









# **HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM - SIDE EVENT**

# Evaluation to connect the SDGs with national priorities: Learning from Finland and Nigeria

#### **ABOUT**

Evaluation is one of the backbones of the 2030 Agenda 'follow up and review' processes at national and global level. However, it is rarely used to assess national progress towards sustainable development and for the preparation of the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs). The evaluation gap highlights the risk that indicator data will be only collected and reported, and not analyzed within the context of national planning, decision-making and successful implementation.

The event will explore how evaluation can be used at the country level to review relevant national policies and plans to address the underpinning principles of the 2030 agenda and accelerate achievement of the SDGs.

The side event is an opportunity to explore these issues with the real-world experience of government representatives of Finland and Nigeria, which are the first two countries to conduct evaluation of their national policies and plans in the context of the SDGs.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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#### **OBJECTIVES**

The meeting will be aimed at:

- 1. Raising awareness about how evaluation can help in connecting the SDGs with national priorities
- Understanding how evaluation can capture the multidimensional characteristics of the SDGs
- 3. Learning about the role of evaluation in facilitating national policy dialogues and SDGs reporting

# Who should attend

- Government representatives
- Civil society
- Private sector
- Development partners
- Stakeholders who are involved in the follow up and review of SDGs implementation

<u>Opening remarks</u>: Charlotte Petri Gornitzka, UNICEF Deputy Executive Director

Moderator: Dorothy Lucks, EVALSDGs co-chair

#### **Presenters:**

- Sami Pirkkala, Counsellor, Prime Minister's Office, Finland
- Dr. Bala Yusuf Yunusa, Office of the President, Nigeria

## **Discussants:**

- Gonzalo Hernandez Licona, Executive Secretary, CONEVAL, Mexico
- Stefano D'Errico, Head Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning, IIED

<u>Closing remarks</u>: Anu Saxén, Director Evaluation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland