

Making Evaluation Matter

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A new vision

Evaluation has led to deeper insights into development processes, improving programs and informing policy. But, gaps remain:

- Evaluation remains limited to a small number of “experts”
- Uses of evaluation and evaluation questions are too narrow
- There is often a disconnect between evaluation and implementation
- Few forums exist to share, critique & improve evaluation practices
- Evaluation design is often limited (rather than supported) by methods
- Inadequate rigour and quality remains a persistent gap.

Despite, or perhaps because of, these challenges the demand for better practice with more thoughtful use of evaluation is growing. Is the field of evaluation ready to meet the challenges and opportunities that these new demands are generating?

A new vision is emerging of how evaluation can serve development. The diverse and dynamic challenges of development bring in new and more complex questions for evaluation to answer. The growing focus on application and learning is redefining the way evaluation is perceived and practiced. Innovative approaches and methodologies are emerging. To further this vision, a vibrant evaluation community must constantly engage with and create space for critique, debate, and analysis. This calls for greater participation and dialogue amongst evaluation practitioners and users of evaluation.

The Evaluation Conclave will provide an interactive forum for such dialogue. The conclave will bring together sector experts, leading practitioners, thought leaders and development professionals from across the globe. This event will be the first-of-its-kind in South Asia. The conclave will become a regular event on the global evaluation calendar.

The first conclave will be held at New Delhi, INDIA from October 25-28, 2010.



The Evaluation Conclave 2010

www.evaluationconclave.org

25-28 October 2010
The Lalit Hotel,
Barakhamba Avenue
New Delhi, India



Organisers:



Partners:

3ie, DESI, SLEVA & IOCE

Sponsors:





The Evaluation Conclave 2010

Registration

The Conclave registration form can be downloaded from the website (www.evaluationconclave.org). The form with payment details should be sent to contact@evaluationconclave.org. Early registration is encouraged to ensure confirmed participation.

Registration fees covers:

1. Admission to the conference sessions
2. Lunch and refreshments during the conference
3. Conference kit and Certificates

Registration fees can be paid through Demand Draft/Cheque and through wire transfer. Wire transfer details can be obtained by writing to: contact@evaluationconclave.org. Registration fee is inclusive of all taxes.

(Avail 10% discount on group registration of 3 or more participants).

Sl.	Categories	Foreign Delegates	Indian Delegates
1	Multi & Bilateral Donor Agencies /Companies/ Corporations / Government Agencies	US \$720/- Per Participant	INR 33,000/- Per Participant
2	NGOs / CBOs / PVOs / Researchers/Students	US \$600/- Per Participant	INR 27,500/- Per Participant

Refund policy

Request received in writing before 15th September 2010 will be considered for cancellation. A handling charge of 30% would be deducted from the registration fee. Cancellation and refund requests received after 15th September 2010 may not be entertained.

What will the Evaluation Conclave look like?

“Conclave” is an old word that signifies a coming together of key individuals. The Evaluation Conclave will bring together thought leaders from across disciplines and geographies to share ideas. The objective is to build bridges of theory and practice across groups thereby, potentially forming new ones. At the core of the event will be parallel small group workshops on a range of themes; most of them lead by teams of experts from across the globe. Some groups will be 'idea' focussed while others will be practice-oriented. The plenary sessions will bring together the larger group back to connect key conceptual threads.

What is the theme of the Conclave?

“Making Evaluation Matter” is the theme of the first conclave. The theme embodies an idea of evaluation that starts with relevance and context, with a strong understanding of who evaluation should serve.

The theme also reflects an attempt to move away from the methodological polarization currently characterizing the field of evaluation. The theme is methodology neutral, though the need for more innovation in mixed-methods approaches is recognized. Rather than starting from methods, the conclave will examine broader issues of evaluation use and questions deliberate on how evaluation community is, or should begin, addressing these questions.

Making Evaluation Matter

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Who should come?

The event will attract global thinkers engaged in cutting edge evaluation research, theorizing, or practice who seek opportunities to push their thinking in new directions and are interested in applying ideas in a South Asian context. It will include leading development theorists, activists and policy makers from South Asia to embed discussions in current development issues and contexts that evaluation must respond to. The event will be a space to engage with, and test knowledge. The conclave will include around 200 leaders from the global development and evaluation community.

Who's in-charge of the Conclave?

The conclave was conceptualized by the South Asian Community of Evaluators (COE) and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada (www.idrc.ca). The COE is a group of practitioners from South Asia working together strengthening the field of evaluation in South Asia (www.communityofevaluators.com). The Association for Stimulating Knowledge (ASK) (www.askindia.org) and Sambodhi Research & Communications (www.sambodhi.co.in) both COE members, have volunteered to jointly coordinate the event with IDRC as a strategic partner. The Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR) (www.iamrindia.gov.in) is also one of the joint organizers. The Conclave Steering Group includes: Khilesh Chaturvedi, Katherine Hay, Kultar Singh, R S Goyal, Sanjeev Sridharan, Chelladurai Solomon Rashmi Agrawal and the Development Evaluation Society of India. The organizers are interested in drawing participation of other groups.

