



Evidence Building for Achieving SDGs Digital Development and Inclusion

12 – 14 February, 2020

India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

organised by:

Evaluation Community of India



Programme Booklet

About ECOI



Evaluation Community of India (ECOI) was established in 2015. ECOI seeks to promote knowledge sharing in the area of monitoring and evaluation to promote high quality, credible and useful evaluations. Our motto is **‘Share and Learn’**

Vision

To function as a professional community for promoting an evaluation culture that contributes to evidence-based policies focusing on social equity, gender equality and sustainability across India and globally.

Mission

To promote demand for and strengthen theory, practice and utilization of evaluations through knowledge sharing and capacity building involving members, partners and diverse networks following quality standards.

Objectives

- To promote demand for evaluations among all stakeholders including community
- To strengthen robust evaluation practices in diverse disciplines
- To promote equity-focused and gender responsive evaluations
- To strengthen voices and community participation in evaluations
- To develop evaluation capacities among members, key stakeholders and emerging evaluators
- To promote utilization of evaluations to influence programs and policies
- To develop and disseminate knowledge products and promote exchange of learnings
- To foster innovations in evaluation

Governance: ECOI is hosted by Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST). The community is managed by a team of volunteers called - ‘Core Group’. The present Core-Group members are :

- **Alok Srivastava**, Centre for Media Studies (CMS), New Delhi
- **Aniruddha Brahmachari**, Oxfam International
- **BVLN Rao**, Independent Consultant
- **Madhulika Singh**, UN women, New Delhi
- **Nabesh Bohidar**, Care India
- **Rajib Nandi**, Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST), New Delhi
- **Rashmi Agrawal**, Independent Consultant, formerly with NITI Aayog
- **Rituu B Nanda**, Institute of Social Studies Trust and Constellation
- **Sanjay Kumar**, UNFPA, New Delhi

EvalFest 2020

EvalFest 2020 is a three-day event that builds on the experience of previous EvalFest and aims to contribute towards promoting a culture of evaluation through advocacy, and for capacity building by sharing knowledge about best practices, approaches, evaluation methods and innovations that are relevant in the context of global progress towards realization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). ECOI understands that any transformation starts with the stakeholders of development. Therefore, we must embody the new paradigm in our individual evaluation practice so that others can learn and cooperate in this transition. EvalFest 2020 is an opportunity to (i) showcase the roles and activities of individual practitioners, governments and other national and global development organizations in evidence generation and intervention; (ii) participate and contribute in discussions and debates around development policies; (iii) enhance the capacities of individuals and organizations towards building a better monitoring, learning and evaluation ecosystem in India.



Programme Details

Day 1: Wednesday, 12th February, 2020

9.00 am– 9.30 am Registrations
Silver Oak

9.30 am – 11.00 am Opening Ceremony
Silver Oak

Welcome and opening remarks (ECOI)

Lighting of the Lamp by the dignitaries

Journey of ECOI: a short film

Release of the compendium by the Chief Guest: **Pravin Srivastava**, Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI), Govt. of India (GoI)

Address by the Chief Guest

Address by the guest of honour: **Cristina Magro**, Secretary General, IDEAS and
Hon. **Alex Tetteh Djrnobuah**, Duputy Minister, Western North Region, Ghana

Key note address: **Marco Segone**, Director, Evaluation Office, UNFPA

Vote of thanks: ECOI

11.00 am -11.30 am Tea Break

11.30 am – 1.00 pm Plenary Session
SDGs - The progress and challenges
Silver Oak – I&II

Chair: P. Bhanumati, Deputy Director General, Social Statistics Division, MOSPI, Govt of India

Speakers:

Sanjay Kumar, Programme Officer, UNFPA

Sundar Narayan Mishra, Consultant, NITI Aayog, Govt of India

Ajay Shankar Singh, Chief Controller of Accounts, Min of Labour and Employment, GoI

Jyotsna Puri, Head, Independent Evaluation Unit, Green Climate Fund

1.00pm – 1.15 pm A Skit titled “Rojmarha” (Everyday), presented by ISST Yuva Saathi Centre
Silver Oak Courtyard

1.15 pm – 2.00 pm Lunch
Silver Oak – Courtyard

Day 1: Wednesday, 12 February, 2020

2.00 pm – 3.30 pm : Technical Sessions

Silver Oak – I

Gender and Inclusion in Evaluation

Chair: Ratna Jena, Addl. DG, Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India

Speakers:

Nistha Satyam, Deputy Country Representative, UN Women India

Anna Rego, Policy Manager, J-PAL, South Asia

Umi Hanik, Founder, Indonesian Development Evaluation Community

Shivangi Saxena, DMEO, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India

Silver Oak – II

Data and Technology in Evaluation

Chair: Ravi Verma, Regional Director, ICRW, Asia Office, New Delhi

Speakers:

Jitendra Kumar, Advisor, NITI Aayog, Govt of India

Devashree Roychowdhury, Architect and Planner, CTW Consultants Pvt. Ltd, Ahmedabad

Denny John, Evidence Synthesis Specialist, Campbell Collaboration, South Asia, New Delhi

Maulik Chauhan, Managing Director, Trestle Research and Consulting Pvt Ltd

3.30 pm – 4.00 pm Tea Break

4.00 pm – 5.30 pm : Technical Sessions

Silver Oak – I

**Technological advances in measuring impact
(Session organised jointly with 3ie)**

Chair: Francis Rathinam, Senior Evaluation Specialist, 3ie

Speakers:

Harini Kannan, Research Scientist, J-PAL SA

Sreeja Jaiswal, PhD Scholar, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

Silver Oak – II

Role of media in evidence based policy planning

Chair: A.K. Shivakumar

Speakers:

P.N. Vasanti, Director General, CMS, Delhi

Biraj Swain, Contributing Editor, NEWSLAUNDRY

Day 2: Thursday, 13th February, 2020

9.00 am – 9.30am Registrations
Silver Oak I & II

9:30 am – 9:35 am
Silver Oak I & II

First-day Recap Video

9:35 am – 11:00 am Plenary Session

Engaging Stakeholders in National Evaluation Capacities

(Panel organised by UNFPA, ECOI & SLEvA)

Silver Oak I & II

Chair: Marco Segone, Director Evaluation Office, UNFPA

Speakers:

Asela Kalugampitiya, President SLEvA and President APEA

Alok Mishra, Director, Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog, Govt. of India

Yatin Divakar, Ph.D. Scholar, IIT Bombay, Mumbai

Hon. M. Thilakarajah, Member of Parliament, Sri Lanka

Discussant:

Rashmi Agrawal, Member, Core Group, ECOI

11:00 am – 11:30 am Tea Break

Day 2: Thursday, 13th February, 2020

11.30 am – 1.00 pm: Technical Sessions

Silver Oak I

**New Frontiers in Evaluation:
Transformative Evaluations**

Chair: Sekhar Bonu, Director General,
DMEQ, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India

Speakers:

Michael Steffens, EU Delegation to the
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Cristina Magro, Secretary-General,
International Development Evaluation
Association – IDEAS

Sanjeev Sridharan, Country Lead,
Learning Systems & Systems Evaluation,
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, India

Manas Bhattacharya, Senior Manager,
Association for Stimulating Know-how,
ASK, India

Silver Oak II

**Evaluation Thinking and
Evaluation Use (co organised by
Niiti Consulting)**

Moderators: Devyani Srinivasan &
Meena Vaidyanathan, Niiti Consulting

Speakers:

Abraham George, Head of Operations
and Strategy, The Leprosy Mission Trust
India

Manisha Singh, Head of CSR and
Communications, Nokia Networks

Aparna Dua, Senior Manager, Asha
Impact

Ashutosh Jain, DDG, DMEQ, NITI
Aayog, Govt of India

Manjur Mandol, CNES, Guwahati

Graphic Presenter:

Chitra Chandrasekhar, Mographics

Marigold

**The Power of Young and Emerging
Evaluators for Future of
Evaluation (Co-organised with
UNFPA, ECOI, SLEVA, APEA and
EvalYouth)**

Chair: Marco Segone, Director
Evaluation Office, UNFPA

Speakers:

Qudratulla Jahid, Co-leader,
EvalYouth Asia

Dulmina Chamathkara, Co-leader,
EvalYouth Asia, Sri Lanka

Erika Lareza, Co-leader, EvalYouth
Asia, Philippines

Anweshaa Ghosh, YEE, ECOI

Harshala Jambhulkar, Young
Professional, DMEQ, NITI Aayog, GoI

Discussant: Imad Haroon, Co-Chair,
EvalYouth Task force3

Closing Remarks: Asela
Kalugampitiya, President APEA &
President SLEVA

1.00 pm – 1.15 pm: Skit – Say No to Single Use Plastic

Performed by Nakshatra (ISST Saathi Centre)

Nakshatra is a theatre group of young children of six to eleven years

1:15pm – 2:00pm Lunch

Silver Oak - Courtyard

Day 2: Thursday, 13th February, 2020

2:00 pm – 3:30pm: Technical Sessions

Silver Oak I

Evaluation for Multi-Dimensional Poverty with the Lens of LNOB

Chair: Sachin Chaturvedi, Research and Information System for Developing Countries, New Delhi

Speakers:

P.K. Anand, former Advisor, NITI

Aayog, Govt. of India

Maaïke Bijker, Research and evaluation Specialist, UNICEF India

Vasundhara Thakur, Senior Global MEL Manager, One Acre Fund

Abhay Kumar, Head – Evidence and Results, World Food Programme

Silver Oak II

**Session by J-PAL/CLEAR:
Achieving food security and pathways for improved nutrition in India: Insights from Global Evidence**

Moderator: Shagun Sabarwal,

Director-Policy, Training, and Communications, J-PAL SA

Speakers:

Alok Kumar, Adviser, NITI Aayog, Govt of India.

