

COVID-19

UNODC'S APPROACH TO EVALUATION DURING CRISIS

During the COVID19 crisis, IES has, like all our colleagues, been impacted. This crisis will require flexibility and place enhanced emphasis on evaluation and evidence-based programming and decision-making. Despite expected challenges and constraints, IES remains fully engaged and committed to meet the evidence and results oriented needs of UNODC and our stakeholders. Included here are the ways in which IES will respond to the expected challenges and ensure we can contribute to further strengthening accountability and learning during this time.

Priority will be placed on ensuring evaluation-based knowledge effectively contributes to strengthening the design and implementation of UNODC's work.



EVALUATION PLANNING

All current evaluations will continue with adapted evaluation methods and IES will assess evaluation plans in conjunctions with project and programme management. The current crisis requires continued efforts to ensure accountability and learning. However, IES is cognizant of the need to avoid additional workload and is currently considering ways of facilitating time investments and requirements for evaluations. IES will shortly send out a survey to identify evaluation needs and discuss options for addressing them. Evaluation planning will place additional emphasis on having a clear purpose and plan for utilization of evaluation results.

EVALUATION DESIGN AND DATA COLLECTION

Field missions will be restricted for the foreseeable future. While field missions are an excellent source for data collection, other methods can be utilised to ensure that a robust and utilization-focused methodology can be implemented in all evaluations. When safety and health can be confirmed, IES will consider the use of national evaluators for on-the-ground data collection. Evaluations will make use of all options and technologies for stakeholder engagement including virtual meetings, interviews and workshops. IES will identify opportunities to use remote data collection, incl. mobile questionnaires, online surveys and the use and validation of secondary data. These efforts will ensure representation of all stakeholders in the evaluation process, including in particular end recipients. Finally, IES will continue to be actively involved in evaluation networks such as UNEG to seek opportunities for collaboration and share and learn from others.



COMMUNICATE FOR UTILIZATION

It will be more important than ever that evaluation results and knowledge are shared and utilized for strategic learning. IES will continue to present and publish evaluation results and will seek new ways to engage stakeholders, including governments, donors, programme participants and UNODC staff. For example, to the extent possible,



evaluations will provide "real time data" to facilitate adaptive management. Dissemination of evaluation results will focus on promoting knowledge and learning for evidence-based decision-making.