The Independent Evaluation Section (IES) synthesizes and aggregates key evaluation and oversight results across UNODC’s mandated area of work into innovative knowledge products, such as meta-syntheses, contributing to enhanced decision-making, programme design, planning and implementation at UNODC.

WHAT WE OFFER

- **Meta- and Evaluation-Syntheses** for strategic decision-making based on the analysis of a large set of evaluation reports, audits, and other oversight reports, triangulated with primary data collection through e.g., surveys and interviews to ensure high-quality inputs. These can pertain to a specific topic (e.g., counter terrorism), region or country and may be implemented across UN organizations.

- **Rapid assessment and synthesis reviews** for targeted information on one burning question, based on high-quality sampling and analysis of evaluations and oversight reports across UNODC as well as other UN entities, Civil Society Organizations, and academia.

- **Unite Evaluations web-based tool**, to support evaluation and knowledge management across organizations, ensuring efficient processes with clear roles and responsibilities and generating data for further analysis and reporting.

- **Strategic communication of evaluation and oversight results to a wide audience**, including Member States, Civil Society Organizations, academia, experts, and the UN system.

INNOVATIVE IT SYSTEMS

IES invests in innovative IT-based tools, including **Unite Evaluations**, UNODC’s evaluation and knowledge management application. Unite Evaluations is used for all phases and processes of UNODC’s evaluations, as well as facilitates access to evaluation recommendations and lessons learned to support evidence-based decisions at UNODC. The application further supports project managers, evaluators and IES in the management of evaluations, guided by the Unite Evaluations User Manual.

Unite Evaluations is praised by many UN evaluation functions, with the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) highlighting it as a “notable good practice in evaluation management” as well as “a noteworthy example in advancements made for reporting evaluation results vis-à-vis the SDGs”.

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS:

**META-SYNTHESIS & PARTNERSHIPS**

IES has produced meta-syntheses of UNODC evaluation reports since 2014, offering a unique insight into the aggregate results of UNODC evaluations, ensuring that lessons can be learnt at a strategic and programmatic level to foster learning and accountability. In addition, IES produces thematic syntheses, including of UNODC evaluation results on terrorism and crime prevention.

Moreover, IES has an active role in strengthening collaboration within the UN system, with IES having led a joint system-wide meta-synthesis of work under the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy in cooperation with UNOCT and UNICRI. This formed part of a larger strategy for enhanced cooperation between UN organizations on evaluation in the context of the Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Working Group on Resource Mobilisation, Monitoring and Evaluation.

COMMUNICATION

To improve visibility and dissemination of evaluation results, IES has strengthened its communication and advocacy approach, with IES using dedicated communication and knowledge products for tailored briefings to all interested stakeholders.

IES further publishes evaluation results and knowledge products on UNODC’s website, as well as disseminates, shares, and presents key findings at various fora to internal and external stakeholders.

INDEPENDENT EVALUATION SECTION

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