Urvashi Wattal, Senior Policy & Training Manager, J-PAL SA at IFMR

Tanya Kak, Senior Policy Associate at Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)

Kalyani Raghunathan, Research Fellow, IFPRI

A.K. Padhee, Director, Country Relations, ICRISAT

Marigold

Evaluation Methodologies: Innovations and Experiments

Chair: Mallika Samaranayake, Chairperson, Institute for Participatory Interaction in Development (IPID), Colombo

Speakers:

Anand Trivedi, Consultant, DMEQ, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India

Shyam Singh, Associate Professor, IRMA

Archana Kumar, Associate Professor, Lady Irwin College, Delhi University

Mubashira Zaidi, Research Analyst, ISST

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Tea Break

Day 2: Thursday, 13th February, 2020

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm: Technical Sessions

Silver Oak I	Silver Oak II	Marigold
Evaluating the Anthropocene and climate change adaptation for Sustainable Development	Professionalism and Ethics in Evaluation	Outcome Monitoring and Evaluation: Opportunities, Challenges & Way Forward
Chair: Prashanth Kotturi , Evaluation Research Analyst, IFAD	Chair: P.N. Vasanti , Director, Centre for Media Studies, New Delhi	Chair: Krishna Kumar , Visiting Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)
Speakers:	Speakers:	Speakers:
Jyotsna Puri , Head, Independent Evaluation Unit, Green Climate Fund	Nikola Balvin , Research and Evaluation Specialist, UNICEF	Shubh Kumar Range , Independent Consultant
Vinod B. Mathur , Chairperson, National Biodiversity Authority, India	Susan Tamondong , Quality Assurance Expert, FCG Swedish Development AB	Rajendra P Bharati , Director, Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute, Bareilly
Sumitra K. M&E Lead, DME0, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India	Jennifer Mutua , M&E Specialist, Evaluation Society of Kenya	Anand Trivedi , Consultant, DME0, NITI Aayog, GoI
Karon Shaiva , Chief Impact Officer & MD, Idobro Impact Solutions	Harkiran Sanjeevi , Deputy Director General, DME0, NITI Aayog, GoI	John Lawson , Senior Advisor, Grant Thornton
		Nithiya Muthusamy , Senior Manager at IDinsight, New Delhi

Day 3: Friday, 14th February, 2020

**9:00 am – 9:30 am: Registration
Silver Oak I & II**

**9:30 am – 9:35 am
Silver Oak I & II**

Second-day Recap (slide show)

9:35 am – 11:00 am Plenary Session

Country Perspective and National Evaluation – A discussion with the Parliamentarians

Silver Oak I & II

Chair: Hon. K. C. Ramamurthy, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), India

Speakers:

Hon. Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), India (TBC)

Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe, Member of Parliament, Sri Lanka

Hon. Alex Tetteh Djornobuah, Deputy Minister- Western North Region, Ghana

Mr. Phanseyha Mel, Chief of Multilateral Relations Office, Department of Protocol and International Relations,
Cambodian Senate (TBC)

Mr. Ganapati Ojha, Chairperson, Community of Evaluators, South Asia

Discussant:

Mr. Marco Segone, Director, Evaluation, UNFPA

11:00 am – 11:30am Tea Break

Day 3: Friday, 14th February 2020

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Innovation Bazaar

Silver Oak I & II

Moderators:

Banda Rao, Independent Consultant & **Rituu B Nanda**- ISST, Constellation and Global Fund for Children

Presenters:

Archna Kumar, Pooja Ichplani, Shweta Vij, Mridula Seth and Sabhya Juneja- Lady Irwin College, Univ. of Delhi

Cristina Magro, Secretary-General, International Development Evaluation Association – IDEAS, Brazil

Debdatta Purkayastha, Mumbai Mobile Creches, Mumbai

Disha Saraf and Abhishek Gupta, The QED Group LLC, New Delhi

Itishree Sahoo, Oxfam India, Delhi

Madri Jansen van Rensburg, Resilience Analysis Consulting, South Africa

Paramita Dasgupta and Alok Srivastava, Centre for Media Studies, Delhi

Umi Hanik, MONEV Studio, Philippines

Sneha Krishnan, ETCH

T Sushumna Rao and D Rama Rao, Pandit Jayashankar Telangana State Agriculture University, Hyderabad

1:00 pm – 2:00pm Lunch

Silver Oak – Courtyard

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Closing Ceremony

Silver Oak I & II

Recap

Chair: Yogesh Suri, Senior Advisor, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India

Speaker: Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General, RIS

Vote of Thanks: ECOI

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Tea/Coffee

12th-14th February, 2020

Poster Presentations

1. Dulmina Chamatkara, Sri Lanka Evaluation Association
2. Ayesha Datta and Anwesha Ghosh, Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST)
3. Mridula Bhargava, Ramaiah International Centre for Public Health Innovations (RICPHI)
4. Nidhi Arora, PhD. Scholar, Lady Irwin College, University of Delhi
5. P K Gautam, Institutional Capacity Building with Bihar Rural Livelihoods Projects (BRLP)
6. Sabhya Juneja, PhD. Scholar, Lady Irwin College, University of Delhi
7. Cristina Magro, International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS)
8. Evaluation Association of Bhutan

Session Details

Day 1: 12 February

11:30 – 1:00 12 February 2020

Silver Oak I & II

Plenary Session: SDGs-The progress and challenges

A number of global forums including the UN are reviewing successes, challenges and lessons learned on achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – and for countries to present their Voluntary National Reviews. The targets of SDGs have been the guiding posts for governments to plan their agendas and develop the indicators. In order to achieving the goals of SDGs, we need to look at the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. Therefore, it is crucial for evaluation communities to understand and have better clarity on the roles for different stakeholders and how they are progressing towards achieving the goals and challenges they are facing. This plenary session will examine the general trends and assess the current standing on SDG evaluations in India and other countries. The panel will also discuss how the regular monitoring and evaluations of SDGs will help national development, and will explore the potential role of the evaluation communities at large and others in advancing the development process in near future. It would highlight as to how SDGs activities are prioritised at national/local levels and whether appropriate measures have been taken up to assess results.

1:00 - 1:15 12 February, 2020

Silver Oak Courtyard

Rojmarha (A skit performed by the theatre group of ISST Yuva Saathi Centre)

The play is about how patriarchy operates through different power structures. It illuminates the fact that how it is deeply rooted in our everyday lives and how different structures enables it to work without letting people to question the norms.

This play depicts a usual life of a girl where she is being confronted by various lived characters like her mother, brother where her mother expects her to get involved in the domestic work and slams her when she compares herself with her brother and then there are some un-lived (metaphorical) characters like zimmedari (responsibility) who is there to continuously remind the girl that how she is bound to do certain tasks just because she is a girl. Then she is followed by security all the time which claims to be her guide and is there for her protection and tells her what is right and what is not. Ultimately all this becomes a question of pratishta (izzat) which she is responsible to hold as being a girl and daughter of the family.

In the end, patriarchy informs the girl that she must abide by certain rules which has been formed in the society and she can't question this structure as it is fixed, and it is for her good only. In response, she tells patriarchy that the norm is not fixed, it has been socially constructed by all these structures, which are stopping her, taking away her freedom to lead the life as she feels like. Moreover, the structures have been made for the convenience of the people who are reinforcing it in various ways and not for her good. She asserts that she is not going to follow the norms and would do what makes her comfortable. In the last scene, the household work is being done by her brother and herself and everyone realizes that it is the responsibility of everyone in the house and not just the responsibility of the mother and the daughter.

2:00 - 3:30 12 February, 2020

Silver Oak I

Technical Session: Gender and Inclusion

Gender issues in development not only relate to ensuring access to opportunities and resources to women but also call for a change in stereotype mindset and behaviour towards women and other genders. Gender equality lies at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which recognizes that achieving gender equality is a matter of human rights and is crucial to progress across all the goals and targets. While being a goal in its own right, gender cuts across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals and is reflected in 45 targets and 54 indicators for the SDGs. Evidence shows that gender inclusion is critical to achieving a wide range of objectives pertaining to sustainable development. Recurring obstacles in activity design and implementation include: lack of attention to gender issues in design, specifically lack of baseline data, lack of participation by women and poor, lack of gender and social analysis expertise, and a failure to address gender issues at the level of activity objectives. The key areas needed to accelerate progress for achieving SDGs, and also need to focus on gender inclusion and responsiveness are: (i) enhancing women's agency, capabilities and participation in decision-making processes; (ii) eliminating gender-based violence and discrimination; (iii) transforming power relations at all levels of society. This requires political will and stronger multi-stakeholder collaboration, involving not only national and local governments, but also civil society, the private sector, academia and the media. It also requires appropriate methodology and

tools to evaluate these changes. In this session an effort would be made to explore areas that help to answer - Are our policy documents gender responsive? Do policies and programmes address gender issues adequately? Do we have capacities to evaluate with EFGR (Equity focussed Gender Responsive) focus? Building partnerships on gender equality through dialogue emerges as a most urgent matter from a few recent findings. Are we ready for this?

