Programme Management Officer
PPC	Programme Planning and Coordination unit
R&I	Research and Innovation
RD	Regional Director
RO	Regional Office
SEARO	Regional Office for South-East Asia
ToR	Terms of Reference
TU	Technical Unit
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNGM	United Nations Global Marketplace
WCO	WHO country office
WR	WHO Representative

# 1 Introduction

In May 2018, the Executive Board of WHO considered the draft formal evaluation policy and approved the *Evaluation: evaluation policy (2018)*.<sup>1</sup> The purpose of the new evaluation policy was to foster the culture and use of evaluation across the Organization, and to facilitate conformity of evaluation at WHO with best practices and with the norms and standards for evaluation of the United Nations Evaluation Group.<sup>2</sup> The new evaluation policy provides a framework to ensure the systematic application of the key principles of the United Nations Evaluation Group to the evaluation function in WHO.

The previous WHO South-East Asia Region's Framework for Strengthening Evaluation for Learning and Development (2017) was formulated to guide the WHO Regional Office and country offices in their evaluation work.<sup>3</sup> It was consistent with the WHO Evaluation Policy 2012, Evaluation practice handbook 2013<sup>4</sup> and a framework for strengthening evaluation and organizational learning in WHO, 2015.<sup>5</sup>

This revised framework builds on the lessons learnt from the evaluations conducted in the South-East Asia Region since 2017, consultations with WHO South-East Asia regional departments and WHO country offices of the Region. The objective of this framework is to provide a systematic approach to guide the planning, management and conduct of evaluations at regional and country office levels in line with established and updated organizational policies and best practices. The implementation of this framework is expected to further strengthen the evaluation function in the WHO South-East Asia Region, and mainstream its activities, and ultimately instil a "culture of evaluation" across budget centres that complements other oversight and monitoring functions for continuous improvement of performance, increasing accountability for results, and organizational learning and development.

1 Evaluation: evaluation policy (2018). Executive Board, 143rd session, Agenda item 4.3. EB143(9), 29 May 2018. [https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/EB143/B143\(9\)-en.pdf](https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB143/B143(9)-en.pdf) – accessed 22 Aug 2022.

2 United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG). Available at <http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/1914> - accessed 22 July 2022.

3 WHO South-East Asia regional framework for strengthening evaluation for learning and development. Available at WHO South-East Asia regional framework for strengthening evaluation for learning and development - accessed 22 Aug 2022.

4 WHO Evaluation Practice Handbook. Available at 9789241548687\_eng.pdf;jsessionid=013C0C8046C5BA4D9760EDC356D6196D (who.int) accessed 22 Aug 2022.

5 A framework for strengthening evaluation and organizational learning in WHO. Geneva: World Health Organization. 2015. [http://www.who.int/about/who\\_reform/documents/framework-strengthening-evaluation-organizational-learning](http://www.who.int/about/who_reform/documents/framework-strengthening-evaluation-organizational-learning) - accessed 22 Aug 2022.

## 2. Objective

The objective of this framework is to strengthen the current evaluation functions in the WHO South-East Asia Region, and further mainstream its activities based on the lessons learnt during the past two biennia 2018–2019 and 2020–2021. This will further reinforce the “culture of evaluation” in the South-East Asia Region and ensure that evaluation plays a critical role in improving performance, increasing accountability for results, and promoting organizational learning and development.

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