



Does Evaluation Advance Environment and Sustainable Development

UNEG Webinar
May 14, 2015

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Global Environmental Challenges

- Global environmental trends continue to decline
- Sixth Extinction of biological diversity
- Deforestation
- Fisheries overexploitation and oceans acidification
- Climate change – mitigation and adaptation

Financial Imbalances

- Global public funding for environmental issues: **US\$10 billion** p.a.
- Estimated funding needed for action on global environmental issues: **US\$100 billion** p.a.
- Global public subsidies that lead to overexploitation of natural resources and environmental degradation: **US\$1 trillion** p.a.

Particularities of Environmental Evaluation

- Differing and frequently long time horizons
- Disparities in geographical scaling
- Data quality and credibility issues
- The problem of research designs for assessing attribution in environmental policies and programs

(Birnbaum & Mickwitz 2009)

- Dual evaluand (Rowe 2012)

Complexity and Uncertainties

- Complexity
- Climate change
- Adapting to its impacts
- Risk and uncertainty – tipping points
- What does this mean to evaluation (if anything)?

Evaluation vs. Valuation

- Trade-offs in the pursuit of sustainable development
- Poverty reduction vs. intrinsic value of biodiversity
- Environmental economics
 - Health costs of environmental pollution
 - The case of shark fisheries

The Book

- Environment as a global public good
- Particularities of environmental evaluation
- Approaches and methodologies
- Evaluating normative work
- Cases and lessons from international cooperation

Directions in Environmental Evaluation

- From project/aid evaluation to evaluating environment and development outcomes and impacts
- Time and space – importance of scales and interactions between domains
- Mixed methods in data collection and analysis
- Multidisciplinary teams
- Use of big data and technology

2015

- Sustainable Development Goals
- UN Climate Change Conference (Paris)
- UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (Sendai)
- International Year of Evaluation
- Role of evaluation enhanced for policy making and democratic debate



Thank you

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