2:00 - 3:30 12 February 2020

Silver Oak II

Technical Session: Data and Technology in Evaluation

Evaluation practice is no longer limited to pencil and paper questionnaires, today technological advances allow evaluators to collect data with handheld devices, visualize information in interactive ways, and communicate instantaneously with stakeholders across the globe. Technologies like mobile phones, radios, Internet platforms and GPS trackers promise new solutions for collecting vital data or tracking implementation of projects across sectors. These advances have changed how we conduct our practice and they will continue to redefine how we design our evaluations, interact with stakeholders, and communicate our findings. There are few published articles that examine the interface between evaluation and technology. The technological tools and more recently AI in evaluations is being used by evaluators. This session focuses on big data sets, its generation, management and usage, with references to new technologies, its advances and emerging challenges but not limited to access and affordability. Several challenges must be addressed when considering whether and how to incorporate new technologies into development evaluation including the limitations in addressing the critical developmental issues including sustainable environment.

4:00 - 5:30 12 February, 2020

Silver Oak I

Technical Session: Technological advances in measuring impact (organised jointly with 3ie)

Despite technological advances in gathering, storing, processing and analysing data, the development community currently relies mostly on traditional methods and sources to measure development outcomes such as household surveys and administrative records. Technological advances and opportunities to use data from unconventional sources such as satellite imagery, remote sensing and mobile technology are largely unexploited in international development literature. Over the last 10 years, 3ie has funded a number of studies that use digital technology to gather data innovatively and cheaply to measure impact of an intervention in LMICs across the world. In this session we will present and discuss 3ie-funded studies based in India that use technology and big data in different ways. The panel will discuss the innovative methods used in these studies, challenges and learning from using such methods.

4:00 - 5:30 12 February, 2020

Silver Oak II

Technical Session: Role of media in evidence based policy planning

Polymaking is a political process, affected by various social and economic factors. Media is a significant contributor to the process of government policy-making both through collecting and presenting evidences on one hand and providing a forum for debate on public issues on the other. Through the media, citizens learn how government policies will affect them, and governments gain feedback on their policies and programs. The media acts as the primary conduit between those who want to influence policy and policymakers controlling the scope of political discourse and regulating the flow of information. The panel is a group of media personalities sharing their stories and ideas through an interactive session with the participants.

Session Details

Day 2: 13 February 2020

9:35 – 11:00 13 February, 2020

Silver Oak I & II

Plenary: Engaging Stakeholders in National Evaluation Capacities (event jointly organised by UNFPA, ECOI and SLEvA)

Evaluation is an essential aspect of good governance, improving learning and development effectiveness, transparency, accountability, and informed decision making. In this context, the role of evaluation must not simply be perceived as one of normative nature, but rather as one of essential and functional importance to the mandate of global development community. To change the mindset on evaluation, it requires striking balance between accountability and learning as well as ensuring that evaluation exercises are more adaptive, innovative and context specific. It also requires that the findings, conclusions and lessons stemming from evaluative exercises are timely, so that they can add value to strategic decision-making, programme refinement, and result reporting. Developing National Evaluation Capacity (NEC) in the SDGs era brings four dynamic and interrelated challenges. These are: developing a National Evaluation Policy, setting up the institutional processes, securing adequate evaluation capabilities and engaging with partners. The challenges affect both the supply of sound evaluations for development plans and also the demand for their relevant and useful evidence, which in turn informs national policy development. This session will highlight the critical areas to consider when developing national evaluation capacities on effective evaluation for the SDGs.

11:30 - 1:00 13 February 2020

Silver Oak I

Technical Session: New Frontiers in Evaluation: Transformative Evaluations

The world as a global system has changed significantly in the past decade both with rising inequality, conflict and insecurity, migration, and climate change on one hand and innovations of new technologies new perspectives on the other. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development sets out a holistic approach, cognizant of the interconnectedness between society, economy, technology and the environment. The New Frontiers for Evaluation initiative aims to encourage debate and promote innovation and foster alliances to identify, design, intervene and pilot context-specific evaluation that will meet the demands for impact evidence in development programmes with a lens of left no one behind. Therefore, the global changes provide both an opportunity and a significant evaluative challenge for those who have operated within the traditional sphere of development practice. This session considers new frontiers for the evaluation profession in terms of methodology, engagement with new actors, and how best to provide evaluative evidence within complex and rapidly changing contexts. It is understandable that responding to global challenges requires more than just methodological improvement and innovation. There is a need for a bolder evaluation agenda with an objective towards bringing transformative changes and connect people and societies.

11:30 - 1:00 13 February, 2020

Silver Oak II

Technical Session: Evaluation Thinking and Evaluation Use (co organised by Niiti Consulting)

The true promise of evaluation lies in its use to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of social change initiatives. Yet, evaluations often fall short of this promise because their findings and recommendations are not acted upon. If the recommendations of evaluators can be implemented on the ground, social change can be more sustainable and programmes can be made more efficient and effective, which will benefit all stakeholders, and most of all, the participating communities. The session will highlight

- Challenges faced by multiple stakeholders, but in particular implementation partners, in implementing or otherwise evaluation recommendations and the reasons thereof.
- Potential strategies in general and more specifically the role of promoting evaluative thinking to address these issues

Technical Session: The Power of Young and Emerging Evaluators for Future of Evaluation (Session jointly organised with UNFPA, EvalYouth, APEA and SLEvA)

Evaluation's most vital long-term goal is to contribute to sustainable and equitable development. This goal depends on the production of high-quality evaluations that meet standards for quality dimensions such as utility, feasibility, propriety, accuracy, and evaluation accountability. However, youth and young people - extremely important stakeholders of development, are historically and frequently absent from evaluations of policies and programs that impact them. If SDGs are to be fully realized, it is essential to prioritize the inclusion of youth and young people in evaluation processes. The need to include youth and young people in evaluation raises a secondary challenge for worldwide evaluators and those who commission and use evaluations. The objective of the session is to learn from voices of young and emerging evaluators and how their capacity building ensures better future evaluators to achieve the larger goals of promoting the inclusion of YEEs in evaluations conducted at the national, regional and international levels and to empower YEEs to become competent, experienced and well-networked professionals who contribute to evaluation capacity at national, regional and international levels.

2:00 – 3:30 13 February 2020

Silver Oak I

Technical Session: Evaluation for Multi-Dimensional Poverty with the Lens of LNOB

A transformational development agenda, premised on the ambition to eliminate poverty and rooted in a sustainability framework of complexity, inter-dependence and multi-dimensional development, requires a systematic measurement for poverty that is as nuanced and lucid as the 2030 Agenda itself. UN Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs at the General Assembly in September 2015. The Agenda's Goals and Targets are universal – for all nations and all people – and endeavour to reach the furthest behind first, an idea reinforced by the Agenda's simple yet powerful commitment to ensure that no one is left behind (NOLB). Through this shared framework, countries have acknowledged that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions is the world's greatest global challenge. They have committed to ending poverty everywhere by 2030, an aspiration captured explicitly in the targets and indicators of SDG-1, to end poverty in all its forms everywhere, and echoed across each of the other Goals. This session will address some critical issues centred around poverty including some interesting findings from the studies and valuable methodological learnings for designing an evaluation measuring “multi-dimensional” impact.

2:00 – 3:30 13 February 2020

Silver Oak II

Technical Session: Achieving food security and pathways for improved nutrition in India: Insights from Global Evidence (jointly organised with J-PAL/CLEAR)

Globally, 45% of deaths among children under the age of 5 years is linked to under nutrition, with most of these deaths occurring in low- and middle-income countries. In India, one in every 3 children under 5 is stunted and one in every 5 children wasted. The persistence of malnutrition is likely to have significant impacts on medical, economic, social and developmental wellbeing of communities across the world. New and better ways to think about global food and agricultural systems and strategies to address behavioural and environmental causes of malnutrition need to be devised to address this challenge. Rigorous evaluations conducted by J-PAL affiliated professors and other researchers offer lessons on the kinds of policies and programs that can address some of these challenges. This panel brings together research and emerging insights and evidence on promising interventions to address the challenge of ending global hunger and achieving improved nutrition.

2:00 – 3:30 13 February, 2020

Marigold

Technical Session: Evaluation Methodologies: Innovations and Experiments

Innovations are methods and approaches to evaluation that are actually “new”. They are not simply a re-labelling of existing knowledge with a new, proprietorial label. It's worth thinking about different types of innovation. Some innovations in evaluation involve invention of new technology, while some others might bring previous ideas and techniques together more coherently and used

more systematically. Innovations also might borrow ideas and methods from other disciplines and professions. Approaches to causal inference for evaluation have been imported from agricultural science, clinical trials, public health, political science, social sciences and psychology and law and history. Different ways of doing interviews have been borrowed and adapted from anthropology and market research. It is believed that all evaluators can contribute to this innovation by bringing across techniques from their primary discipline or from other aspects of their lives. Moreover, some innovation is about learning from practice and thinking about a new role for evaluators. Rather than seeing evaluation as being something that comes along after a programme has been designed, and sometimes after it has been implemented, and trying to add value to latter decisions, there is increasing interest in how the process of evaluation, and the work of evaluators and others doing evaluation, can contribute to ongoing improvements in implementation, and to improved planning and design up front. This session will address some of these thoughts and present a few examples of using methods and approaches that is more participatory in nature and lessons learnt in bringing changes. Innovations have become necessary in the light of the fact that SDGs are interconnected and call for behavioural changes.

4:00 – 5:30 13 February, 2020

Silver Oak I

Technical Session: Evaluating the Anthropocene and climate change adaptation for Sustainable Development

The concept of the Anthropocene has become increasingly prominent in recent years. The word has entered the scientific and popular literature as a vivid expression of the degree of environmental change on planet Earth caused by humans. Similarly, Climate change has become one of the biggest long-term risks to global development. This makes choices and investment made in climate change mitigation and adaptation on vital for ensuring sustainable and inclusive growth. The fundamental importance of integrating climate risks and opportunities into all of its development work is now widely recognized. This session considers evaluation as essential for learning and for reflecting on whether actions to address the complex challenges pertaining to climate change are on track to producing the desired outcomes. This session serves as an introduction to evaluating Climate Change Action for Sustainable Development that sets the scene on the current state of evaluation and brings together evidences, experiences in the area of climate change adaptation and discuss implications for environment and evaluation community.

4:00 – 5:30 13 February, 2020

Silver Oak II

Technical Session: Professionalism and Ethics in Evaluation

Achieving SDGs is prime focus of different national governments and civil society networks, with the motto of ‘no one left behind’. But to do so, ethics should not be left behind. The basic demand of ethical norms is to respect human dignity and privacy; take special precautions with vulnerable population; and make efforts to ensure utilization of evaluation findings. Relevance and importance of practicing ethical norms is very critical as it ensures objectivity, promotes truth and knowledge and ensures lesser occurrence of bias and error. Ethics must be followed during different phases of evaluation, right from commissioning of evaluation to reporting and dissemination of findings, and ways to improve ethical standards in evaluation. Indian as well as international perspectives are important to highlight the adoption and adaptation of ethics in different geographical, socio-economic, cultural and political contexts. With Artificial Intelligence and big-data emerging as big contributors to evaluation, the role and relevance of ethics in practice becomes more critical. Participation from government as well as non-government national and international participants engaged in quantitative and qualitative evaluation will provide a 360-degree views and opinion on ethics, evaluation and SDGs. The session will primarily focus on core aspects like how evaluators can be sensitized, facilitated and helped to improve and ensure practice of ethical standards in evaluation and research and need for developing policy guidelines on ethics integrating with revised evaluation criteria and institutionalizing the operation of the ethical framework.

4:00 – 5:30 13 February, 2020

Marigold

Technical Session: Outcome Monitoring and Evaluation: Opportunities, Challenges & Way Forward

Monitoring and Evaluation is used to assess the performance of projects, institutions and programmes. It measures the benefits or changes for individuals. For each intended outcome, a monitoring framework should include indicators or parameters that help define

the desired change and describe how that change will be measured. Outcome measures are a more appropriate indicator of effectiveness. Outcomes also quantify performance and assess the success of the process. Therefore, it is extremely necessary to identify appropriate indicators to measure outcomes. Outcome budgeting has been one of the key budgetary reforms undertaken by the Government of India. In 2006, the Union Finance Minister placed the Outcome Budget for the first time in the Parliament, linking the budget to development outcomes of all major programmes. Outcome-based budgeting was introduced with the aim to make programmes more result-oriented and enhance accountability and transparency. There are also lessons to be learnt from other countries who have implemented an outcome-based approach for linking key sectoral and national priorities with the budget. The session will discuss the appropriateness of outcome indicators, current practices for monitoring program outcomes in India and globally; understand the challenges such as need for a better data architecture, administrative systems, and capacity; and challenges and way forward.

Day 3: 14 February 2020

9:35 – 11:00 14 February, 2020

Silver Oak I & II

Plenary Session: Country Perspective and National Evaluation – A discussion with the Parliamentarians

Evaluation is an essential aspect of good governance, improving learning and development effectiveness, transparency, accountability, and informed decision making. In this context, the role of evaluation must not simply be perceived as one of normative nature, but rather as one of essential and functional importance to the mandate of global development community. To change the mind set on evaluation, it requires striking balance between accountability and learning as well as ensuring that evaluation exercises are more adaptive, innovative and context specific. It also requires that the findings, conclusions and lessons stemming from evaluative exercises are timely, so that they can add value to strategic decision-making, programme refinement, and result reporting.

Developing National Evaluation Capacity (NEC) in the SDGs era brings four dynamic and interrelated challenges. These are: developing a National Evaluation Policy, setting up the institutional processes, securing adequate evaluation capabilities and engaging with partners. The challenges affect both the supply of sound evaluations for development plans and also the demand for their relevant and useful evidence, which in turn informs national policy development. This session will highlight the critical areas to consider when developing national evaluation capacities on effective evaluation for the SDGs.

The audience will learn the role of parliamentarians and parliaments in demand and use of evaluation for evidence-based policy making

11:30 – 1:00 14 February, 2020

Silver Oak I & II

Innovation Bazaar

‘Innovation Bazaar’ is where individuals/organisations can present their innovative ideas around evaluation and in exchange can get participants feedback. The bazaar will be in the form of a space with each participant/organization given to present their innovative ideas, and the participants visit the ‘bazaar stall’ to hear from the presenters on the innovations. Presentations can use innovative medium e.g. story-telling, slideshows, posters etc. Presenters will need to bring their own laptops, projectors, charts, etc. for showcasing their innovations.

List of Chairs and Speakers

A. K. Shiva Kumar: Prof. ShivaKumar is a development economist and a visiting professor at Ashoka University. He also teaches various courses at the Harvard University and Indian School of Business, Hyderabad. In addition to serving as an advisor to UNICEF - India, he was a member of India's National Advisory Council. Prof. Shiva Kumar has focused his research on poverty and human development, social sector analysis, and the impact of development policies on children and women. Prof. Kumar has been a regular contributor to UNDP's Annual Human Development Reports.

Abhay Kumar: Dr. Abhay Kumar is working as Head - Evidence and Results of United Nations World Food Programme, New Delhi. Prior to joining WFP, Dr. Kumar has worked as Executive Director of the Chetanya Kasyap Foundation, and as an Associate Fellow at the Institute for Human Development, New Delhi. Dr. Kumar specializes in population and development issues. His areas of interest are poverty, food and nutrition security, human development, urbanization and urban livelihoods, housing, ageing population, demographic dividend etc. He has completed number of research projects with significant policy implications supported by UN WFP, UNDP, Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, National Commission on Minorities, Planning Commission, Indian Council of Social Science Research, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Human Resource Development etc. He has several publications in the form of research articles published in peer-reviewed national and international journals, project reports, books, working papers, monographs and mimeographs. Dr. Kumar completed his post graduate degree in Geography from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi and M.Phil. and Ph.D. in Population Studies from the Centre for the Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Abraham George: Mr. Abraham George has been working in the development sector for the past 28 years. Over the years he has worked in various capacities commencing his career with the National Council of YMCAs in India, subsequently working with ITC agrotech for a brief period. He worked with the Indian Institute of Health Management Research, Jaipur as a Research Officer working on Reproductive & Child Health, Gender, Nutrition, etc. and moved to joined CARE India as part of the Monitoring & Evaluation team. During the year 2007 he joined Sightsavers in India as Area Director for the North West India comprising of 5 states. During this time, he was also elevated to the position of Director for Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, Learning based out of Delhi. Currently he is working with The Leprosy Mission Trust India as Director Operations.

Ajay Shankar Singh: Dr. Ajay Shankar Singh is the Chief Controller of Accounts at the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India. Previously he was the Chief Controller of Accounts with the Ministry of Rural Development. Dr. Singh belongs to 1994 batch of Indian Civil Accounts Service. He has more than 25 years of experience of public financial management including internal controls and evaluation. While working in rural development sector he has worked extensively on evaluation of schemes and development of accountability matrix. Previously, he had handled the ADB and WB funded projects covering transport, power, agriculture, irrigation and river basin & coastal management. He also handled financial management, accounts and administration as well as an internal audit of the public sector in Roads, Shipping, Power, agriculture and Finance and developed institutions and process for effective execution of programs. Presently he is keenly pursuing the use of block chain technology in governance.

Hon. Alex Djornobuah Tetteh: Hon. Alex Djornobuah Tetteh is a Ghanaian politician. He is presently a Deputy Minister for Western North and member of the Seventh Parliament of the Fourth Republic of Ghana representing the Sefwi-Akontombra Constituency in the Western North Region. Among his many achievements he has transformed Akontombra Constituency through Youth Employment, social policies like distribution of vocational apprenticeship tools etc.

Alok Kumar: Mr. Alok Kumar is an IAS officer of the 1993 batch. He has a B.Tech. in electrical engineering from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi and a Masters degree in public policy from the Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University. He is currently working as Adviser (Health & Nutrition, Financial Resources, and Administration) at the NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) – the apex policy think tank for the Government of India. Previously he has held several senior positions in the government, including a stint at the Staff College training senior civil servants in India.

Alok Mishra: Mr. Alok Mishra is the Director at the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India. Mr. Mishra has worked in Academics (Economics, Evidence-based Policy Design, Management, Media Communication), Capacity Building for Civil Servants and Internal Financial Advisor at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussoorie; in the field of education in Policy formulation & implementation, Institutional Reforms, Industry-Academia-Government collaboration, Legislation enactment, with various government and international organisations.

Ana Erika Lareza: Ms. Ana is the coordinator with the Asia Pacific Evaluation Association. She is also the Co-chair with the Global EvalYouth task force and Co-leader - EvalYouth Asia. Ana Erika Lareza is also a Researcher at Workland M&E Institute. Previously she worked with the Ateneo Environmental Science Society as VP for Information Communication.

Anand Trivedi: Mr. Anand Trivedi is a consultant at the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India. He is a Monitoring & Evaluation Expert with diverse professional and entrepreneurial experience spanning across Social & Infrastructure sectors and working with Central Government & State Government agencies, multilateral funding institutions and private sector clients.

Anna Rego: Ms. Anna Rego is a Policy Manager at J-PAL South Asia at IFMR, where she leads the gender sector and works with state governments to adapt evidence-based programmes. Prior to joining J-PAL, Anna worked with the Centre for Social and Behaviour Change, Ashoka University, where she led the development of health and nutrition campaigns for the Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Anna was previously with APCO Worldwide, a global policy advisory firm, and the United Nations Information Centre for India and Bhutan. Anna holds a MSc. in Public Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, studied liberal arts at the Young India Fellowship (Ashoka University) and has a Bachelor's degree in Journalism from Manipal University.

Anweshaa Ghosh: Ms. Anweshaa Ghosh is currently working as a Research Analyst in Institute of Social Studies Trust. She has M.A in Social Work from Department of Social Work, Delhi University and her M.Phil in Women's Studies from School of Women Studies, Jadavpur University. She has been working as a social science researcher for last 10 years and has expertise in gender and livelihood. Her key interest lies in women in informal labour, unpaid care work and women's empowerment. She has led couple of research studies around women's informal labour.

Aparna Dua: Ms. Aparna Dua leads the Asha Impact Trust, focusing on policy engagements in Affordable Housing and Waste Management as well as the work on blended finance instruments and impact investing ecosystem building. She brings with her a decade long experience in areas ranging from development sector consulting to finance and economic research. Prior to Asha Impact, Aparna was at BCG, Social Impact and Development Practice, where she worked on advising the Haryana government on transforming its K-12 education system. Prior to BCG, she worked with an education think tank, Universal Learn Today, leading a team of trainers to reform teacher training in Government schools of Punjab. She started her career at Credit Suisse, NY as an investment banking analyst in the TMT sector. She holds a bachelor's degree in Mathematics and Economics from Carleton College, U.S. and an MBA from INSEAD, France/Singapore

Arabinda Kumar Padhee: Dr. Arabinda Kumar Padhee has a Master's degree in Agricultural Science from Banaras Hindu University and a PhD from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. He also holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from University of Birmingham, UK. He has taken public policy courses at University of Toronto; Civil Services College, Singapore; and University of Cambridge at various points in his career. Dr Padhee joined the Indian Administrative Services in 1996 and belongs to the Odisha cadre. During his tenure with the Odisha Government, he was instrumental in drafting the Odisha State Agriculture Policy in 2008. He has also served as a member of the Technical Support Group of the erstwhile Planning Commission that prepared the District Agricultural Plan manual. Government of India appointed Dr Padhee as the first nodal officer to implement Direct Benefit Transfer in fertilizers in 2016.

Archana Kumar: Dr. Archana Kumar is an Associate Professor at the Lady Irwin College, University of Delhi. Dr Kumar has been with the department for nearly 30 yrs. She teaches papers in Communication for Development, Gender, Sustainable Development, Research Methods and Programme Development & Evaluation. Her areas of interest include monitoring and evaluation of communication for social change programmes and initiatives. Currently she has been involved in projects related to the use of innovative participatory techniques for M&E of ICTD and Community Media initiatives.

Asela Kalugampitya is a Sri Lankan lawyer who has been active in the M&E field for over 25 years. Currently he is the President of both Sri Lanka Evaluation Association and Asia Pacific Evaluation Association. He has been instrumental in promotion of national evaluation policies & systems and engaging parliamentarians in evaluation globally.

Ashutosh Jain belongs to 1992 batch of Indian Telecom Service. He worked extensively in Department of Telecommunications and BSNL in planning, execution and commissioning of Projects and Operations of Telecom infrastructure & Services (Urban & Rural areas). Driving mission mode PAN India e-Governance project (Rs. 2000 Cr) Crime and Criminal Tracking and Network Systems (CCTNS) in the Ministry of Home Affairs, integrating all Police stations and higher offices into the network including state and national level data management, for all States and UTs. He has led monitoring and evaluation of government programs and schemes since 2017 onwards. He has also done multidimensional administrative works related to the Ministry and its Attached Offices.

Biraj Swain: Ms. Swain works on the intersection of poverty, public policy and citizens-state engagement in India, South Asia, Horn East and Central Africa and globally. She teaches at UN University Tokyo, Pondicherry Central University, SLU Uppsala and UNESCO-MISARC. She is part of the New York based global coalition, Feminist Task Force. She is presently working as Contributing Editor with NewsLaundry. She has just completed two global media fellowships, one with the International Centre for

Journalists-Washington DC on Child Development and Child Rights, and the other with WHO-Kalam Institute of Health Tech on Public Health Tech.

Cristina Magro has a PhD in Language Sciences, is an IPDET graduate and is certified in Institutional Assessment by the Brazilian Ministry of Education and Culture. For 26 years she has been a full professor in the leading Brazilian University UFMG, as well as being an associate professor, visiting scholar and researcher at various academic institutions in Brazil and abroad. As a Senior Education Expert Consultant, Cristina worked under contracts run by World Bank and UNICEF in Timor-Leste; and she worked for the Brazilian government evaluating Universities and Faculties, and the Brazilian Ministry of Education's Observatory of Education. She is currently the Secretary for IDEAS – International Development Evaluation Association. She has authored several publications, either alone or with academic and professional partners.

Denny John works as Evidence Synthesis Specialist at Campbell South Asia, New Delhi, the regional center of the Campbell Collaboration. He is the Chair, Campbell & Cochrane Economic Methods Group (CCEMG), and has interest in areas related to economic evidence in evidence synthesis, and health technology assessments. He is also Co-Chair, Early Career Network, Health Technology Assessment International (HTAi), and attached as Adjunct Scientist, National Institute of Medical Statistics, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), India.

Devashree Roychowdhury is an Architect - Urban and Rural Planner by profession. She has pursued double masters in the field of planning at CEPT University Ahmedabad and ITC Netherlands Alumna. After completing her course in Architecture she has around 10 years of experience in 'monitoring and evaluation' in the field of planning and development in both government and private sector. She is the Founder and Director of CityTalksWalks (CTW) Consultants Pvt. Ltd., offering services for City Planning and Development Consulting and working towards meeting the objectives of Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

Devyani Srinivasan: Ms. Devyani Srinivasan has over 14 years' experience in the social sector, with a focus on research and M & E. She has been a core team member of niiti consulting since 2013, and also leads the M& E practice at Probex Consulting. Her clients include Nilekani Philanthropies and Oxfam in India, and IFAD in Afghanistan and Kenya. She possesses a B.A. from Wesleyan University in the U.S., and a M.Sc.Pl. from the University of Toronto in Canada.

Dulmina Chamathkara: Mr. Dulmina Chamathkara is a Project Coordinator at Sri Lanka Parliamentarian Forum for Evaluation. He is an experienced Project Manager with a demonstrated history of working in the non-profit organization management industry.

Francis Rathinam: Dr. Francis Rathinam, is a Senior Evaluation Specialist with international initiative for impact evaluation. Dr. Rathinam manages 3ie impact evaluation grants across a wide spectrum of development issues, including transparency and accountability, governance and social protection. He also works closely with some of 3ie's member country governments to build capacity to use and institutionalise impact evaluations. He has facilitated several impact evaluation trainings to government officials in developing countries including Bhutan, Nepal and Uganda. Prior to joining 3ie, Francis was a research specialist with the UK Department for International Development's (DFID). He was also a senior fellow at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER).

Gana Pati Ojha: Dr. Gana Pati Ojha is an evaluation expert and development manager. He has over 35 years of experience in development and cooperation programmes with national and international agencies belonging to government, private sector and civil society organizations in the area of research, evaluation and development management. His experience also includes managing evaluation organizations, creating enabling environment for evaluation by contributing to formation of evaluation, policy framework, M&E Bill, motivating parliamentarians to be evaluation sensitive and helping to form evaluation forums of parliamentarians. He has published a number of articles related to evaluation, partnership, gender and development and agriculture. He was awarded excellence award by EvalPartners in 2015 in recognition of his work in evaluation. He serves as an Adjunct Professor at the Agriculture and Forestry University in Nepal.

Harini Kannan: Dr. Kannan is a Senior Research Manager and Post-Doctoral Fellow at J-PAL SA. Her interest in evidence-based policy formulation influenced her decision to work with J-PAL. She is currently working in New Delhi, India on the Math Games, Learning Camps, Haryana Immunization, and Haryana Education Projects. She also works with the capacity building team providing advisory services for various partners such as USAID, the Government of Haryana, the Government of Tamil Nadu, and Pratham. She has a Ph.D. in Economics from the Georgia State University.

Harkiran K. Sanjeevi: Ms. Harkiran K. Sanjeevi is the Deputy Director General with the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India. She is a Management Consultant with over fourteen years of experience in strategic planning, policy formulation and programme implementation related to infrastructure planning, municipal governance and reforms, capacity building, monitoring and evaluation etc.

Harshala Jambhulka: Ms. Harshala Jambhulkar is a graduate in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from NIT Karnataka and thereafter pursued Liberal Studies from Ashoka University as a part of Young India Fellowship. With a keen interest in water-energy-agriculture nexus, she had previously worked with tribal communities of Madhya Pradesh on participatory groundwater management and sustainable agriculture. She currently works with Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office, NITI Aayog on liaisoning with Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Ministry of Power in outcome-output based monitoring and targeted evaluation of their central and centrally sponsored schemes. Currently she is the nodal officer for conducting the performance evaluation of centrally sponsored schemes to agriculture and allied sector.

Imad Haroon: Mr. Imad Haroon is a development expert with over 10 years of experience in Monitoring, Evaluation and Research. He is currently working as Monitoring and Evaluation Director for one of the USAID funded projects in Afghanistan. Mr. Haroon is the Founding Board Member of Afghan Evaluation Society (AfES), Co-Leader of the EvalYouth Asia and Co-Chair of Taskforce III of the EvalYouth Global Network. He has a bachelor degree in Educational Psychology and a Master degree in Business Administration.

Jennifer Mutua: Ms. Jennifer Mutua, is the founder of Evaluation Society of Kenya and an independent M&E Consultant. As a leading M&E, Gender, Program and Organizational Management Specialist, with over 10 years of relevant experience, she conducted several national and international programmes in Kenya and elsewhere. She participated in: a case study review of German's technical co-operation in Kenya by the German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval); gender assessment of DFID-funded AgDevCo's Mozambique agri-businesses; UNDP/ MDGs' thematic evaluation in 50 countries, UN International Atomic Energy's (IAEA) global assessment of the impact of cancer equipment, among others.

Jitendra Kumar: Mr. Kumar is an Adviser with NITI Aayog, Govt of India. He is a 1987 batch officer from Uttarakhand cadre of Indian Forest Service. Mr. Kumar has vast experience of working on land, mining and minerals, water resources, environment and forests with the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Ministry of Water Resources and River Development and Department of Atomic Energy.

John Lawson: Mr. John Lawson has worked intermittently in India since 2010, now resident since 2018. His interest in M&E is "faster learning to improve development outcomes". More specifically, given limited capacity of development decision makers and the critical importance of this for development of places - how to simplify good practice, to get the basics right. His 20+ years of experience spans a multitude of industry sectors, development institutions and all levels of government.

Jyotsna Puri: Dr. Jyotsna Puri leads the Independent Evaluation Office of the Green Climate Fund. Previously, she was the Deputy Executive Director and Head of Evaluation at the International Initiative of Impact Evaluation (3ie). Dr. Puri is also adjunct associate professor at the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University, New York where she teaches development evaluation. Jo has more than 24 years of experience in policy research and development evaluation and has worked in several organizations including the World Bank, Columbia University and the UN.

Kalyani Raghunathan: Dr. Kalyani Raghunathan is a Research Fellow in the Poverty, Health, and Nutrition Division of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). She completed her Ph.D in Economics from Cornell University in 2015 and her dissertation focused on multiple labour-related aspects of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA). She continues to be interested in social protection programs, but now more from the lens of improving health and nutrition outcomes. Her work spans a range of topics and methods, including multi-state evaluations of women's self-help groups and the role they play in improving rural agriculture and livelihoods, nutrition, and women's empowerment; an evaluation of a large social protection program in Bangladesh aimed at improving maternal and child health; and secondary data work on the ICDS and the affordability of nutritious diets in India.

Karon Shaiva: Ms. Karon Shaiva is a social entrepreneur, mentor, writer, speaker and trainer. As Chief Impact Officer & Managing Director of Idobro Impact Solutions and Managing Trustee of RISE Infinity Foundation, Karon firmly believes in the power of Citizenship, Entrepreneurship and Partnership to address some of the world's most pressing issues. Karon is passionate about Monitoring & Evaluation and founded the Mumbai Chapter of the Evaluation Community of India (ECOI). She was also previously the Head Creating Networks Technical Team – Community of Evaluators South Asia (CoE – SA). She has led multi-country assessments for VOPEs and undertaken Impact studies, PRA as well as Brand Perception Analysis for CSR projects across nineteen states in India. A Chevening Fellow at Oxford and an alumni of the Swedish Institute Management Program in CSR & Sustainability, Karon also holds a Masters in Marketing Management, and a Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science.

Hon. K.C. Ramamurthy: Hon. Shri K. C. Ramamurthy is a member of the Rajya Sabha from the state of Karnataka, India. He is also the Chairman of the CMR Jnanadhara Trust and a former Inspector General of Police in Bangalore. Hon Ramamurthy was also the Registrar of Bangalore University between 2002 and 2003. He participated in the Global Parliamentarians Forum for Evaluation (2018) in Sri Lanka as Member of India Delegation on Sustainable Development Goals

Krishna Kumar: Mr. Krishna Kumar is a Visiting Fellow at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), a New Delhi-based Think-Tank. His areas of expertise are SDGs and disaster statistics.

Hon. Kuldeep Rai Sharma: Kuldeep Rai Sharma is an Indian politician. He currently serves as president of the Andaman and Nicobar Pradesh Committee, a regional wing of the Indian National Congress. Shri Sharma won the Lok Sabha election 2019 as an Indian National Congress candidate and became Member of Parliament of Andaman & Nicobar Islands constituency. Shri Sharma is a Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical) from Jadavpur University, Kolkata. As a first time parliamentarian, Shri Sharma has already participated in more than 130 debates in the Parliament and raised very important developmental issues in the Lok Sabha since June 2019.

Maaïke Bijker: Ms. Maaïke Bijker is a Research and Evaluation Specialist at UNICEF India. She is responsible for designing and technically overseeing the evidence activities conducted by UNICEF India, which includes studies, research and evaluations across key programmatic areas. A key focus of her responsibilities is also creating a stronger culture of evidence, both within UNICEF and the ecosystem in India more broadly, to ensure the best results are achieved for children in India. Maaïke holds specific expertise in leveraging different research and evaluation methodologies, research ethics and capacity building. Before joining UNICEF, Maaïke worked as a Senior Research Manager at the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) in Delhi, where she was in charge of providing managerial and technical support on a wide range of impact evaluations. Maaïke previously worked with Dalberg in London, SNEHA in Mumbai and the University of Cambridge, UK. Maaïke holds an MSc in Social and Cultural Psychology from the London School of Economics and Political Science, UK, and an MA [Cantab] in Social and Political Sciences from the University of Cambridge, UK.

Mallika Rukminie Samaranayake is Founder Director / Chairperson of the Institute for Participatory Interaction in Development Sri Lanka – 1996 and continues to function as its Chairperson. She is backed by more than 40 years of service and consultancy experience. She functioned as an officer of Sri Lanka Education Administrative Service and holds a Post Graduate Advanced Training Certificate for Educational Planning from IIEP Paris. She has also been awarded a Ph.D. in social development. Mallika is a Founder member and First President of the Community of Evaluators (COE) – South Asia. She was founder member and Past President of the Sri Lanka Evaluation Association (SLEvA) 2006 - 2009. Mallika was also a member of the Core Evaluation Team for Phase 2 of the Paris Declaration Evaluation (PDE) which won the “AEA 2012 Outstanding Evaluation Award”. She served as a member of the International Steering Committee of the Joint MFS II Evaluation Program of Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), Netherlands (2013 – 2015).

Manas Bhattacharyya: Mr. Manas Bhattacharyya is a development professional with 28 years of experience of working at the grassroots, intermediary, national and international level. He is presently working as the Senior Manager in the Evaluation Domain of Association for Stimulating Know How (ASK). He has so far designed, facilitated and led more than 250 evaluations & studies in India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Cambodia, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka, through using “Participatory Evaluation Methods”. Co-authored an article on “Enhancing the use of Evaluations: Experiences from the Field”, published through Sage Publications by IDRC in the book “Making Evaluations Matter”

Manisha Singh is the Head, Communications and CSR for the India Market at Nokia. She has over two decades of experience in communications and has led several projects driving corporate community investment over many years. She has worked with several blue-chip corporates and specializes in combining innovative ways for brand building with enabling social impact on the ground. She has been instrumental in enabling a big focus on monitoring and evaluation of all CSR projects in her company. Manisha holds a bachelor's degree in English Literature and a Masters' in Business Administration.

Marco Segone: Mr. Marco Segone is the Director, Evaluation Office of UNFPA. He has 24 years of progressive and complementary work experience in Africa, Asia, Eastern and Central Europe, Latin America and USA, working in Country Offices, Regional Offices and Headquarters. Marco has a proven track record in strengthening evaluation systems in the United Nations, as well as national evaluation systems, leveraging partnerships with Governments, Civil Society Organizations, UN entities, Multilateral Development Banks, Parliamentarians and Academia. Marco bridges the gap between policy makers and evaluators to ensure evaluation credibility and utility.

Maulik Chauhan: Mr. Maulik Chauhan is the Founder and the Managing Director for Trestle Research and Consulting. He is also the Growth and Marketing Consultant for Survey CTO. He has several years of experience in research, data management and analysis. Prior to this, he worked as a senior Data Associate with J-Pal South Asia. He also has been engaged with many international research projects with The World Bank, Harvard University, The London School of Economics and Political Science, and MIT. He has a diploma and bachelor's degree in Engineering, master's degree in Business Administration and in Public Administration and a post graduation diploma in Applied Statistics.

Meena Vaidyanathan: Ms. Meena Vaidyanathan has over 25 years of experience working across industry sectors specialising in public policy, strategy and programme design as well as marketing. She has worked closely with senior management in leading organisations around the world advising them on change management strategies and supporting the implementation. She has worked on several case studies at Harvard Business School, INSEAD and IMT, Dubai. She believes in being a hands-on professional and switches easily between boardroom discussions and working on the field. She has a double Masters in Biotechnology and Management, and a certificate on Social Entrepreneurship from INSEAD.

MEL Phanseyha: Mr. Mel Phanseyha is the Chief of Multilateral Relations Office, Department of Protocol and International Relations, Cambodian Senate. Mr. Mel Phanseyha has a Masters degree in Law, International and Security Studies from the Xiamen University.

Michael Steffens has studied Economics, Political Science, International Relations and Sociology. He has worked for over 11 years in development cooperation. Michael held positions as evaluation officer and international cooperation officer at the European Commission, and worked out of Berlin, Brussels, Shanghai and Afghanistan. Currently, he works on aid coordination, quality support and governance at the EU Delegation to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. His responsibilities include the quality assurance on the programming cycle, the launching and managing of evaluations as well as the development of the Delegations statistics. In governance, he has worked widely on human rights, gender and civil society - and currently, he develops a programme on integrity and accountability in public administration.

Monjur Mandol completed his academic career in master of social work in 2013 and has been working as an in charge of BOAT CLINIC programme of Bongaigaon district (Assam). He has an enough experience to creating awareness and mobilizing the rural community, impact assessment and evaluation. He is also associated with SALT Project since 2017 as facilitator to ensure quality health indicator of the children focuses immunization in 30 villages of Bongaiaogon district and this project is being used as a ownership taking process and community as strength for the society.

Mubashira Zaidi is presently working as a Research Analyst in Institute of Social Studies Trust. She is an experienced researcher with a demonstrated history of working in the development sector. She has an MA in Social Work from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. After her Masters, she worked with women survivors of violence in the slums of Dharavi, Mumbai. Mubashira has also worked with human rights and advocacy organizations, and was involved in coordinating and networking with other organizations and media for campaigns related to justice and accountability matters, particularly the International Criminal Court India campaign. At ISST, Mubashira has contributed to policy research and analysis as well as evaluation of external and internal projects. She is skilled in using mixed methodologies with a gender transformative approach.

Hon Mylvaganam Thilakarajah: Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah is a Sri Lankan trade unionist, politician and Member of Parliament. He is the general-secretary of the Workers' Nation Front and deputy general-secretary of the National Union of Workers. Hon. Thilakarajah was one of the United National Front for Good Governance's (UNFGG) candidates in Nuwara Eliya District at the 2015 parliamentary election.

Nikola Balvin : Dr. Nikola Balvin is the Research & Evaluation Specialist at UNICEF India Country Office in New Delhi. Her role involves coordinating UNICEF's evidence agenda in India, overseeing quality assurance, and ensuring the impartiality of evaluation findings and accountability in responding to them. Her nine year career at UNICEF includes working at the Office of Research-Innocenti in Italy and the New York headquarters. Prior to joining UNICEF, Nikola held various academic positions in Australia, including at the University of Melbourne and the University of Queensland, where her research examined the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, the plight of asylum seekers, gender-based violence and family mediation.

Nishtha Satyam: Ms. Nishtha Satyam was appointed as the Deputy Country Representative for UN Women. She is the youngest Deputy Country Rep for the Entity of the UN across 193 countries. Prior to her career with the UN, Nishtha worked with leading firms such as KPMG and American Express as an Economist. As a futurist and feminist, she is an advocate of the urgency to mainstream women across the marketplace, workplace and community. Nishtha has authored a number of studies on the business value of inclusion and continues to be excited about using her multi-sectoral experience to inform the interplay of policy, politics and people to foster lasting change for the most marginalized. Nishtha holds a Master's Degree in International Business from the University of Nottingham, UK and a Bachelors in Economics from Delhi University.

Nithiya Muthusamy: Mr. Nithiya Muthusamy is a Senior Manager on IDinsight's engagement with NITI Aayog. Nithiya's team supports NITI Aayog's Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP), which seeks to incentivize socio-economic progress in some of India's poorest districts through routine monitoring and competition. This includes assisting NITI Aayog with defining appropriate socio-economic metrics, identifying effective measurement methods, analyzing IDinsight's independent monitoring data from 27 districts, and presenting analytical results for informing NITI Aayog's decision-making. Prior to joining IDinsight, Nithiya worked

with the Public Health Foundation of India and the UNDP in New Delhi, where he designed and executed monitoring and evaluation plans for strengthening India's maternal and child health systems.

P. Bhanumati: Ms. P. Bhanumati is the Deputy Director General with Social Statistics Division, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Govt. of India. Previously she was the Director with National Sample Survey Office of the Govt. of India. Ms. Bhanumati was a key member of the team at the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation that has published SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: National Indicator Framework Baseline Report in 2019.

P.N. Vasanti Rao: Dr. P.N. Vasanti Rao is founder member and currently the Director General of Centre for Media Studies - an independent research based think tank in India, since 1991. She has double Masters in Psychology and Management and completed her PhD on Media Studies. Dr Vasanti specializes in strategy development, designing, researching and evaluating development communication and media initiatives. She has to her credit numerous policy inputs, research based publications, building multi stakeholder platforms and number of pioneering studies on media in India. Children, Gender and Conservation are three key areas of her concern and passion.

P.K. Anand: Dr. P.K. Anand is presently a Visiting fellow at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), a New Delhi-based Think-Tank. Pre Dr. P. K. Anand is a Senior Consultant at NITI Aayog, Government of India.. Before his retirement from IAS, he had served in the State Government of Rajasthan. He was the Senior Advisor, Planning Commission of Government of India (GoI). He had also served as the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Rural Development and in the Ministry of Defence and was the Director (Exports) in the Ministry of Textiles. In Planning Commission, besides Industry, Minerals, Research, Economic Divisions. He was also heading Programme Evaluation Organization having 15 field units across the country.

Prashanth Kotturi: Mr. Prashanth Kotturi is an Evaluation analyst with the International Fund for Agricultural Development. Mr. Kotturi joined the Independent Office of Evaluation (IOE) in October 2012 and is currently working as an Evaluation Analyst. Since then he has worked in lead and support roles on a wide range of evaluations ranging from project evaluations, country portfolio evaluations to corporate level evaluations and evaluation synthesis. He has led evaluations in diverse range of countries such as Malawi, Palestinian Territories and Swaziland. Before IOE, Prashanth has worked in the financial services industry and with microfinance institutions in his home country, India.

Pravin Srivastava: Mr. Pravin Srivastava is the Secretary in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India and the chief statistician of India (CSI). Mr. Srivastava is the 1983 - batch Indian Statistical Service officer. He has worked in the ministries of statistics and health in various positions, and briefly in the Union Public Service Commission, in his 35-year career. He was a secretary to the Indian Statistical Commission, popularly known as the Rangarajan Commission, which laid the foundation of the modern statistical system. The National Statistical Commission was set up in 2005 on its recommendations. In his latest stint, he worked as additional director general in the national accounts division of the MoSPI.

Qudratullah Jahid is an M&E specialist. He has worked with development organizations and the government of Afghanistan for the past 10 years. He is a Fulbright program alumnus receiving his master's in International Development from Clark University in Massachusetts. Mr. Jahid is the founding board member of Afghan Evaluation Society and member of the EvalYouth Management Group. Mr. Jahid currently lives in Kabul and works with Management Systems International.

Rajendra P. Bharti: Prof. Rajendra P. Bharti is Director of LBS Institute of Management Bareilly which is consistently ranked amongst Outstanding B-Schools of Excellence in India. He graduated from University of Delhi, Prof. Bharti is an alumnus and resource person of IIM Ahmedabad. He has fellowships of several national and international organizations. He is an institution builder, thought leader, author, executive coach and facilitator of excellence by individuals and organizations.

Ratna Anjan Jena: Ms. Ratna A Jena is Additional DG in the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India. Previously, she was the Statistical Advisor in the Ministry of Women & Child Development. Ms. Jena has immense experience in Statistical models and their usage from her previous assignments. She strongly believes that women empowerment can be done through Economic, Social and Political Empowerment.

Ravi Verma is the Asia Regional Director for the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) based in New Delhi. Dr. Ravi Verma has more than three decades of research, evaluation and program experience working on issues of girls and women's empowerment and gender equality. His primary areas of interest are focused on primary violence prevention, child marriage prevention, sexual and reproductive health issues and engaging men and addressing masculine norms.

Sachin Chaturvedi: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi is currently Director General at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), a New Delhi-based Think-Tank. He works on issues related to development economics, involving development

finance, SDGs and South-South Cooperation, apart from trade, investment and innovation linkages with special focus on WTO. He is also Member, Board of Governors, Reserve Bank of India. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi has been part of several important initiatives of the Government of India and takes keen interest in transforming economic policymaking towards integrated and evidence based approaches. He is one of the foremost commentators on India's external sector economic engagements and partnerships. He is considered as most dynamic and affable by his peers and has mentored several bright scholars and researchers in the profession.

Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe: Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe is a Sri Lankan politician and a member of the Parliament of Sri Lanka. He was elected from Kegalle District in 2015. He is a Member of the United National Party. He is an active member of the Committee of Parliament to study and report to Parliament its recommendation to ensure National Evaluation Capacity in Sri Lanka. Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe is also actively involved with the Sub Committee to introduce Legal & Legislative framework and Common template for Annual Reports of Government Institutions to ensure National Evaluation Capacity.

Sanjay Kumar: Dr. Sanjay Kumar is working as M&E Specialist at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) - India. He has undertaken many evaluations for UNFPA interventions as well as of various programmes of the Government of India. He has over two and half decades of experiences in research on population, health and nutrition. He holds a PhD in Demography from IIPS, Mumbai and has extensive experience of undertaking demographic analyses. He has many articles published in reputed journals.

Sanjeev Sridharan : Dr. Sanjeev Sridharan is Country Lead, Learning Systems and Systems Evaluation at the India Country Office of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Prior to this position, Dr. Sridharan was Director of the Evaluation Centre for Complex Health Interventions at Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute at St. Michaels Hospital and Associate Professor at the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation at the University of Toronto. Prior to his position at Toronto, he was the Head of the Evaluation Program and Senior Research Fellow at the Research Unit in Health, Behaviour and Change at the University of Edinburgh. He is a former associate editor of the American Journal of Evaluation and is on the boards of the Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation, New Directions for Evaluation and the Journal of Evaluation and Program Planning.

Sekhar Bonu: Dr. Sekhar Bonu joined as the Director General of Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) in April 2019. Before joining NITI Aayog, Dr. Bonu worked with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Manila for 15 years. Dr. Bonu worked in the Indian Administrative Services and served as a civil servant in the state of Rajasthan between 1987-2003, among others, as district magistrate, director of primary and secondary education, chief executive officer of state-owned enterprises. Dr. Sekhar Bonu has a Ph.D from the Johns Hopkins University and is a Chartered Financial Analyst charter holder. He has wide range of research and operational interests and has published in peer-review journals.

Shagun Sabarwal is the Director of Policy, Training and Communications at J-PAL South Asia and Director of the CLEAR South Asia Centre. She leads J-PAL South Asia's policy team in building partnerships with governments, donors, civil society organizations, and research institutions to promote the use of evidence in decision-making and scale-up of successful social programs. She also provides strategic oversight and leads capacity building in monitoring and evaluation at the CLEAR South Asia Centre. She is currently a principal investigator on a randomized evaluation of the scale-up of the graduation approach in the state of Bihar, India. Before joining J-PAL, Shagun was an Evaluation Specialist with 3ie and a Post-doctoral Fellow at Population Council. She completed her doctorate in public health from Harvard University.

Shivangi Saxena: Ms. Saxena is a young Professional with the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India. She has a Bachelors degree in Engineering from the University of Delhi with specialization in Information Technology. Shivangi has worked in management consulting with ZS Associates helping Fortune 500 clients with sales strategies, client operations and technology solutions based on Big Data. At NITI, she has worked in the areas of Infrastructure (Roads), Industry and Textiles, Social Inclusion and Gender.

Shubh Kumar Range: Dr. Shubh Kumar Range is specialized in multi-sectoral economic analysis for development outcomes, and has held senior research and management positions in many international organizations including, International Food Policy Research Institute, UNDP, and WWF-International. For the past 12 years, she has focused on the theory and practice of Development Evaluation. She is the Founder member for South Asia Community of Evaluators.

Shyam Singh: Dr. Shyam Singh is an Associate Professor in Social Sciences at the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA), Gujarat. Before joining IRMA, he worked with Janaagraha Bangalore, Samarthan Bhopal, and Oxfam India, New Delhi. He received his PhD from the Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore. His research revolves around monitoring and evaluation, governance, social networks, and CSR.

Sreeja Jaiswal: Ms. Jaiswal is a doctoral scholar at the Tata Institute of social Sciences in Mumbai. Her Ph.D research on Konkan Railways analyses the Intersections of development, technology and the environment. : A case study of the Konkan Railways. In one

of her recent joint papers Ms. Jaiswal presented a methodological framework for an impact evaluation which builds on existing knowledge and addresses some of these shortcomings.

Sumitra K: Ms. Sumitra is the Monitoring and Evaluation Lead at the Development and Monitoring Office, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India. At DMEO Sumitra's work focuses on Energy, Water and Sanitation. She has experience in working with Central and State government agencies, multilateral funding institutions and private sector clients. Sumitra's skills include - M&E led analysis for programme redesigning, OECD/DCED framework for effective public investments, designing & implementing outcomes-based monitoring, designing & conducting large scale evaluations and developing real-time monitoring systems.

Sundar Narayan Mishra: Mr. Mishra is a Consultant at NITI Aayog, Govt. of India. In over 20 years of career he has managed development interventions across varied sectors: livelihoods, governance and local government management, elementary/primary education, child rights and protection, women's empowerment, community development and poverty reduction. His development management functions have included project and programme management, planning, monitoring, supervision of diverse and multi-disciplinary teams and partnership management with communities, civil society and government institutions. He has worked with State and national governments, NGOs and civil society at various levels and with national and international donor agencies including different UN agencies.

Susan D. Tamondong is an independent international consultant with wide experience in evaluation and resettlement worldwide. She is currently with FCG Sweden as Quality Assurance expert for SIDA funded evaluations. She was former Vice-President of IDEAS and Evaluation Adviser for UN Women, and has worked with The World Bank, UN Agencies, ADB and other international organisations. She is a published author and was editor of Oxford International Review. Educated at the University of Oxford, UK, The American University, Washington DC and University of the Philippines, Susan also trained in evaluation at IPDET Canada and University of Bologna, Italy.

Tanya Kak is a Senior Policy Associate at J-PAL, South Asia where she leads the agricultural sector, supports the education sector and is also a part of the fundraising team. In her current role, she helps in analyzing, synthesizing and disseminating J-PAL affiliates' research and work with different stakeholders to inform policy with evidence. Prior to working at J-PAL, Tanya acted as a legislative assistant to a Member of the Indian Parliament for a year where she contributed to policy making through an array of parliamentary interventions across sectors like gender, defence and agriculture. She also holds a Master's in International Security from Sciences Po, Paris and a Bachelors in Political Science from the Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi University.

Umi Hanik has been working for 17 years for many bilateral/multilateral organizations in Indonesia as a researcher and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) professional. She holds BA and master of economics in public policy and advanced master/pre-doctoral studies in development evaluation. Currently she works as individual consultant for multilateral and bilateral programs in Indonesia. Among her outstanding works, she has contributed to the national development planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation reform in Indonesia. Her current research interest is in politics of evaluation and the politics of social interventions for the poor. She is the founder of MONEV Studio, recent start-ups to promote sustainable development and evaluation literacy in Indonesia. She is the founding member of Indonesian Development Evaluation Community (InDEC), former Board Director of Asia Pacific Evaluation Association (APEA), and Management member of EvalGender+.

Urvashi Wattal is a Senior Policy and Training Manager at J-PAL South Asia. She supports the regional office's efforts to promote evidence-based policymaking and build capacity for monitoring and evaluations. She is leading J-PAL SA's health sector and training engagements with a range of stakeholders. She is also the lead for the Cash Transfers for Child Health initiative hosted by J-PAL SA. Prior to joining J-PAL, she worked as an evaluation and research manager at Catalyst Management Services in India, working on evaluations of in the areas of early marriage, HIV, agriculture, and education. Urvashi holds a Masters in Development Studies from TISS, Mumbai, and a Bachelors in Economics and International Studies from Macalester College, St. Paul, US.

Vasundhra Thakur is an evaluation specialist with over 9 years of experience in agricultural programs, research capacity building and fragile states. She is currently a Senior Global Evaluation Manager at One Acre Fund where she manages and executes a complex portfolio of evaluations across seven countries in East Africa and South Asia that aim to improve farm profit and quality of life outcomes for smallholder farmers. She has previously worked at the World Bank and the Global Development Network, where she coordinated the evaluations of research networks and research programs. She holds an MSc in Development Management from the London School of Economics and BSc in Economics from the University of Warwick, UK.

Vinod B. Mathur: Dr. Mathur is the presently the Chairperson of National Biodiversity Authority, India. After serving for 33 years at the prestigious Wildlife Institute of India including as the Dean and subsequently as the Director, Dr. Vinod B. Mathur was appointed as the 11th Chairperson of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) on 1st September, 2019. The NBA is a statutory body of the Government of India for providing advisory and regulatory services on all matters relating to biodiversity conservation and

management. He has extensive experience as an international trainer and his special interest include natural resource conservation, heritage conservation, environmental and strategic impact assessment and biodiversity informatics. He possesses an outstanding scholastic record coupled with strong leadership skills and networking capabilities. He has made significant contribution as a 'Scientific Administrator' and in promoting 'Scientific Research' inter-alia through both publications and outreach programmes in the field of biodiversity conservation.

Yatin Diwakar is a PhD Scholar at Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas, IIT Bombay. His research is on the M&E systems in place within the government, to which he first got exposed to during 2012-15 when he worked as a Prime Minister's Rural Development Fellow in Naryanpur, Chhattisgarh. He is exploring ways to improve ground level capacities in M&E, through improving systems, building human capacities and is collaborating with Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office, NITI Aayog towards bringing about National M&E Policy and a sub-national evaluation capacity assessment.

Yogesh Suri: Dr. Yogesh Suri is a development economist and policy analyst. He is currently Director General, NILERD and Senior Adviser, NITI Aayog, Government of India where he is in charge of Governance & Research, Water and Land Resources Verticals. He is also associated with the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council. Earlier also, he held additional charge as Director General of NILERD during the period October 2014 to June 2017. Dr. Suri has diverse experience of over 25 years ranging from planning & development, food security, consumer affairs, fertilizers & chemicals, water, land reforms, macro-economic research to empowering small & medium enterprises, banking, financial markets, risk management, etc.

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